

“If you continue in My word,

# then are you My Disciples InDeed...”



## Beware of False Prophets!

**Matthew 7:15-20** “Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.”

As we looked at in a previous lesson, the Sermon on the Mount is the definition of the narrow way that leads to life. Jesus warned us in our last lesson that there is a false way to enter and a false way to follow that will lead to destruction instead of to life. This week He tells us that we need to beware of false prophets who will try to undermine the standard of the narrow way and take us down those false paths.

1. Jesus said that the way to discern the false prophets from the true is by the fruit of their lives. According to Matt. 7:22 what kind of fruit is not a guarantee that someone is a true prophet of God? \_\_\_\_\_

2. According to Matt. 24:24 what is the fruit that will deceive many in the last days? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Jesus talks a lot about fruit in John 15. In verse 5 he tells us that if a man abides in him he will bring forth much fruit. Galatians 5:19-21 tells us what the fruit of the fleshly life is, while Galatians 5:22-23 tells us what kind of fruit the Spirit of Christ will bring forth out of our lives. How does this fruit differ from the signs/miracles/preaching fruit and why is it a surer test of whether someone is a true prophet of God? \_\_\_\_\_

4. According to Deut. 13:1-3 why does God allow false prophets to come into our lives? \_\_\_\_\_

5. In 2 Thess. 2:8-12, what was the cause of the people being deceived by the false signs and wonders in the last days? \_\_\_\_\_

6. What three things was Paul concerned that the false prophets would bring to the Corinthian believers in 2 Cor. 11:3-4? \_\_\_\_\_

7. 2 Peter 2:1-3 reveals what motivates most false prophets. What is it, and how can knowing that help us to beware of them? \_\_\_\_\_

8. What is the test of Deut. 18:21-22 for whether someone is a true or false prophet? \_\_\_\_\_

### Am I a “Disciple InDeed”?

1. Am I on guard against the false prophets of today and do I Biblically examine the fruit of the lives of those preachers and teachers that I’m listening to or do I just figure if they can preach powerfully they must be of God?
2. Do I love the truth of the Sermon on the Mount or am I looking for ways to soften it or explain it away?

### What am I going to do about God’s Word today?

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**Further Study:** Prov. 19:27, 2 Tim 4:3-4, Col 2:6-8, Jude 1:3-4, Luke 6:26, I John 4:1-3, Jer 23:16-17

“...And you shall know The Truth,

# and The Truth shall make you Free!”

