

HOLDING FIRM

**WHY DO WE DO THAT?
AND JUST HOW DO WE DO THAT?**





I. Why do we hold firm in the faith?

- (Titus 1:1–2 ESV) Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the sake of the faith of God’s elect and their knowledge of the truth, which accords with godliness, in hope of eternal life, which God, who never lies, promised before the ages began.

We stand firm as servants of God and his elect for the sake of the truth of eternal life that God has promised to us.

Servants of God stand for the hope of eternal life. We believe God and stand for what he has promised to us. It’s what we do.

II. How do we hold firm in the faith?

- (Titus 1:3 ESV) And at the proper time manifested in his word through the preaching with which I have been entrusted by the command of God our Savior.

We stand firm as servants of God by honoring God through the preaching of his word that he has entrusted to us. God commands us to make known the knowledge of his truth by preaching—proclaiming his word. So we submit to God and do things the way that God says to do them.

III. What happens when we hold firm in the faith?

- (Titus 1:9–11 ESV) He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it. 10 For there are many who are insubordinate, empty talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision party. 11

They must be silenced, since they are upsetting whole families by teaching for shameful gain what they ought not to teach.

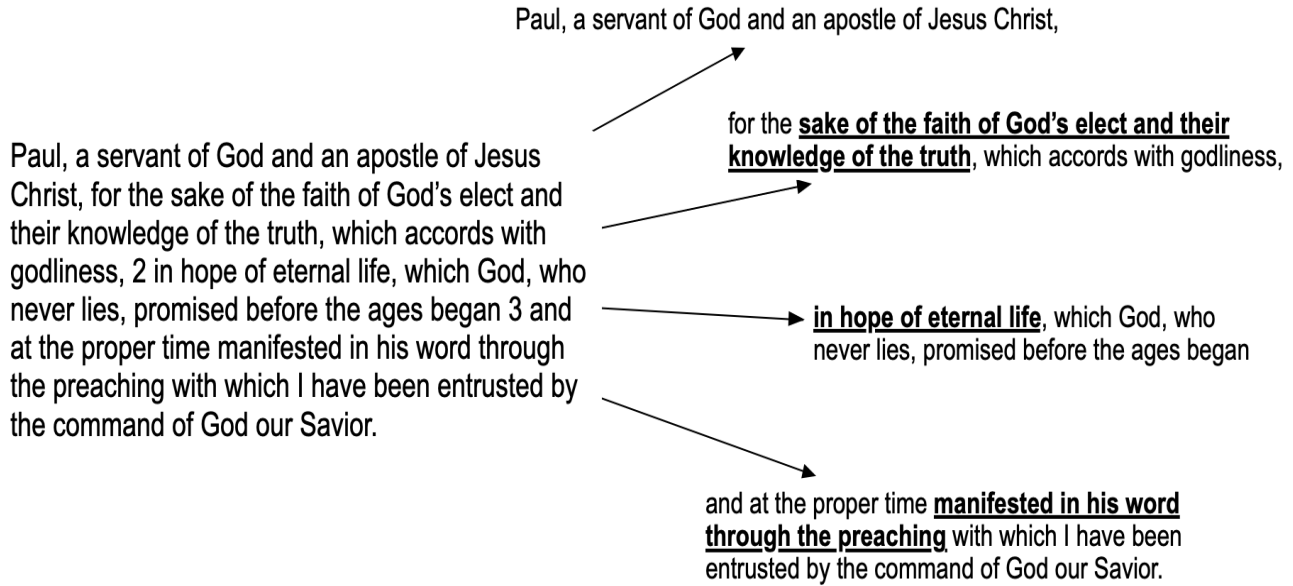
We must hold firm to the word of God in order to teach the word of God in a way that brings spiritual health and wholeness to those who listen and believe.

1. We hold firm so that we may be able to teach what is necessary for spiritual growth and health.
2. We hold firm to rebuke those who do not hold firm to sound teaching—the many who are insubordinate, empty talkers and deceivers, especially among the very pious and religious folk.
3. We hold firm to silence them.

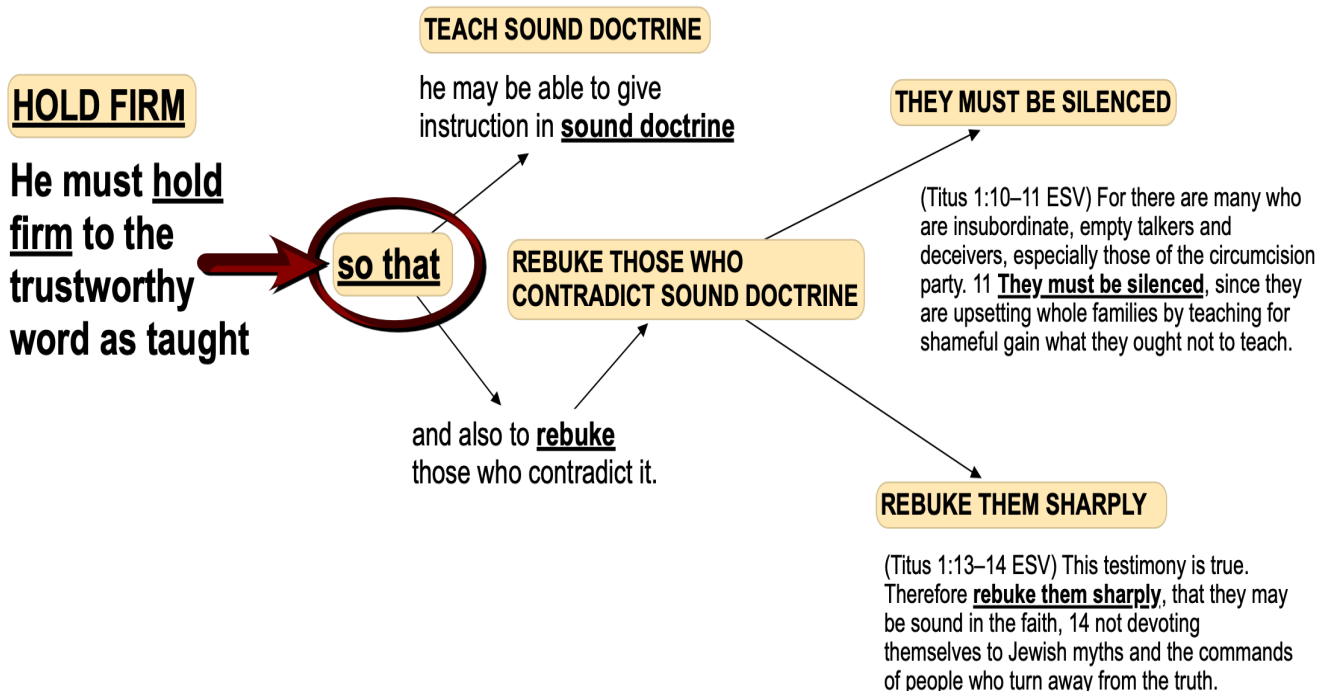
- (Titus 1:13–16 ESV) This testimony is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith, 14 not devoting themselves to Jewish myths and the commands of people who turn away from the truth. 15 To the pure, all things are pure, but to the defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure; but both their minds and their consciences are defiled. 16 They profess to know God, but they deny him by their works. They are detestable, disobedient, unfit for any good work.

4. We hold firm and rebuke them sharply so they will be sound in faith and so they will not turn people away from the truth.
5. We rebuke them because they are unbelieving and their minds and consciences are defiled.
6. We rebuke them because they profess to know God but deny him by the way they live.

**HOLDING FIRM FOR THE SAKE OF THE FAITH OF GOD'S ELECT AND THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRUTH.
(TITUS 1:1-3 ESV)**



**HOLDING FIRM TO THE TRUSTWORTHY WORD AS TAUGHT.
(TITUS 1:9-11, 13-14 ESV)**



COMMUNION IS ABOUT FAITHFULNESS

COMMUNION IS NOT ABOUT WHAT WE RECEIVE BUT ABOUT WHO WE HONOR AND WHAT WE PROCLAIM.

FAITHFUL TO OBEY AND REMEMBER

WE HONOR CHRIST BY OBEYING HIM AND REMEMBERING HIS PAYMENT FOR OUR SINS AND THE SUFFERING IN HIS BODY FOR US.

For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, 24 and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." 25 In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." 26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes (1 Corinthians 11:23-26 ESV).

FAITHFUL TO EXAMINE AND PROCLAIM

WE HONOR CHRIST BY FIRST EXAMINING OUR LIVES, DEALING WITH OUR SIN AND THEN TAKING THE BREAD AND THE CUP TO PROCLAIM HIS GOSPEL.

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures (1 Corinthians 15:3-4 ESV).