

## **How to Treat False Teachers, Part 2**

*John MacArthur*

### I. Introduction.

- A. Text: I Timothy 1:3-11.
- B. The key to these epistles is true doctrine and godly living. (Titus 1)
- C. The second aspect of church leadership is an ability to communicate the truth. (Matthew 7:13-14)
- D. False prophets are dangerous because they ascribe themselves as those sharing good. (I John 4:1, Jeremiah 5:30-31, 14:13, II Peter 2)
- E. Paul wrote Timothy to convince him of the necessity to understand false teachers.

### II. Error.

- A. A false teacher is primarily one who teaches a false gospel.
- B. The goal of ministry is a pure heart. (Psalm 51:10; 24)

### III. Goal.

- A. They want the prestige of being seen as teachers. (Matthew 23, James 3:1, I Timothy 6:3-4)
- B. They were parading their ignorance.

### IV. Motive. Their pride caused people to create a reproach to the law.

### V. Effect.

- A. They misused the law.
- B. The lawless are disobedient, ungodly, sinners, unholy, and profane.
- C. The law reveals sin. (Romans 7)
- D. To define the law correctly one must define the gospel. Man is a sinner according to the law. (I Timothy 6:15)

### VI. One must listen to a person's teaching to discern whether he is a false teacher and be aware of their objectives.

**Application questions:**

1. How might one discern the objective of a false teacher?

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2. Is a false teacher one who gets all doctrine wrong or only certain kinds? Explain.

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3. What false teaching was being promulgated in the letter to Timothy? How might we see something similar today?

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