10 Principles to Evaluate Doctrine

1. Check with Bible   Is 8:19
2. List and evaluate scriptural references in context…eliminate nonessential references… then examine translations to see if consistency or perhaps bias or disagreement among translators Eph 2:15 Luk 13:6
   Make sure the scripture says what people claim it says?
   What does the scripture mean? Col 2:16
3. Is the doctrine oversimplified? What are the consequences in both directions
   Is the Doctrine based on a technicality, or sound consistent theology
4. Whose Doctrine is this? Doctrine = Teaching (not necessarily truth) Evaluate the motivations of the teacher… Does he have an agenda or lack of objectivity requiring a greater burden of proof?
5. Examine the assumptions that are prerequisite to their teaching…Usually they are not stated EG if you accept the immortality of the soul, the Rcatholic interp of doctrines makes sense What is their philosophy? Deterministic, existentialism etc… Where does this new teaching go?
6. Is this doctrine rational? Does it make sense?
7. Has the teacher made his case? Sift relevant from irrelevant
   If it takes too long or too many dependencies to make a case, it is likely not well thought out
8. Take your time. Some things will happen whether you know or understand it.
9. Listen to your heart or gut. Usually intuition is pretty good … you may have to overrule it but don't ignore it
10. Pray about it… and be confident

Why not Keep the Holy Days

1. Watch for "loaded questions"
   - Questions that assume information that is not yet proven…
   - The question determines the entire direction of your inquiry – and how you will lay out your evidence so make sure you ask the right questions

2. Watch for "loaded words" and words that are difficult to define. Get people to define their terms.
   - Terms like "legalism", "Jewish", etc can be negative, and ambiguous…