

Avoid the Docetae

by St. Polycarp of Smyrna

St. Polycarp of Smyrna warns against the dangers of false doctrine and encourages believers to return to the word of God and persevere in prayer and fasting.

Scripture: Matthew 26:41, Mark 14:38, 2 Peter 3:16, 1 John 4:2-3

Topics: "Incarnation Of Christ", "Resisting Temptation"

Description

St. Polycarp of Smyrna emphasizes the importance of confessing Jesus Christ's incarnation and the testimony of the cross, warning against those who distort the teachings of the Lord for their own desires. He urges believers to reject false doctrines and return to the foundational word of God, emphasizing the need for prayer, fasting, and seeking God's guidance to resist temptation, acknowledging the struggle between the spirit's willingness and the weakness of the flesh.

Transcript

"For whosoever does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh, is antichrist;" and whosoever does not confess the testimony of the cross, is of the devil; and whosoever perverts the oracles of the Lord to his own lusts, and says that there is neither a resurrection nor a judgment, he is the first-born of Satan. Wherefore, forsaking the vanity of many, and their false doctrines,

let us return to the word which has been handed down to us from the beginning; "watching unto prayer," and persevering in fasting; beseeching in our supplications the all-seeing God "not to lead us into temptation," as the Lord has said: "The spirit truly is willing, but the flesh is weak."

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/st-polycarp-of-smyrna/avoid-the-docetae/>

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