

February 9, 2020  
Matthew 7:15-20

## BEWARE OF FALSE PROPHETS

### I. Introduction:

How Do You Discern What Is True Or Not?

### II. Unpacking The Passage:

#### A. A Warning: Beware of False Prophets

<sup>15</sup> “**Watch out** for false prophets. They come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves.” Matthew 7:15

(See Verses: Matthew 24:11 & 24; Acts 20:28-31; 2 Peter 2:1-3; I John 4:1-3;)

Have you heard of Reverend James Jones and the Peoples Temple, Michael Applewhite, David Koresh and the Branch Davidians?

What about The Moonies; Mormonism, Jehovah Witnesses, Christian Scientist, etc.?

#### B. The Disguise Of False Religion:

“They come to you in **sheep’s clothing**, but inwardly they are **ferocious wolves**.” Matthew 7:15

### C. The Fruit Of False Religion

<sup>16</sup> By their **fruit** you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thorn bushes, or figs from thistles? <sup>17</sup> Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. <sup>18</sup> A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. <sup>19</sup> Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. <sup>20</sup> Thus, **by their fruit you will recognize them.**” Matthew 7:16-29

#### 1. What Is The Meaning Of Fruit?

- The fruit of doctrine or teaching
  - The Departure from Solid Biblical Teaching
- The fruit of their life
  - “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.” Galatians 5:22-23

### IV. Conclusion And Application:

What Kind Of Fruit Are You Bearing?