IN SERVING GOD AND CHRIST THERE IS NO MIDDLE GROUND

INTRODUCTION:

- 1. We live in a day when men talk much about being on middle ground in POLITICS and RELIGION.
- 2. Men do not want to take a firm stand on religious issues, so they say they are on MIDDLE GROUND.
- 3. But, no man can serve God and be on MIDDLE GROUND. Matt. 6: 24; Matt. 12:30; Josh. 24:15; Acts 10: 34 35
- I. IF YOU ARE SERVING CHRIST OR SATAN TODAY, THERE IS <u>NO MIDDLE GROUND</u>.
 - 1. One cannot serve Christ and Satan at the same time. Matt. 6:24; 12:30
 - 2. We are in the service of the one whom we obey. Rom. 6:16
 - (1) If you are living a life of sin, you are the servant of Satan. John 8:34
 - A. You are a child of the Devil. I John 3:10; 3:8; Acts 13:10
 - (2) Satan is your father IF you obey him. John 8:44
 - 3. If we are living an obedient life to Christ we are servants of Christ. Rom. 6:16
 - (1) Christ's way is easy and light compared to the Devil's way. Matt. 11:30
 - (2) "The way of the transgressors is hard..." Prov. 13:15
- II. THERE IS NO MIDDLE MESSAGE BETWEEN THE TRUTH AND FALSE DOCTRINE.
 - 1. There is but ONE BODY OF DOCTRINE which is TRUTH. John 17:17; 8:32

- (1) This body of doctrine is called:
 - a. The faith. Acts 6:7; Jude 3
 - b. The Doctrine of Christ. II John 9
 - c. The Truth. John 8:32
 - d. The Gospel. Rom. 1:16
 - e. Sound Doctrine. II Tim. 4:3; Tit. 2:1
 - f. One faith. Eph. 4:4
- (2) Every man who fails to obey the gospel of Christ will be lost. II Thess. 1: 7-9; Mk. 16:16
- (3) Only those who do the will of God will be saved. Matt. 7: 21 23
- 2. Jesus wants every man to understand that no human doctrine can SAVE the SOUL of anyone.
 - (1) The doctrines of men make worship VAIN. Matt. 15:9
 - (2) No one can teach <u>another gospel</u> without being ACCURSED of God. Gal. 1: 6-9
 - (3) Man will be judged by the Word of Christ, NOT by human doctrine. John 12: 48; Rom. 2:16
 - (4) God will not tolerate either ADDING to or TAKING FROM His Word. Rev. 22: 18 19; Deut. 4: 2
- 3. There is NO MIDDLE MESSAGE between truth and error.

III. THERE IS NO MIDDLE CLASS OF PEOPLE BETWEEN THE SAVED OR UNSAVED.

- 1. The saved have obeyed the gospel. I Cor. 15: 1-4; Mk. 16: 15-16
 - (1) They have been added to the Church. Acts 2: 47
 - (2) They are living faithful lives. Rev. 2:10; II Tim. 4: 6-8

- 2. The unsaved have not obeyed the gospel.
 - (1) They are LOST. II Thess. 1: 8-9
 - (2) They are in their sins. John 8:21
 - (3) They are NOT in the church. Eph. 5:23
- 3. The people who have obeyed the gospel, and are living UNFAITHFUL lives, are in and UNSAVED CONDITON. John 15:6

IV. THERE IS NO MIDDLE GROUND BETWEEN THE WIDE GATE AND BROAD WAY, AND THE STRAIGHT GATE AND NARROW WAY. Matt. 7: 13 – 14

- 1. The wide gate and broad way is entered when men sin. I John 3:4; Rom. 3:23
- 2. One can enter the wide gate and broad way by countless ways of sinning.
- 3. ANY DISOBEDIENCE to the Word of God will cause one to enter the wide gate and broad way.
- 4. The broad way allows one to be involved in:
 - (1) False Doctrine
 - (2) Doing that which is not authorized.
 - (3) In Denominationalism.
 - (4) The Works of the Flesh.