

Dangers of False Teachers

- *But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will **secretly bring in** destructive heresies,*
- *And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed. 3 By covetousness **they will exploit you with deceptive words**; 2 Pet. 2:1-3*
- Because of them the way of truth is blasphemed
- The convictions of Scripture have been set aside and those who hold fast to them are reviled.

Famous Author Quits Christianity

- “I remain committed to Christ as always but not to being ‘Christian’ or part of Christianity.”
- I refuse to be anti-gay.
- I refuse to be anti-feminist.
- I refuse to be anti-artificial birth control.
- I refuse to be anti-democrat.
- I refuse to be anti-secular humanism.
- I refuse to be anti-science.
- False teachers created this. Now those who hold to these things are blasphemed.
- Blasphemed for stand on baptism, inst. music, once saved always saved, church autonomy. Inspiration of Scripture, even false teachers.

In Sheep's Clothing... Transformed

- *"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. Matt 7:15-16*
- *For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. 14 And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. 15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works. 2 Cor 11:13-15*

In Sheep's Clothing... Transformed

- Some are still deceived even after God clearly identifies them in the Scriptures.
- *Moses said: "By this you shall know... If these men die naturally like all men, ...then the Lord has not sent me. 30 But if the Lord creates a new thing, and the earth opens its mouth and swallows them up...then you will understand that these men have rejected the Lord."*
- *On the next day all the congregation of the children of Israel complained against Moses and Aaron, saying, "You have killed the people of the Lord." Num 16:8*
- Some people are so hardened....

Secretly by Stealth

- *I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, and also took Titus with me. ... 4 this occurred because of **false brethren secretly brought in** (who **came in by stealth** to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they **might bring us into bondage**), 5 to whom we did not yield submission even for an hour, that the truth of the gospel might continue with you. Gal 2:4-5*
- *Such people have leavened our culture... They seem genuine and we seem false.*
- *For you put up with fools gladly, since you yourselves are wise! 20 For you put up with it if one brings you into bondage, if one devours you, if*

Secretly by Stealth

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Paul fought against the same thing at Corinth.

For you put up with fools gladly, since you yourselves are wise! 20 For you put up with it if one brings you into bondage, if one devours you, if one takes from you, if one exalts himself, if one strikes you on the face. 21 To our shame I say that we were too weak for that! 2Cor. 11:21

Unnoticed / Trickery / Craftiness

- *For certain men have **crept in unnoticed**, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ.
Jude 4*
- *that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by **the trickery of men**, in the **cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting**, 15 but, speaking the truth in love, Eph. 4:14-15*

Twist to Own Destruction

- *our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you, 16 as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which **untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction**, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures. 17 You therefore, beloved, **since you know this beforehand, beware** lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked; 2 Peter 3:15-18*

Knowing This Before... Beware

- Scriptures we have quoted so often, yet never lose their power and veracity.
- *2Jn 9 Go onward Have not God*
- *Mt 7 21-23 Only those who do My Father's Will*
- *Mk 7:6-13 Man's Doctrines make vain worship*
- *1Cor 1:10-13 No Division among you*
- *1Cor 4:6 Learn not to go beyond what is written*
- *1Tim 4:1-4 Time will come... will not endure sound teaching*
- *Gal 1:6-9 Preach a different gospel-anathama*

Knowing This Before... Beware

- *Beware lest anyone cheat you through **philosophy and empty deceit**, according to the **tradition of men**, according to the **basic principles of the world**, and not according to Christ. Col 2:8-9*
- There is so much philosophy and empty deceit today. If one believe Scriptures inspired – Mock
- *21 For all the Athenians and the foreigners who were there spent their time in nothing else but either to tell or to hear some new thing. ... 32 And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked, Acts 17:21, 32*

What Are we Watching for?

- *Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. 3 **For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; 4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. 5 But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. 2 Tim 4:2-5***
- With this all around us, we must watch for subtle signs of own inability to endure sound doctrine.

Can't Endure Sound Doctrine

- Turn away from the truth
- Turn aside to Fables
- How do we feel about these things?
- Are we tired of controversy
- Do we cringe with sermons like this?
- Are we feeling sympathy toward those in error?
- getting confused –doubting our core convictions.
- *And then shall many stumble, and shall deliver up one another, and shall hate one another. 11 And many false prophets shall arise, and shall lead many astray. 12 And because iniquity shall be multiplied, the love of the many shall wax cold. 13 he that endures to the end, shall be saved. Mt 24:10*

Institutional Brethren already Crumbling

- former president of Pepperdine University, speaking at Abilene Christian University
- advocated inclusive fellowship with denominationalism:
- “I started,” he said, “with the idea of an identifiably exclusive church, but have grown into a concept of a universally inclusive church” (paraphrased).

It Can Happen

- As there were... there will be... 2 Pet 2:1-3
- The time will come... 2 Tim 4:1-4
- Many will say...in that day Mt. 7:21-23
- That which has been ... will be Ecc. 1:9

That Which Has Been

- *That which hath been is that which shall be; and that which hath been done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun. 10 Is there a thing whereof it may be said, See, this is new? it hath been long ago, in the ages which were before us. 11 There is no remembrance of the former (generations); neither shall there be any remembrance of the latter (generations) that are to come, among those that shall come after. Ecc. 1:9-11*

The Critical Foundation

- God has given absolute truth through Scripture if we abide in that word we will know that truth.
- *"If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. 32 And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."* John 8:31-32
- *hold to the pattern of sound words.* 2 Tim 1:13
- Under assault: Hermeneutic that always brings right conclusions Acts 15
- God's original commands are fixed.
- There is an old path where the good way is and we need watchmen to warn Jer 6:17

As John Saw This Approach...

- *You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. 5 They are of the world. Therefore they speak as of the world, and the world hears them. 6 We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error. 1 John 4:4-6*

When the Weak Leave

- *They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but they went out that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us. 1Jn. 2:18*
- *O Timothy! Guard what was committed to your trust, avoiding the profane and idle babblings and contradictions of what is falsely called knowledge — 21 by professing it some have strayed concerning the faith. 1Tim 6:20-21*