

# Orthodox, Heterodox and Heresy Definitions

## Orthodox (or·tho·dox) – Right Teaching

Beliefs that conform to what is right and true according to God's word.

Examples:

- Jesus died for our sin
- Belief that we are saved by grace through faith in Christ.

## Heterodox (het·ero·dox) – Different Teaching

Christian teachings which are not in agreement with our understanding of scripture, but do not rise to the level of heresy.

Examples:

- The Lord's Supper – closed vs. open
- Women reading Scripture during worship

Note: These differences cause divisions. Hence, many different church bodies. Also, some people say that any and all heterodox teaching is heresy.

## Heresy – False Teaching

Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary:

- adherence to a religious opinion contrary to church dogma
- dissent or deviation from a dominant theory, opinion, or practice

Examples:

- Jesus is not God
- Jesus did not come in the flesh
- Jesus did not die
- Jesus was not a propitiation for our sin.

