

How to Treat False Prophets, Part 1

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I. Introduction.

- A. Text: 1 Timothy 1:3-11.
- B. The proliferation of false teachers is a great threat to the church. (Jeremiah 23, Matthew 7)
- C. Wherever there is truth, error will encroach. (2 Corinthians 4:2)
- D. There are four things we need to understand about false teachers.

II. Their error.

- A. Paul anticipated the difficulty of dealing with false teachers so he encouraged Timothy to stay in the midst of trial.
- B. The false teachers had reached a high level in the church. (Acts 2:42)
- C. They had given themselves over to fables and endless genealogies. (Acts 17:21)
- D. The bottom line of all false prophesy is money.
- E. They stirred up useless questions instead of matters that resulted in saving faith. They taught legalism--works righteousness.

III. Their goal.

- A. The goal of Christianity should be love. (Matthew 22, 1 John 4:7-8)
- B. Love is not the goal of false teachers.
- C. The goal of false teachers is profit.
- D. False religion cannot change the life.

IV. Their motive.

V. Their result.

Application Questions:

1. Why should we expect to face false teaching at some time?

2. What are some prominent forms of false teaching today?

3. Why does the goal of Christianity and false teaching vary?
