Characteristics Of A False Prophet Wed 3/13/24

*By outward general conduct.*

Matthew 7:15 NKJV

15“Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.

*Note their self-righteousness.*

Matthew 5:20 NKJV

# 20For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds *the righteousness* of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.

# Matthew 15:1-14 NKJV

# 15 Then the scribes and Pharisees who were from Jerusalem came to Jesus, saying,

# 2“Why do Your disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat bread.”

# 3He answered and said to them, “Why do you also transgress the commandment of God because of your tradition?

# 4For God commanded, saying, ‘Honor your father and your mother’; and, ‘He who curses father or mother, let him be put to death.’

# 5But you say, ‘Whoever says to his father or mother, “Whatever profit you might have received from me *is* a gift *to God*”—

# 6then he need not honor his father or mother.’ Thus you have made the commandment of God of no effect by your tradition.

# 7Hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy about you, saying: 8‘These people draw near to Me with their mouth, And honor Me with *their* lips, But their heart is far from Me.

# 9And in vain they worship Me, Teaching *as* doctrines the commandments of men.’ ”

# 10When He had called the multitude to *Himself,* He said to them, “Hear and understand:

# 11Not what goes into the mouth defiles a man; but what comes out of the mouth, this defiles a man.”

# 12Then His disciples came and said to Him, “Do You know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this saying?”

# 13But He answered and said, “Every plant which My heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted.

# 14Let them alone. They are blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind leads the blind, both will fall into a ditch.”

# *By inward state.*

# Matthew 5:22 NKJV

# 22But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, ‘Raca!’ shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, ‘You fool!’ shall be in danger of hell fire.

# Matthew 7:21-23 NKJV

# 21“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.

# 22Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’

# 23And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’

# *By the kind of fruit in works produced.*

# Matthew 7:16-20 NKJV

# 16You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles?

# 17Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit.

# 18A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor *can* a bad tree bear good fruit.

# 19Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

# 20Therefore by their fruits you will know them.

# *By the fruit of the doctrine taught.*

# Matthew 12:33-37 NKJV

# 33“Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or else make the tree bad and its fruit bad; for a tree is known by *its* fruit.

# 34Brood of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.

# 35A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things.

# 36But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment.

# 37For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.”

# 2 Timothy 3:1-8 NKJV

# 3 But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come:

# 2For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

# 3unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good,

# 4traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,

# 5having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!

# 6For of this sort are those who creep into households and make captives of gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts,

# 7always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

# 8Now as Jannes and Jambres resisted Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, disapproved concerning the faith;

# *By professing to do but not truly doing the will of God.*

# Matthew 7:21 NKJV

# 21“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.

# *By satanic backing.*

# Matthew 7:22 NKJV

# 22Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’

# Acts 8:9-13 NKJV

# 9But there was a certain man called Simon, who previously practiced [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=acts+8%3A9-13&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-27186a)]sorcery in the city and astonished the [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=acts+8%3A9-13&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-27186b)]people of Samaria, claiming that he was someone great,

# 10to whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, “This man is the great power of God.”

# 11And they heeded him because he had astonished them with his sorceries for a long time.

# 12But when they believed Philip as he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were baptized.

# 13Then Simon himself also believed; and when he was baptized he continued with Philip, and was amazed, seeing the miracles and signs which were done.

# *By their destiny.*

# Matthew 7:23 NKJV

# 23And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’

# 2 Corinthians 11:13-15 NKJV

# 13For such *are* false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ.

# 14And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.

# 15Therefore *it is* no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.

# *By their destiny.*