

MMBS - 2 Peter 2:1-22 - False Teachers

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False Teaching will always lead to “**Heretical Math**” (Dr. Danny Akin)

- Adding to the Gospel - Prosperity; Legalism
- Subtracting from the Gospel - Social Gospel with no attention to sin.
- Multiplying the Gospel - Pluralism, Universalism
- Dividing the Gospel - Picking and Choosing parts of the Gospel to believe while equally Denying others.

2 Peter 2:1-20 - 7 Questions to Help Recognize Counterfeit Teachers:

1. What is the Substance of the message? - Does it proclaim the Gospel and glorify Jesus? v 1.
2. Do they allow Scripture to make the point or do they find verses to validate their points? v 2
3. What is the Source of their message? - v 3 - Scripture or made-up stories?
4. What is their motivation for the message? v 3, 10
(There are many false teachers today getting wealthy by selling false doctrine to deceived people.)
5. Do they seek to honor God in how they live their daily life? v 13-14.
6. Is there an agenda behind the message? v 14
(unstable...)
7. What kind of people does the message produce? vv 18-19

Bonus Is the teacher humble & vulnerable, or do they have to be in control? Are they willing to be held accountable? Do they have a servant's heart and teachable spirit? (1 Pet 5:5)

The Danger and Allure of False Teacher (17-19)

- They are springs without water - But they are good speakers.
- They are slaves to corruption - But they promise freedom & prosperity.
- They have attractive personalities - But they are predators on the weak.
- They proclaim truth and life - But, they lead people to destruction.

What should we do if we suspect a False Teacher in our midst?

Theological Triage:

- First Order - Core Beliefs of Christianity - The Trinity, The incarnation of Jesus, the substitutionary atonement of Jesus, the bodily resurrection of Jesus, the need to put faith in Christ and Christ alone for salvation, etc. [[Immediate Leader Involvement](#)]
- Second Order - Doctrines that lead to different denominational Tradition - Baptism, church structure, miraculous gifts, roles of men and women in the church, etc. [[Inform Leaders ASAP](#)]
- Third Order - Theological Opinions that honest Christians can disagree about and still be able to worship and serve alongside one another - eschatology (millennium), the age of the earth, worship styles, methodologies. [[Conversation - Case by Case](#)]

Defenses against False Teaching:

1. Know why and what you believe.
 - Develop a Biblical Theology
 - Research the Core Beliefs of Christianity —
 - “Mere Christianity,” CS Lewis;
 - “Know Why You Believe,” Paul Little;
 - “The Reason for God,” Tim Keller.
2. Pay attention to your church’s doctrinal statement.
 - <https://stonegatefellowship.com/beliefs>
3. Elder Leadership (Titus 1:9)