

# SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT

## FALSE TEACHING

Tanya Goffin

### False Teaching

*Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?" (Genesis 3:1, ESV)*

### What Is False Teaching?

Knowing the truth - Earliest creed 1 Corinthians 15:1-3

- First importance.
- According to the scriptures.
- Christ died for our sins.
- He was buried.
- He rose from the dead.
- He appeared to many different people at various times - some of whom were still alive when this was written.

False teaching is any teaching that deviates from these central truths. It can be very obvious or much more subtle.

### History Of False Teaching

*Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. (Matthew 7:15, ESV)*

*I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. (Acts 20:29, ESV)*

- There are no 'new heresies'. All involve an elevation of man/devaluing the Bible - downplaying of sin and repentance.
- Old Testament - Idolatry and syncretism.
- New Testament – Legalism, gnosticism, syncretism.

*O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified. Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh. (Galatians 3:1-3, ASV)*

*For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you might be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding. (Colossians 1:9, NKJV)*

*Not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by a spirit or a spoken word, or a letter seeming to be from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come. Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction... So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by our spoken word or by our letter. (2 Thessalonians 2:2-3, 15, ESV)*

*But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction. And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed. (2 Peter 2:1-2, NKJV)*

## How Do You Tell If Someone Is A False Teacher

Problems with discernment with online 'ministries'.

And we urge you, brethren, to recognise those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. Be at peace among yourselves.  
(1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 NKJV)

## Local Church Is Gods Plan

Legalism - The gospel and... (recommend Iverson ministries - Drawing Lines In A Perverse Generation)

Overemphasis of 'non creed truths'.

Progressive/liberal Christianity - Affecting countless churches/denominations.

**How To Respond** (Explain the need and urgency especially for young people who will face anger/ ostracism)

- We need to become 'Bible nerds' - Read, study, meditate, memorise.

*All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.*  
(2 Timothy 3:16-17)

- Recognise areas of doctrine that are difficult. Recognise and study them - hell, Gods dealings with the Canaanites, homosexuality, exclusivity of Christ.
- A gospel preaching / practicing local church.

*But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defence to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear.* (1 Peter 3:15 NKJV)