

Bible Study Series: How to Detect False Teachers

“The Marks of False Teachers”- Part 3

2 Peter 2

Introduction:

1. False teachers are just as prevalent today as they were in Peter's day. In fact, Paul told us they would become increasingly **worse**. 2 Timothy 3:13
2. False teachers will appear as ministers of Christ (2 Corinthians 11:13-15), so how does the Christian identify a false teacher? What are the characteristics of a false teacher? 2 Peter 2 answers these questions.

I. First mark of false teachers: They reject the sufficiency of Christ's work. vs. 1

II. Second mark of false teachers: They do not accept God's Word as the *final* and ultimate authority. vs 2

III. Third mark of false teachers: They may attract big *crowds* and have many followers. vs. 2

A. **Paul** warned of this. Acts 20:30

B. **Jesus** warned of this. Matthew 24:24

C. Crowds, finances, and buildings do not determine whether someone is right or wrong – the **Word of God** is the determiner.

D. People, by and large, are much more apt to believe a **lie** than to believe the **truth**.

- *“Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:*

Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.” Matthew 7:13-14

- *“Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because*

there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it. And because I tell you the truth, ye believe me not.” **John 8:44-45**

E. Remember, “the **crowd**’ can be wrong. Matthew 27:20

- *“Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil; neither shalt thou speak in a cause to decline after many to wrest judgment.”* **Exodus 23:2**
- *“Though hand join in hand, the wicked shall not be unpunished: but the seed of the righteous shall be delivered.”* **Proverbs 11:21**