

Matthew's Gospel "The Sermon On The Mount"
"Beware Of False Prophets"
Matthew 7:15-20
Part 41

Matthew 7:13-14

Matthew 23:24 "You blind guides, who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel!"

Matthew 7:1-20 The Christian and Relationships:

Matthew 7:1-5 The Christian With Christian:

We will look at 2 areas in our study:

1. Verse - 15 Believer Beware:
2. Verses - 16-20 Believer Discern:

1. Verse - 15 Believer Beware:

Matthew 7:15

"Beware – Literally "to hold one's mind away, bring near to, to give attention to a thing."

A prophet - is "one who speaks on behalf of another, it can involve foretelling of future events, but is generally more forth telling than it is foretelling."

Exodus 7:1

False prophet – "one who acts the part of a divinely inspired prophet, utters falsehoods under the disguise of divine prophecies" One who claims to speak on God's behalf, God has not given them a message nor sent them!

Jeremiah 23:16-17

Jeremiah 23:21-22

Jesus warned... Matthew 24:4-5

Matthew 24:11

Matthew 24:23-26

Apostle Paul warned... Gal 1:8-9

1 Timothy 4:1-3

Apostle John warned... 2 John 1:9-11

Jude warned... Jude 1:3-4

2 Peter 2:1

Matthew 7:15

1. They Come In Deception (Difficult to Identify): in sheep's clothing,

2 Kings 1:8, Matthew 3:4

Zechariah 13:4

2 Corinthians 11:13-15

Christian Cults – Christian Science, Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints, Jehovah's Witness

2. They Are Dangerous: but inwardly are ravenous wolves.

Acts 20:29-30

2. Verses - 16-20 Believer Discern:

Matthew 7:16

"You will know them by their fruits. – The term "Their Fruit" 7X

Matthew 5:20

Fruit – is not works but "the character, the true nature of the person, the real heart of a person." It is the character that is responsible for the fruit. (The root determines the fruit)

The 3 Part Character Test:

1. Test - The Message –

I want to identify 6 different groups:

1. The Occult -

2. Christian Cults –

Jehovah's Witnesses, The Watchtower Society:

Mormonism, The Church Of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints:

Christian Science – (Nether Christian or Science)

3. Non-Christian Religions –

4. Legalism –

5. Liberalism –

6. Wind of Doctrine – Ephesians 4:14

2. Test - The Messenger – Never divorce the message from the messenger.

Why are these false prophets giving out a false message?

1. They Want To Maintain Their Sinful Lifestyle. 2 Peter 2:10,14

2. Pride. 1 Timothy 6:3-5

3. They Are Deceived. 1 Timothy 4:1-3

4. For financial Gain. 2 Peter 2:3

5. They Want Power Over Others. Lord it over others. 1 Peter 5:2-3

6. They Don't Want To Give God's Message But Their Own. Acts 20:29-30

7. Self-Willed. Rebels 2 Peter 2:10

Must test all things from the Scriptures!

Acts 17:11

3. Test - The Followers Produced – Verse – 16-18

Matthew 7:16

Jesus is warning against judging by appearance only.

Galatians 5:22-24

Matthew 7:17-18

Matthew 12:33-37

Matthew 7:19

Romans 2:16

Matthew 7:20

Application:

1. Beware - They Come In Deception (Difficult to Identify):
2. Beware - They Are Dangerous:
3. Test - The Message –
4. Test - The Messenger –
5. Test - The Followers Produced