

# WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT FALSE TEACHERS?

## False Teachers: Watch Out!

(2 Peter 2, ESV)

### Believers Mature At Different Paces

**3<sup>rd</sup> Level Issues: Allowable Individual Differences** “As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. ...So then each of us will give an account to God.” (Romans 14:1-12)

### Less Faithful Teachers: Believing Christians, in Error

**2<sup>nd</sup> Level Issues: Denominational Differences** “Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness.” (James 3:1)

### False Teachers Misrepresent God & the Gospel

**1<sup>st</sup> Level Issues: Christian vs. Non-Christian: Essential Teachings** “built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone” (Ephesians 2:20)

• *Who is God? What is the Gospel? What are the Scriptures?*

1. **PREPARE!** Their Presence is Guaranteed but is not Obvious to All – v.1

2. **WATCH!** False Teachers Are Characterized by:

False Words – v.3 ; Speaking Ignorantly – v.12 ; Endorse Sin – v.2, 13-15, 18 ; Greedy v.3, 14 ; Proud w/no accountability – v.10, 18 (Jude 8) ; Make Empty Promises – v.19 ; Rely on Experience/Dreams (Jude 8) ; Speak Flippantly To Satan/Demons (2 Pet 2:10-13; Jude 8-10) Have Some Scriptural Knowledge, But Wander from It – v.20-22

3. **CORRECT & WARN** Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints. (Jude 1:3)

• **Their Teachings Are Dangerous – v.1-3 – “destructive heresies”**

• **False Teachings Are Characterized by: (Example, Pergamum, Revelation 2:12-17)**

*Positive Thinking* (self-focused prayers, name it/claim it, declarations)

*Partial Truths* (highlight the “positive”/easy, ignore the “negative”/difficult)

*Promises* (worship the gifts, not the giver)

*Health, Wealth, & Prosperity* (worldly-focused: good things into god things)

*Legalism* (works based salvation, self-righteousness)

*License* (freedom to sin) “pervert the grace of our God into sensuality” (Jude 1:4)

*False Religions* “deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ” (Jude 1:4)

• **Their Punishment Is Guaranteed – v.1-10 (Jude)**

### The Lord Knows How to Rescue the Righteous

(v.7-9) The Righteous Are... “distressed by the sensual conduct of the wicked” ...”as that righteous man [Lot] lived among them day after day, he was tormenting his righteous soul over their lawless deeds that he saw and heard”