

MARKS OF A FALSE PROPHET (TESTING ALL THINGS)

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I. We are commanded to test all things. (Especially supposed revelation.)

1. Let's look at some specific tests while training in the Gifts.
 - A. If prophecy contains revelation, does it come to past.?
 - B. If the revelation brings miraculous signs, do they point to Christ?
 - C. Does the revelation reveal sin, or cover it up?
 1. Heb. 4:12 says the word reveals and deals.
 - D. Does the revelation agree with other true words that have been given?
 - E. Does the revelation find confirmation among other Prophets?
 1. Is the word confirmed?
 - F. Does the word produce it's purpose of edification, exhortation, and comfort?
 - G. Does the word disqualify the receiver on the basis of religious experience?
 - H. Does the revelation promise freedom apart from God's word?
 - I. Does the revelation uphold tradition at the expense of God's word?
 - J. Does the word given reflect upon the latest conference, seminar, or book ?
 - K. Does the revelation promise the revealing of mysteries and secret truths other than Jesus Christ and Him crucified?
 - L. Does the revelation produce financial gain or personal gain for the speaker?
 - M. Does the revelation glorify God's sovereignty and holiness?

*** The number one cause of leadership failure is the lacking of God-built character through discipline.

II. Specific Characteristics Of A False Prophet

1. False Prophets are those who don't speak God's words.
 - A. If a Prophet speaks for God he will pass God's life to the hearer. That life will create, cause obedience, change, repentance, and demonstrate the Kingdom of God.
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2. You judge the Prophet by his character, not his word.
 - A. The signs of a Prophet will not substitute for his character traits.
3. When we look for the false Prophets, we look for those in the position of authority who are no longer speaking for God.
4. A false Prophet can't bear good fruit, although his outward appearance looks good. (Matt. 7:18)
5. The false Prophet will never speak of specific sins or judgment.
 - A. He can't see judgment coming, so there is no way he can warn anyone of it.
6. The message of the false Prophet condones the sins of the people.
7. The false vie for the attention of the people by competing for the more flattering vision.
8. The false Prophet offers brighter and better promises in attempting to win favor.
9. The false Prophet will prophesy good things for his friends.
 - a. Especially those people hire in for a service.
 - b. They give what is wanted, not what is needed.

III. Common sins of a false Prophet.

1. Prophesying by Baal.
 2. Prophesying through fantasy. (Out of own imagination.)
 3. Using power unjustly. (Abusing his authority.)
 4. Calling evil good.
 5. Covering up deeds. (Will not expose sin properly.)
 6. Has no fellowship and prayer time with God.
 7. Greedy for gain. (Has problem with finances.)
 8. Engaging in immorality. (Practices spiritual or physical adultery.)
 9. Being over indulgent. (Excessive in the use of food, drink, and desires.)
 10. Distorts the end times in relationship to judgment for sin.
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