

SERMON OUTLINE

CHARACTERISTICS OF FALSE TEACHERS

2 PETER 2:10-16

JUNE 19TH, 2022

“Satan is the counterfeiter. He has a false gospel (Galatians 1:6-9), preached by false ministers (2 Cor. 11:12-13), producing false Christians (2 Corinthians 11:26). Satan plants his counterfeits wherever God plants true believers (Matthew 13:38).” – Warren Wiersbe

THREE WAYS TO IDENTIFY FALSE TEACHERS:

I. Listen to their words: vs. 10b-13a

Common False Teaching Gateways

1. Teaching that suits one's own desires
 - “For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions,⁴ and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.” – 1 Timothy 4:3-4
2. Teaching that overreacts to error
3. Teaching that makes Christianity more palatable
 - “These are grumblers and malcontents; they indulge their own lusts; they are bombastic in speech, flattering people to their own advantage” – Jude 16

II. Watch their conduct: vs. 13b-14a

- “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will recognize them by their fruits...A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus, you will recognize them by their fruits.” – Matthew 7:15-20
- “For certain intruders have stolen in among you, people who long ago were designated for this condemnation as ungodly, who pervert the grace of our God into licentiousness and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.” – Jude 4

III. Observe what their heart seeks: vs. 14b-16

BENEDICTION: “Finally, brothers, pray for us that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men. For not all have faith. But the Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one. May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ.” – 2 Thessalonians 3:1-3, 5