

## Christian Worldview- Identifying False Teachers

“The Bible can’t even find any way to explain this. Not really. That’s why you’ve got to get it by revelation. There are no words to explain what I’m telling you. I’ve got to just trust God that He’s putting it into your spirit like He put it into mine.” – Joyce Meyer

“There is one God, Creator of all things, infinitely perfect, and eternally existing in three manifestations: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.” - The Potters House Beliefs, church that TD Jakes pastors.

“God has already done everything He’s going to do. The ball is now in your court. If you want success, if you want wisdom, if you want to be prosperous and healthy, you’re going to have to do more than meditate and believe; you must boldly declare words of faith and victory over yourself and your family” – Joel Osteen

“If you are believing for your child to find God, go help somebody else’s child to develop a relationship with God. If you’re struggling financially, go out and help somebody who has less than you have ... f you want to reap financial blessings, you must sow financial seeds in the lives of others ... If you want to see healing and restoration come to your life, go out and help somebody else get well” – Joel Osteen

“Following Jesus doesn’t change you into something else, it reveals who you’ve been all along. What would it be like to see the you that God sees...” - Steven Furtick

“And you’re thinking they’re not the dangerous type because some of their statements are right? That only proves that Satan comes as an angel of light This teaching can’t be believed without a cost The lie is you can achieve a crown without a cross” - Shai Linne

### Characteristics of False Teachers

Titus 1:10–16

False teaching is anything that goes against what the Bible \_\_\_\_\_ says.

The goal for rebuking false teachers is their \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 13) in both belief and practice.

### Three Characteristics Of Those Who Contradict The Gospel

1. I \_\_\_\_\_
2. E \_\_\_\_\_
3. D \_\_\_\_\_

One of the greatest deceptions that has happened in cultural Christianity is this idea that you have a faith in Christ that is \_\_\_\_\_ in the way that you live. There is no faith in Christ that \_\_\_\_\_ produce works.

### **7 types of false teachers in the church today (by Tim Challies):**

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ - the person who teaches what blatantly contradicts an essential teaching of the Christian faith. He is a gregarious figure, a natural leader teaching just enough truth to mask his deadly error.
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ - only interested in the Christian faith to the extent it can fill his wallet
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ - claims to be gifted by God to speak fresh revelation outside of Scripture—new, authoritative words of prediction, teaching, rebuke, or encouragement.
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ - The Abuser uses his position of leadership to take advantage of other people, and in taking advantage of other people he is feeding his personal and fleshly desires rather than loving and sacrificing for the good of others.
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ - uses false doctrine to disrupt or destroy a church. He gleefully divides brother from brother and sister from sister.
6. The \_\_\_\_\_ - the false teacher who cares nothing for what God wants and everything for what men want. He is the man-pleaser rather than the God-pleaser. Paul thought of him as the ear-tickler
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ - obsessed with novelty, originality, or speculation. The author of Hebrews warned his church of these “strange teachings,” while Paul told Timothy to protect the church against any “different doctrine” (Hebrews 13:9, 1 Timothy 1:3). Teaching focused on speculation displaces the sure and steady doctrine of Scripture.

### **4 Characteristics that help identify false teachers**

#### **1. The testimony of their \_\_\_\_\_.**

Matthew 7:15–20

#### **2. The testimony of their \_\_\_\_\_**

1 Timothy 6:3–4

Ask: Does their teaching match with the Words of Jesus?

“We need to measure the doctrines that are being taught by the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ.” - John Piper

#### **3. The \_\_\_\_\_ of submission to Scripture**

1 John 4:6

“If a person does not submit his thinking and his teaching to the authority of the apostles — to the authorized teachers of Christ who wrote the New Testament — then they’re not going to be reliable teachers. It doesn’t mean they won’t say true things. Everybody says true things from time to time — even the devil. But that doesn’t make them reliable teachers.” - John Piper

#### **4. The teaching of salvation by grace through faith \_\_\_\_\_ works.**

Galatians 1:9-10

#### **How do we guard against false teachers?**

##### **1. Know the \_\_\_\_\_ of God**

“Does any one ask me, What is the best safeguard against false doctrine? – I answer in one word, ‘The Bible: the Bible regularly read, regularly prayed over, regularly studied.’ We must go back to the old prescription of our Master: ‘Search the Scriptures.’ (John 5:39) If we want a weapon to wield against the devices of Satan, there is nothing like ‘the sword of the Spirit, the Word of God.’ But to wield it successfully, we must read it habitually, diligently, intelligently, and prayerfully. This is a point on which, I fear, many fail. In an age of hurry and bustle, few read their Bibles as much as they should. More books perhaps are read than ever, but less of the one Book which makes man wise unto salvation. Rome and neology could never have made such havoc in the Church in the last fifty years, if there had not been a most superficial knowledge of the Scriptures throughout the land. A Bible-reading laity is the strength of a Church.” - JC Ryle

##### **2. We \_\_\_\_\_ the Word when it comes to who we appoint as pastors (elders) & deacons in the church.**

Titus 1:6-9

- Live According To Sound Doctrine (vs. 6-9)
- Instruct and Encourage Godliness Through Sound Teaching (vs. 9)
- Rebuke and Discourage Ungodliness In The Church (vs. 9)

##### **Don’t think of a pastor or minister more \_\_\_\_\_ than you ought.**

As JC Ryle wrote, “Your minister may be a man of God indeed, and worthy of all honor for his preaching and practice; but do not make a pope of him. Do not place his word side by side with the Word of God. Do not spoil him by flattery. Do not let him suppose he can make no mistakes. Do not lean your whole weight on his opinion, or you may find to your cost that he can err. It is written of Joash, King of Judah, that he ‘did that which was right in the sight of the Lord all the days of Jehoiada the priest.’ (2 Chronicles 24:2) Jehoiada died, and then died the religion of Joash. Just so your minister may die, and then your religion may die too; – may change, and your religion may change; – may go away, and your religion may go. Oh, be not satisfied with a religion built upon man! Be not content with saying, ‘I have hope, because my own minister has told me such and such things.’ Seek to be able to say, ‘I have hope, because I find it thus and thus written in the Word of God.’ If your peace is to be solid, you must go yourself to the fountain of all truth. If your comforts are to be lasting, you must visit the well of life yourself, and draw fresh water for your own soul. Ministers may depart from the faith. The visible Church may be broken up. But he who has the Word of God written in his heart, has a foundation beneath his

feet which will never fail him. Honor your minister as a faithful ambassador of Christ. Esteem him very highly in love for his work's sake. But never forget that infallibility is not to be found in godly ministers, but in the Bible."

**3. We organize ourselves as a church according to the \_\_\_\_\_, descriptions, and \_\_\_\_\_ in the Word.**

- Goals: Biblical \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ in salvation through the gospel and in our shared beliefs of Scripture
- Organized according to the ways we see the \_\_\_\_\_ church operate
- Affirm and ordain leaders according to the \_\_\_\_\_.
- Expect of one another what God \_\_\_\_\_ in His Word
- Remember that the church is a place of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.