

Beware of False Doctrines

by Ignatius of Antioch

Christ's suffering established the Church and provided immortality, but we must beware of false doctrines and use our reason to judge concerning God.

Topics: "False Doctrine", "Discernment"

Description

Ignatius of Antioch emphasizes the importance of the Church being anointed with the fragrance of Christ, symbolized by the ointment poured on His head, to draw believers closer to Him. He warns against being influenced by the deceptive teachings of the world and urges believers to use their God-given reason to discern and not fall into ignorance or neglect the gift of faith. Ignatius questions why humanity, with the ability to judge concerning God, would foolishly perish due to neglect and lack of wisdom.

Transcript

For this end did the Lord suffer the ointment to be poured upon His head, that His Church might breathe forth immortality. For saith [the Scripture], "Thy name is as ointment poured forth; therefore have the virgins loved Thee; they have drawn Thee; at the odour of Thine ointments we will run after Thee." Let no one be anointed with the bad odour of the doctrine of [the prince of] this world; let not the holy Church of God be led captive by his subtlety, as was the first woman.

Why do we not, as gifted with reason, act wisely? When we had received from Christ, and had grafted in us the faculty of judging concerning God, why do we fall headlong into ignorance? and why, through a careless neglect of acknowledging the gift which we have received, do we foolishly perish?

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/ignatius-of-antioch/beware-of-false-doctrines/>

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