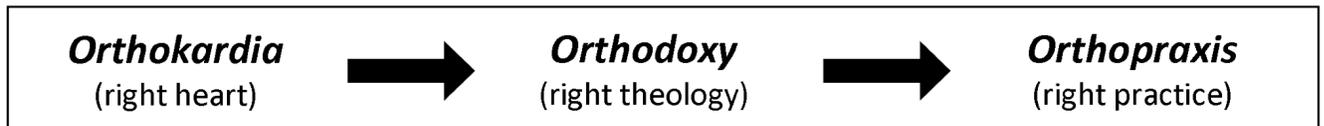


## I. THREE-FOLD NATURE OF TRUTH

**LORD, who may dwell in your sanctuary? Who may live on your holy hill? <sup>2</sup> He whose walk is blameless and who does what is righteous, who speaks the truth from his heart <sup>3</sup> and has no slander on his tongue, who does his neighbor no wrong and casts no slur on his fellowman, <sup>4</sup> who despises a vile man but honors those who fear the LORD, who keeps his oath even when it hurts, <sup>5</sup> who lends his money without usury and does not accept a bribe against the innocent. He who does these things will never be shaken. (NIV Psalm 15:1-5)**



### A. Orthokardia (Truth of Heart)

**Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions... <sup>6</sup> Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; you teach me wisdom in the inmost place... <sup>10</sup> Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me... <sup>16</sup> You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings. <sup>17</sup> The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. (NIV Psalm 51:1-17)**

**The LORD sustains the humble but casts the wicked to the ground... <sup>10</sup> His pleasure is not in the strength of the horse, nor his delight in the legs of a man; <sup>11</sup> the LORD delights in those who fear him, who put their hope in his unfailing love. (NIV Psalm 147:6-11)**

**This is the one I esteem: he who is humble and contrite in spirit, and trembles at my word. <sup>3</sup> But whoever sacrifices a bull is like one who kills a man, and whoever offers a lamb, like one who breaks a dog's neck; whoever makes a grain offering is like one who presents pig's blood, and whoever burns memorial incense, like one who worships an idol. They have chosen their own ways, and their souls delight in their abominations. (NIV Isaiah 66:2-3)**

**Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written: "These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me." ... <sup>20</sup> What comes out of a man is what makes him "unclean." <sup>21</sup> For from within, out of men's hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, <sup>22</sup> greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. (NIV Mark 7:6-22)**

## B. Orthodoxy (Truth of Mind)

***As I urged you when I went into Macedonia, stay there in Ephesus so that you may command certain men not to teach false doctrines any longer <sup>4</sup> nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies. These promote controversies rather than God's work-- which is by faith. <sup>5</sup> The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. <sup>6</sup> Some have wandered away from these and turned to meaningless talk. <sup>7</sup> They want to be teachers of the law, but they do not know what they are talking about or what they so confidently affirm. (NIV 1 Timothy 1:3-7)***

***If anyone teaches false doctrines and does not agree to the sound instruction of our Lord Jesus Christ and to godly teaching, <sup>4</sup> he is conceited and understands nothing. He has an unhealthy interest in controversies and quarrels about words that result in envy, strife, malicious talk, evil suspicions <sup>5</sup> and constant friction between men of corrupt mind, who have been robbed of the truth and who think that godliness is a means to financial gain... <sup>11</sup> But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. <sup>12</sup> Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses. <sup>13</sup> In the sight of God... I charge you <sup>14</sup> to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>15</sup> which God will bring about in his own time-- God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, <sup>16</sup> who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen. (NIV 1 Timothy 6:3-16)***

## C. Orthopraxy (Truth of Lifestyle)

***Test me, O LORD, and try me, examine my heart and my mind; <sup>3</sup> for your love is ever before me, and I walk continually in your truth. <sup>4</sup> I do not sit with deceitful men, nor do I consort with hypocrites; <sup>5</sup> I abhor the assembly of evildoers and refuse to sit with the wicked. (NIV Psalm 26:2-5)***

***It gave me great joy to have some brothers come and tell about your faithfulness to the truth and how you continue to walk in the truth. <sup>4</sup> I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth. (NIV 3 John 1:3-4)***

***This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup> If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. (NIV 1 John 1:5-7)***

***Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. <sup>5:1</sup> Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children <sup>2</sup> and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God... <sup>8</sup> For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light <sup>9</sup> (for the fruit of the light***

**consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth)** <sup>10</sup> and find out what pleases the Lord. (NIV Ephesians 4:32-5:10)

## II. HYPOCRISY: THE CHIEF ENEMY OF TRUTH

### A. God Judges the Heart

**But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."** (NIV 1 Samuel 16:7)

**Therefore judge nothing before the appointed time; wait till the Lord comes. He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will expose the motives of men's hearts. At that time each will receive his praise from God.** (NIV 1 Corinthians 4:5)

**"No servant can serve two masters... You cannot serve both God and Money." <sup>14</sup> The Pharisees, who loved money, heard all this and were sneering at Jesus. <sup>15</sup> He said to them, "You are the ones who justify yourselves in the eyes of men, but God knows your hearts. What is highly valued among men is detestable in God's sight." (NIV Luke 16:13-15)**

### B. Right Praxis, Right Theology, False Heart

**To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everybody else, Jesus told this parable: <sup>10</sup> "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. <sup>11</sup> The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men-- robbers, evildoers, adulterers-- or even like this tax collector. <sup>12</sup> I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.' <sup>13</sup> But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.' <sup>14</sup> I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted." (NIV Luke 18:8-14)**

**I believe everything that agrees with the Law and that is written in the Prophets, <sup>15</sup> and I have the same hope in God as these men, that there will be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked. <sup>16</sup> So I strive always to keep my conscience clear before God and man. (NIV Acts 24:14-16)**

### C. Hypocrisy and the Pharisaical Spirit

**Jesus began to speak first to his disciples, saying: "Be on your guard against the yeast of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy." <sup>2</sup> There is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known." (NIV Luke 12:1-2)**

**I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven... <sup>21</sup> You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'Do not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.' <sup>22</sup> But I tell you that anyone who is angry with his brother will be subject to judgment... <sup>6:1</sup> Be careful not to do your 'acts of righteousness' before men, to be seen by them. If you do, you will have**

*no reward from your Father in heaven. <sup>2</sup> So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full... <sup>5</sup> And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men... <sup>7:3</sup> Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? ... <sup>5</sup> You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye. (NIV Matthew 5:20-7:5)*

*Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices-- mint, dill and cummin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law-- justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former. <sup>24</sup> You blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel. <sup>25</sup> Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence ("extortion and excess" KJV). <sup>26</sup> Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside also will be clean. <sup>27</sup> Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of dead men's bones and everything unclean. <sup>28</sup> In the same way, on the outside you appear to people as righteous but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness. (NIV Matthew 23:5-11)*

### III. LOVE AND SELF-SACRIFICE: THE STANDARD OF INWARD TRUTH

*Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. <sup>16</sup> By their fruit you will recognize them... <sup>19</sup> Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. <sup>20</sup> Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them. <sup>21</sup> Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. <sup>22</sup> Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' <sup>23</sup> Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!' (NIV Matthew 7:15-23)*

*If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup> If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup> If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing. <sup>4</sup> Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. <sup>5</sup> It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. <sup>6</sup> Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup> It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. <sup>8</sup> Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. <sup>9</sup> For we know in part and we prophesy in part, <sup>10</sup> but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears. (NIV 1 Corinthians 13:1-10)*