

There's a problem with their:

I. Words – "Whose mouths must be stopped" (vs. 10-11) Speech that is:

- A. Defiant "There are many unruly"
- B. Deceptive "vain talkers and deceivers"
- C. Divisive "who subvert whole houses"

II. Witness – "This witness is true." (vs. 12-14)

A reputation for being:

- A. Liars "are always liars"
- **B.** Lazy "slow bellies"
- C. Legalistic "Jewish fables, and commandments of men"

III. Works – ", and to every good work reprobate" (vs. 15-16) *Works that are:*

- A. Defiled "their mind and conscience is defiled"
- B. Detestable "being abominable"
- C. Disobedient "and disobedient"

Sentence Sermon

Healthy, growing churches handle conflict directly, biblically, and humbly. Adapted from C. Nieuwhof

<u>Additional Verses</u>

- > Proverbs 20:3
- > Titus 3:10
- > I Timothy 4:4
- > Matthew 7:15-20
- > II John 1:7-8
- Romans 16:17; 12:18
- I Peter 2:1-25
 Acts 20:29-30
- Proverbs 21:23
- Matthew 18:8-9
- I Corinthians 6:12
- ➤ Mark 7:15

Questions to Ponder

- 1. What are the key words or phrases in this passage?
- 2. Who are the central characters of the passage?
- 3. Why is the passage on leaders followed by a passage about troublemakers?
- 4. Why do you think that there were "many" troublemakers?
- 5. Why is it so important that the mouths of troublemakers be stopped?
- 6. What's wrong with Jewish fables and commandments of men?
- 7. What is "the truth" that troublemakers are turning others from?
- 8. Who are "the pure" and who are the defiled?
- 9. What is the connection between theological error and moral deficiency?
- 10. Why does God consider the troublemakers detestable and unfit?
- 11. What kind of troublemakers do churches have today?