



GROW IN *Christ*

Warning of False Prophets

2 Peter 2:1-22

False Prophets



- False prophets/teachers have always been around, and they always will be.
- False prophets cause divisions that pit Christians against each other.
- False teachers not only give the truth a bad name, but they oppose God.
- God holds false prophets accountable for their deception.
- False prophets face God's coming judgement.

What Are False Prophets Like?

- False prophets often come from within the congregation, rather than from without.
- False prophets attempt to make their teachings look like true teachings so that no one notices the subtle difference.
- False prophets misrepresent grace and discipleship, teaching that there is no need for repentance or that certain behaviors are not sinful.
- False teachers are enslaved by their own corruption and sin.
- There were false prophets among the scattered Christians who had taken the same path as Balaam.

False Prophets Are Dangerous

- False prophets give nothing that will quench the thirst of the soul.
- False prophets invite others to a life of bondage after promising a life of freedom.
- False prophets cannot deliver the freedom they promise when they themselves are slaves to sin.
- False prophets may seem to offer spiritual refreshment, but their words are full of vain, empty claims that extract hope for sustaining spiritual life.

Conclusion

- We must believe and be committed to the true Word of God, and not man's personal interpretations that do not fit with the whole of Scripture.
- Peter warned the scattered believers to stay clear of false teachers.
- Freedom is not the ability to do whatever we want, because we are not free if we follow our sinful nature; we are slaves to that instead of God.
- The only way that we can have the moral compass needed to avoid false prophets is to trust Jesus Christ as our savior.
- The truth we seek, the living water for which we thirst, is found only in Jesus Christ.