

False Prophets

Nov. 1, 2009 – Pastor Dr. Ronnie Wolfe
Matthew 7:15-23

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. What Are Prophets?
 - 1. Those who profess to tell forth God's truth
 - 2. This takes much study, Eccl 12:7-12
- B. What Are False Prophets?
 - 1. A person who professes to tell God's truth but in fact is not.
 - 2. Matt. 24:11 and 1 John 4:1 tell us that there are MANY false prophets.

II. THE FRUIT OF A FALSE PROPHET (Matt. 7:15-20)

- A. They Are Deceitful, 15; Mat. 24:11
- B. They Are Detectible, 16, 20
- C. They Are Destructive, 18 cannot bring good fruit (wax fruit).
- D. They Are Destined, 19

III. THE WORK OF FALSE PROPHETS, (Mat 7: 21-22)

- A. Their Speech, 21-22a – “Lord, Lord”
- B. Their Sensationalism, 22b
- C. They Are Deceitful, Matt. 24:11
- D. They Show Great Signs, Mat. 24:24
- E. They Are Called False Christs, Mat. 13:22
- F. They Speak Well of True Prophets, Luke 6:26
- G. They Are False Teachers who bring in damnable heresies, 2 Peter 2:1
- H. They Are To Be Tested, 1 John 4:1

IV. THE END OF FALSE PROPHETS, (Mat. 7:23)

- A. “I never knew you.” Not “I used to know,” but “I never knew you.”
- B. “Depart from me” – That is, depart from my eternal blessings, because they are not a part of their destiny.
- C. “Ye that work iniquity.” The word “work” is a present tense verb and indicates that these ones continue to work iniquity. Notice 2 Pet 2:14 *Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children:*
- D. Notice verse 22 says “in that day.” This is the Day of the Lord that will come as a thief in the night: 1 Thes. 5:2 *For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.*

V. CONCLUSION

- A. What should we do, then, knowing that there are false prophets in the world?
 1. We are to beware - Matt. 7:15
 2. Realize their deceit - Matt 24:11
 3. Watch for the “many signs and wonders” that these false prophets are to do” Matt 13:22
 4. Listen for damnable heresies. 2 Peter 2:1
 5. Believe not every spirit, but try the spirits (by the word of God), I John 4:1
- B. What should the lost do?
 1. 2 Thes. 2:13 ¶ *But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth.*
 2. You cannot be saved by believing a lie. You must believe the truth. The only truth for salvation is found in the scriptures, so test every prophet by the scriptures. If he is not telling the truth, then do not listen. Read the scriptures for yourself and understand that salvation is by grace through faith (Eph. 2:8-9).
 3. Remember: Ga 3:26 *For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.*