

# Bible Study Series: How to Detect False Teachers

## “The Marks of False Teachers”- Part 6

### 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**

**IV. Fourth mark of false teachers: They are full of *greed*. vs. 3**

**V. Fifth mark of false teachers: They deny the doctrine of *hell* and judgment. vs. 3-9**

**VI. Sixth mark of false teachers: They have an unsubmitive attitude towards *authority*. vs. 10-12**

A. A false teacher will not understand or live by God's principle of authority.

1. The authority of **Jesus Christ** Colossians 1:16-19, Ephesians 1:20-23
2. The authority of **God's Word** 1 Thessalonians 2:13
3. The authority of the local **church** Acts 14:23, 20:17-31, 1 Corinthians 6:4

- *“Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind.”*  
**1 Peter 5:2**
  - Each local church should have its own **leadership** which takes the oversight and responsibility of feeding the flock and ruling over the affairs of the church.
4. The authority of human **government** Romans 13:1-7, 1 Timothy 2:1-2, 1 Peter 2:13-14
- B. When we violate authority, we are operating under the principle of **Satan**.
- *“For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the Lord, he hath also rejected thee from being king.”* **1 Samuel 15:23**
- C. Satan doesn't even care if we **do right** as long as we operate under Satan's principle of rebellion.
- D. Lawlessness and rebellion are an attitude of the **heart**.