Attic Answer #6:

Is Doctrine Just an Outdated "Church Word?"

What should be the source of doctrine? Plain and simple; the word of God is the source of doctrine. Over the years, however man has derived it's doctrine from a plethora of sources such as; opinion, traditions, culture, other religions, etc.

Valid Doctrine is something that the human mind must be able to engage i.e. cognitive. Valid doctrine must be factual and true. Valid doctrine has to do with the propositional truth that concerns God's will. Another way to iterate this truth is this: Doctrine is objective propositional truth; A God Given statement. It is not the opinion of men.

An extremely important note concerning valid doctrine is that "you can not separate the doctrine of Christ from the person of Christ." Also the foundation of this teaching is built upon the Apostles and the Prophets. Eph 2:19-22 speaks to this truth. They are responsible for the authorship of the Bible as they received their message directly from God and recorded it for all generations to come.

There are two words in the Greek New Testament that are translated Doctrine: Didache (Passive Tense) and Didaskalia (Active Tense). Both of these words refer to the act of teaching or they refer to that which is taught i.e. the content.

There are 3 primary reasons why doctrine is so very important. First we are able to give reasonable answers to those who inquire of us. Second, Theology is important to Spiritual Health. And lastly, Doctrine helps man to align his thoughts with God's thoughts.

Doctrine apart from a relationship with Jesus Christ is vain and empty. Doctrine leads to a relationship with Jesus Christ. True doctrine connects a person to Jesus himself. A person may have a working knowledge of doctrine and have all things correct, but not have a relationship and thusly be outside the saving grace of Jesus Christ. Concisely stated, Christian salvation is in the person of Jesus Christ. One can not separate the doctrine of Jesus from the person of Jesus.