

Titus 3:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

A man that is an heretick after the first and second admonition reject;

Analysis

A man that is an heretick after the first and second admonition reject—
αἵρετικὸν ἄνθρωπον (hairetikon anthrōpon, heretical/divisive man) μετὰ μίαν καὶ δευτέραν νουθεσίαν (meta mian kai deuteran nouthesian, after first and second admonition) παραιτοῦ (paraitou, reject/refuse/avoid). αἵρετικός (hairetikos, heretic) means one who creates factions/divisions through false teaching, not mere doctrinal error but church-splitting behavior.

The procedure:

1. first warning (νουθεσία, nouthesia, admonition)
2. second warning
3. rejection.

Matthew 18:15-17 provides parallel church discipline process. παραιτοῦ (paraitou) doesn't necessarily mean excommunication but avoiding fellowship and platform. Persistent divisive teachers must be silenced (1:11) and avoided after patient attempts at correction fail.

Historical Context

Early Christianity lacked centralized authority structures making heresy control difficult. Local elders bore responsibility for doctrinal protection. The two-warning procedure balanced patience (giving opportunity for repentance) with decisiveness

(protecting the flock). Later church history shows the danger of both laxity (tolerating destructive error) and harshness (Inquisitional abuse).

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. Does your church practice biblical church discipline, or does tolerance of error and division go unchecked?
2. How do you balance patience toward erring brothers with decisiveness toward persistent divisive false teachers?
3. What heretical or divisive people should you avoid after giving them opportunity to repent?

Interlinear Text

αἱρετικὸν ἄνθρωπον μετὰ μίαν καὶ δευτέραν
that is an heretick A man after G1520 and second
G141 G444 G3326 G2532 G1208

νουθεσίαν παραιτοῦ

admonition reject
G3559 G3868

Additional Cross-References

Romans 16:17 (Parallel theme): Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.

2 John 1:10 (Parallel theme): If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed:

2 Thessalonians 3:14 (Parallel theme): And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed.

2 Timothy 3:5 (Parallel theme): Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

2 Thessalonians 3:6 (Parallel theme): Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us.

2 Corinthians 13:2 (Parallel theme): I told you before, and foretell you, as if I were present, the second time; and being absent now I write to them which heretofore have sinned, and to all other, that, if I come again, I will not spare:

1 Corinthians 11:19 (Parallel theme): For there must be also heresies among you, that they which are approved may be made manifest among you.

Galatians 5:20 (Parallel theme): Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,

Galatians 5:12 (Parallel theme): I would they were even cut off which trouble you.