

## Beware the Wolves

### **Intro:**

Matt 7:15-20

Jesus warned of wolves in sheep's clothing - so did Peter, so did John, Jude and Paul - virtually every NT epistle warns of false teachers...even as He spoke this warning...a false apostle was among them

Why so many constant warnings?

Because wolves, and serpents, have been a constant foe (Free fall)

### **Problem:**

1 Jn 4:1

(2 Cor 10:1-6)

Spiritual warfare begins with discernment testing the spirits to see whether they are from God

This implies that it is not entirely obvious at first glance... so how do you spot the wolves?

(2 Cor 10:7-18)

You will know them by their master, their mission, their method, and their measuring rod...

### **Main Idea:**

Do not be deceived by their doctrine

Do not be defrauded by their demeanor

Do not be duped by their disguise

### **Implication:**

Jn 10:1-5

What kind of shepherd would I be if I told you to buddy up with wolves? What kind of shepherd would I be if I let them in? If I invited them in and refused to warn you?

Well let me warn you now...

### **Application:** (run)

You are in a fight to...

Keep yourself in the Word of God

Keep yourself in step with the people of God

Keep yourself in the love of God

Run for your life from their false doctrine, their fraudulent demeanor, their fake disguise

### **Articles for further study:**

<https://www.gotquestions.org/judge-teachings-leaders.html>

<https://www.gotquestions.org/false-prophets.html>

<https://www.gty.org/library/blog/B140303/dances-with-wolves>

## Beware the Wolves

Text:

### **Do not be deceived by their doctrine**

2Corinthians 11:1 ¶ I wish you would bear with me in a little foolishness. Do bear with me!

2Corinthians 11:2 For I feel a **divine jealousy** for you, since I betrothed you to **one husband**, to present you as a **pure virgin to Christ**.

2Corinthians 11:3 But I am afraid that as **the serpent deceived Eve** by his cunning, your thoughts will be **led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ**.

2Corinthians 11:4 For if someone comes and proclaims **another Jesus** than the one we proclaimed, or if you receive a **different spirit** from the one you received, or if you accept a **different gospel** from the one you accepted, you put up with it readily enough.

*eph 5:25-33 (the church presented to the Son...pure unlike the Father's wife)*

*rev 19:7-9 bride has made herself ready)*

*ezek 16:15-34 (this is the language of false doctrine - friendship with the world spiritual adultery James 4)*

*gal 1:6-9 (we are not commended to entertain a different gospel - this is why crt should be opposed)*

*gal 2:3-5 (we are not commended to entertain even a little bit of works righteousness - cults, catholicism)*

*gal 5:1-4 (severed from Christ- adding circumcision, sabbath, baptism - any little bit is big)*

*2 pet 2:1-3 (cults go in to deceive - they are counting on your ignorance - they will exploit you with false words- col 2 (taken captive by plausible arguments)*

*Jude 3-4 (once for all delivered - the true gospel is not a moving target)*

*acts 17:1-11 (accountability is not to a special board, a denomination but the Word of God*

*keep your eyes on the Word of God - not just believing in God but believing God -set apart in the truth your Word is truth)*

### **Do not be defrauded by their demeanor**

2Corinthians 11:5 Indeed, I consider that I am not in the least inferior to **these super-apostles**.

2Corinthians 11:6 Even if I am unskilled in speaking, I am not so in knowledge; indeed, in every way we have made this plain to you in all things.

2Corinthians 11:7 ¶ Or did I commit a sin in humbling myself so that you might be exalted, because I preached God's gospel to you free of charge?

2Corinthians 11:8 **I robbed other churches by accepting support from them in order to serve you.**

2Corinthians 11:9 And when I was with you and was in need, I did not burden anyone, for the brothers who came from Macedonia supplied my need. So I refrained and will refrain from burdening you in any way.

2Corinthians 11:10 As the truth of Christ is in me, this boasting of mine will not be silenced in the regions of Achaia.

2Corinthians 11:11 And why? Because I do not love you? God knows I do!

2Corinthians 11:12 ¶ **And what I am doing I will continue to do, in order to undermine the claim of those who would like to claim that in their boasted mission they work on the same terms as we do.**

*Phil 4:14-15 (1 cor 9:8-15 (why do all of this?...Paul was supported by the poor Philippian congregation and refused funding by the wealthy congregation - humbling them supported by poor Macedonians - no status)*

*2 pet 2:10-12 (bold and willful they do not tremble)*

*Jude 8-11 (their authority is not in step with the humility of the apostles angels etc)*

*Phil 3:17-21 (keep your life in step with the people of God - not just information but imitation)*

### **Do not be duped by their disguise**

2Corinthians 11:13 **For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ.**

2Corinthians 11:14 And no wonder, for **even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light**.

2Corinthians 11:15 So it is no surprise if his servants, also, **disguise themselves as servants of righteousness**. Their end will correspond to their deeds.

*2 pet 2:13-22; (they are with you, us even now)*

*2 pet 3:17-18 (do not lose your stability)*

*Jude 12-13 (they are among us always)*

*Jude 14-25 (keep your heart in the love of God - not just a religion but a real relationship)*