



Basic Marks of False Prophets

The following are the marks of the false prophets with their false teachings:

- Rejection of the authority of the Scripture (1 Pet. 1:12, 2 Pet. 1:20-21)
- Rejection of hermeneutics (the science that deals with the principles of scriptural interpretation):
- Instant or express interpretation without going through the process of historical, categorical, exegetical studies (1 Corinthians 2:6-8, 10-14)
- Interpretation from ignorance (1 Tim. 1:7-9, Hosea 4:6-9, James 3:1-5) or out-of-context usages of biblical passages (2 Tim. 4:3-4)
- Interpretation from arrogance (Phil 1:15-17, 1 Tim. 5:22, 2 Tim 3:6-7), thinking that God is giving them important messages which others do not have.
- Rejection of biblical doctrines and systematic theology:
- Adoption of man-invented doctrines (1 Tim. 1:3-4, 2 Tim. 4:4)
- Dogmatism and legalism (Gal. 4:7-10, 2:16, Col 2:8)
- Preaching another Christ, another Spirit, another Gospel, another faith (2 Cor. 11:4, Gal. 1:6-7)
- Emphasizing emotion over Bible doctrine, they use human emotion (like guilt feeling) to control the minds of their followers.
- Mystical methods of illumination, their so called conversation with God, seeing visions, dreams, or apparition, direct messages from God (Jeremiah 5:31, 14:14, 23:1, 16, 21)
- Spiritual ambition or the desire to do great things for God by building their own kingdom (James 4:6, Jeremiah 45:5)
- Abuser of authority, misuses of power, they use the ministry as the court of their empire. They use the ministry as their gold mine, power house and control tower.
- Lording over their flocks (1 Pet. 5:3)
- Men-pleasers (Gal. 1:10, Jude 16-17)
- Deceitful workers (2 Cor. 11:13)
- Worthless workers (Titus 1:16)
- Faction workers (Jude 19)
- Lovers of money: (condemning their church members who are lovers of money but are more greedy themselves), there are endless offerings, love offerings, endless projects (Jeremiah 6:13, 2 Tim. 4:10, 1 Tim. 6:9-10, 19)
- Enforcement of the Jewish tithing. Tithe was a form of national obligatory taxation levied upon the Jewish people (believers & unbelievers alike), bona fide only in the Old Testament Israel (Numbers 18:21-24, Deut. 14:22-29). Tithing is

not for the Church Age because we are not Jews, we are not in the OT times, and we are not under the Mosaic laws.

- Giving under pressure, compulsion urged by demands and forced by persuasive words. All giving should be grace giving, the free act of a free choice, with a motive to honor God as the Giver, motivated with virtue love toward God as inspired by Bible doctrine from the soul.
- Empty and false promises of the preachers by citing out-of-context Scripture text to support their heretical teachings.
- Endless fund-raising, solicitation of cash or goods, asking people for support pledges to finance their projects. The gifts or donation of the unbelievers does not glorify God since they have no part in the work of God (2 Corinthians 6:14-16).
- Wrong usage of money given for the work of the Lord. Money given for the proclamation of the Gospel and Bible doctrine should not be used for the construction of expensive buildings, top of the class sound system, or expensive vehicles.
- False prophets demand loyalty, service, respect and honor from their congregations. False prophets are wolves in sheep clothing's seeking people whom they might devour.