

Marks of a Man # 23

KJV, NKJV, NASB: Holding fast...; ESV: Hold firm; NIV: Holding firmly

Area: Doctrine

Definition: To take firm hold of, and guard the systematic doctrine of God's Word

Scripture: Titus 1:9; related: 1Tim. 4:6,15,16; 5:17; 2 Tim. 1:13; 2:15; 3:16,17; 4:15

Bible Usage: This man has a grasp, and maintains that grasp on the sound, healthy systematic doctrines of the entire Bible, being miraculously able to minister to disciples and defeat the foes of the Gospel.

Proverbs: 8:33-36; 15:14; 18;15; 19:8; _____

Functioning in my Soul:

1. **Mind** - Perception of, and commitment to, necessity of doctrinal competence.
2. **Conscience** - No inner accusations of compromising or neglecting the Word.
3. **Heart** - Constantly adding to and meditating on Bible Doctrine.
4. **Frame** - A true **Shield of the Faith** developed, forming Bible Principles and Goals for all of life.
5. **Will** - Choices determined by sound doctrine.
6. **Emotions** - Emotional satisfaction of knowing God's Word is always first.

Resolved:

To never stop learning for development of sound Bible Doctrine in my soul.

Essay:

Source of Problem: Bottom line, I'd say, doctrinal ignorance. The man unqualified in this area has not had good theological training, and has never been led to do so. If he has been led to do so, he has rejected the necessity of it.

Problem: No ability to perform the ministry as outlined in Titus, "being able, by sound doctrine, to exhort, and convince the gainsayers." The sheep will not be fed, there will be no unity, and there will be no **Disciple-Making-Disciples**.

Solution: A structure, plan, and atmosphere of DOCTRINE. There would also be an automatic expectation that this man is a **Disciple-Making-Disciple**.

Avoidance: "Laying hands quickly on no one," 1 Tim. 5:21-22. There would be an entire system of actual "academic" requirements by those of us who are in leadership. Furthermore, this man would be under the scrutiny of the entire body, and challenged in all doctrinal areas, long before any thought of Ordination.

