

(SOME) SCRIPTURES ON FALSE PROPHETS/TEACHERS/DOCTRINE

Genesis 3:1 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?'"

Isaiah 5:20 Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!

Galatians 1:6-10 I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed. For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.

Matthew 24:24 For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect.

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

Romans 16:17-18 I appeal to you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and create obstacles contrary to the doctrine that you have been taught; avoid them. For such persons do not serve our Lord Christ, but their own appetites, and by smooth talk and flattery they deceive the hearts of the naive.

Ephesians 4:14 (grow up...) So that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.

Colossians 2:8 See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ.

Acts 20:29-30 I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them.

1 Timothy 1:3-4 As I urged you when I was going to Macedonia, remain at Ephesus so that you may charge certain persons not to teach any different doctrine, nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies, which promote speculations rather than the stewardship from God that is by faith.

1 Timothy 4:1-3 Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons, through the insincerity of liars whose consciences are seared, who forbid marriage and require abstinence from foods that God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.

1 Timothy 6:3-5 If anyone teaches a different doctrine and does not agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching that accords with godliness, he is puffed up with conceit and understands nothing. He has an unhealthy craving for controversy and for quarrels about words, which produce envy, dissension, slander, evil suspicions, and constant friction among people who are depraved in mind and deprived of the truth, imagining that godliness is a means of gain.

1 Timothy 6:20-21 O Timothy, guard the deposit entrusted to you. Avoid the irreverent babble and contradictions of what is falsely called "knowledge," for by professing it some have swerved from the faith. Grace be with you.

2 Timothy 4:3-4 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, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.

2 Peter 2:1-3 But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction. And many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of truth will be blasphemed. And in their greed they will exploit you with false words. Their condemnation from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep.

WHAT WE CAN DEDUCE FROM THESE SCRIPTURES ABOUT HERESY AND FALSE TEACHERS

How are “they” described?

Ultimately, Satan...the Father of Lies
False christs
False prophets
False teachers
Fierce wolves
Liars
Serve their own appetites
Utilize smooth talk and flattery
Are insincere
Deceitful spirits
Demons
(Those) puffed up with conceit
(They have an) unhealthy craving for controversy and for quarrels about words
Teachers who suit their own passions
Elemental spirits of the world
Secretive
Sensual
Greedy
Crafty
Schemers
Cunning
(Those who have) a seared conscience
Seek the approval of man...not of God
Trying to please man...
Disguised as sheep
Ravenous wolves

What do “they” do?

Distort the gospel
(proclaim/preach/teach) a different gospel
Teach a different doctrine
Call good evil and evil good
(They say things that) do not agree with the sound words of the Lord Jesus Christ or of godliness
Trouble you
Contradict the truth (which you already believed)
Perform signs and wonders...to lead astray
Look and act “just like you” (in sheep’s clothing)
Cause division
Create obstacles
Deceive the heart
(Practice) deceitful schemes
Teach a different doctrine
(Desire to) take you captive
Toss you to and fro
Utilize human tradition
Speak twisted things
Lie
Philosophize
Draw you away

Produce envy, dissension, slander, evil suspicions, and constant friction
(Give themselves to) irreverent babble
Tell you what you (your flesh) want to hear
(Cause some) to wander off
Will bring destructive heresies
Cause the way of truth to be blasphemed
Exploit you with false words

What are “we” to do?

Do not desert Him who called you
Do not turn to a different gospel
BEWARE!
Watch out!
Avoid them
(Don’t be) naïve
(Grow up/mature) don’t be children
See to it that you aren’t taken captive
(Don’t have) a depraved mind
(Do not be) deprived of the truth
GUARD what’s been entrusted to you
Avoid irreverent babble and contradictions
(Do not) profess false knowledge
Endure sound teaching (even if it’s counter cultural)
(Do not) turn away from listening to the truth

What is “their” end?

Woe
Accursed
NOT servants of Christ
Bring upon themselves swift destruction
Condemnation
Destruction

What is our end if we fail? We’ll be... or We’ll...

Lead astray
Deceived in our hearts
Like children tossed to and fro by the waves
(Held) captive (captured)
Drawn away
(Have) departed from the faith
Devoted to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons
Envious (and cause envy)
(Know) dissensions (and cause them)
(experience) slander (and participate in it)
(have) evil suspicions
(Experience and cause) constant friction
(Will have) swerved from the faith
(Have) turned away
(Have) wandered off
(Cause) the way of truth will be blasphemed
(Experience being) exploited (and exploit)