

Date: 30 October 2022

Speaker: Pastor Clement Chew

Topic: Be Ye Separate!

Text: Romans 16:17-18

1. The book of Romans declares the Gospel and teaches us how to live according to the Gospel. At the end, there is a command to separate from any false teachings that differ from the pure Gospel. This is the same spirit of the reformation. Before the reformation, the people in the past had no Bible and the church was corrupt. They were taught false doctrines, like purchasing forgiveness tickets in order to get to Heaven. Therefore, Martin Luther nailed the 95 theses on the door of the castle of Wittenberg to expose these false teachings. He boldly defended the pure gospel which states that salvation is by faith alone, through grace alone and in Christ alone.
2. The Bible Presbyterian churches in Singapore follow in the same footsteps as the reformers of old. Rev Timothy Tow started the BP church to earnestly contend for the faith. Those who know the Gospel must be prepared to defend it. In order to do so, one must mark the false (v17a). This word “*mark*” has the idea of careful scrutiny. Every Christian must exercise discernment and take note of those who walk contrary to God’s Word. To know what is right and wrong, we must be a diligent student of God’s Word.
3. Another way to defend the gospel is to separate from the false (v17b-18). In Romans, some of the false teachers enriched themselves and focused on filling their belly. They also used their cunning words to deceive others. This is still happening today. There are false teachers advocating that the Bible is not perfect or that sign gifts have not ceased. We must separate from these false teachers.

*Will we stand firm and fight our battles today?*