# The Danger of False Teaching John MacArthur

### I. Introduction.

- A. Text: 2 Timothy 2:14-19.
- B. Scripture affirms that God cannot lie. Satan is the father of lies.
- C. False teaching is pandemic.
- D. Any servant of God needs to be warned of false teaching. (Acts 20, 2 Timothy 1-3)
- E. Part of the church's mission is to save people from deceit.
- F. There are several reasons to avoid false teachers.

### II. It ruins those who hear it.

- A. The presence of God can be a fearful or a comforting reality; however, it is mostly a solemn charge that carries accountability (e.g., Psalm 68:2; 97:5; 114:3; Acts 3; 2 Thessalonians 1:9).
- B. One never subjects the Bible to nonbelievers. It is not to be subject to word battles and human reason. It is above human reason.
- C. False teaching weakens and totally destroys the soul. (1 Timothy 1:4; 2 Peter 2:1; 3:16)

### III. It shames the teachers.

- A. Anyone who propagates false teaching ought to be ashamed.
- B. One avoids being ashamed by being diligent.
  - 1. A maximum effort needs to be made for teaching. (1 Timothy 5:17)
  - 2. Give a maximum effort in order to come alongside God.
  - 3. The goal of a maximum effort is approval from God. (1 Thessalonians 2:4).
- C. The gospel must be handled correctly. (Ephesians 1:13, John 17:17)
- IV. It leads to ungodliness.
- V. It is contagious. (Jude 23)
- VI. It overturns the faith of some. (James 5:19-20; Hebrews 6; 10)
- VII. In spite of false teaching, the firm foundation, which is the church, stands.
  - A. The first mark of the foundation is sovereign election. (Philippians 1:6, John 6, 1 John 2, 2 Thessalonians 2:13)
  - B. The second mark is sanctification. (1 Corinthians 6, Numbers 16)

## **Application Questions:**

1. What are some modern examples of false teaching?
2. How should someone respond to a person who is putting forward false teaching? Explain.
3. How can we keep ourselves from false teaching and putting it forward ourselves? What will you do?