



Pastor's Comments

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Beware of False Prophets

On Sunday, May 21 at 10:45 a.m. we will begin studying the **20th** of the "**49 Commands of Christ**" which is "**Beware of False Prophets.**" Jesus Christ said, "**Beware of false prophets**, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them **by their fruits**" (Matthew 7:15-16).

Satan's chief weapon is **deception**, and his primary objectives are **division** among believers and the **destruction** of as many as will follow his ways. He sends his ministers into the world **as angels of light**. Their function is **to deceive** as many as they can. "Such are **false apostles, deceitful workers**, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an **angel of light**. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be **according to their works**" (2 Corinthians 11:13-15).

How can one recognize a false prophet? J.C. Ryle said, "It is neglect of the Bible, which makes so many a prey to the first **false teacher** whom they hear." In this study we will learn from the Bible about four types of **counterfeits** who claim to speak for God, four characteristics that reveal **false prophets**, eight characteristics of **deceivers**, three groups who are especially vulnerable to **false teachers**, damage **false teachers** do to the cause of Christ, and three ways to respond to **false teachers**.

Every **false prophet** is a confirmation of Jesus as **the true Prophet of God**, just as every counterfeit bill is a testimony to the reality of "the real thing." God put within Scripture many prophecies of the real Christ. There are many irrefutable proofs that Christ fulfilled these prophecies and is the true Son of God.

Christ's final command was "Go...and teach all nations... Teaching them **to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you**" (Mt. 28:19-20). Jesus promised, "If ye keep **my commandments**, ye shall abide in my love..." (John 15:10). I invite you to join us for this study.

Northampton Assembly of God

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