A Christian’s Position and Disposition

Eph. 4:15

Introduction:
A. Some of meanest, discourteous, and inconsiderate people are doctrinally sound.
B. Some of sweetest, kindest and loving people are doctrinally dangerous.
C. Many, however, are “speaking the truth in love” as Lord commands.
D. All must be careful that we are sound in two ways:

Discussion:
I. We Must Be Sound In Our Position. (“Speaking the TRUTH”).
   A. Scriptural position on the plan of salvation.
   B. Scriptural position on the church.
      1. Its oneness. (Eph. 4:4).
      2. Its identity. - Protestants and Catholics unsound regardless of attitude.
      3. It's work. (Eph. 4:12).
   C. Scriptural position on Christian's general conduct.
      1. High morals (Eph. 5:3)
      3. Women’s role (1 Tim. 2:9-15)

II. We Must Be Sound In Our Disposition. (“in LOVE”; cf. 1 Cor. 13:4-7).
   A. “Sufferth long” (v. 4) - Not ignoring sin but patient in correction.
   B. “Kind” (v. 4) - cf. 1 Pet. 3:8 - Truth does not demand “harshness.
   C. “Envieth not” (v. 4). - Petty envy trouble many congregations.
   D. “Vaunteth not itself”(v. 4) - Not conceited.
   E. “Doth not behave itself unseemingly” (v. 5) - Too many behave unbecoming to Christian.
   F. “Seeketh not her own” (v. 4). - If I do not get credit or if its not my idea - forget it.
   G. “Not easily provoked” . (v. 5) - Carries feeling around on shoulder.
   H. ‘Thinketh no evil’ (v. 5) - “is not ready to suspect evil” (Margin) - cf. Man with wheelbarrow.
   I. “Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in truth” (v. 6 - Never happy to see one sin but sad.
   J. “Bearth all things ....” (v. 7) Places best construction on actions - “Look at that woman He,s been running around with.”

Conclusion:
A. Careful to be right in every position.
B. But, not careless about every disposition.