

STUDY PACK 3

MODERN CULTS

False Teachers

“The essence of deception is to speak 90% truth and 10% error.”

~~ J. Stafford Wright ~~

I. THE NATURE OF FALSE TEACHERS

A. “Heretick is hairetikos, from the verb haireo, ‘to take, to take for one’s self, to choose, prefer.’ The noun means, ‘fitted or able to take or choose, schismatic, factious.’ A heretic is one therefore who refuses to accept true doctrine as it is revealed in the Bible, and prefers _____ what he is to believe.”

~~ Dr. Kenneth Wuest ~~

B. False teachers flourish because of _____
(II Timothy 4:4; Jeremiah 5:30-31; Micah 2:11).

C. Expect false teachers (II Peter 2:1; I John 2:18-23; Acts 20:28-29).

1. You can expect false teachers both _____ and _____
the church.

2. False teachers will try to bring their teaching _____
(II Peter 2:1; Jude 3-4).

D. “Who is the heretic? A heretic is he who, professing Christ, yet invents or maintains any error against the foundations of religion, and holds such error with obstinacy. A heretic must profess Christ. Jews, Turks, pagans cannot properly be heretic, though they fight against Christ and all religion in its foundations. These are more properly called heathen, infidels, and atheists, without God in the world. But the person with whom Titus has here to deal (Titus 3:11), is done within the church, who is cast off from a foundation upon which he seemed to stand.”

~~ Thomas Taylor ~~

E. Their false teaching will involve damnable heresies.

1. Why do people do this who once taught the truth? (Titus 3:10-11).

2. They do this because some _____
that they are trying to deal with through their heresy.

3. These heresies will always involve a wrong view of Christ (II Peter 2:1).

4. They will experience judgment from God.

- F. Their ways will be wicked (pernicious) (II Peter 2:2; Matthew 7:15-20).
- G. Many people will follow false teachers (II Timothy 4:3).
 - 1. They look for people who will tell them what they want to hear.
 - 2. They want their sin excused.
- H. Many people will speak against Christianity because of the action of false teachers (II Peter 2:2).
- I. Followers of false teachers will be used financially (II Peter 2:3; I Timothy 6:3-5; II Timothy 3:1-9).

II. TESTS OF FALSE RELIGION

- A. Some once identified with Christianity _____
(II Timothy 4:1-4; Jeremiah 5:30-31).
- B. Pastors must resist the cults (Titus 1:9-11).
 - 1. Pastors must teach _____ if cult influence is to be _____.
 - 2. They must preach the Word.
 - 3. They must preach against that which is wrong.
 - 4. They must be consistent in their life and their ministry.
 - 5. They must encourage people to do what's right with doctrine and longsuffering.
- C. There was an Old Testament test for prophets that needs to be taught to people today.
 - 1. _____ (Deuteronomy 13:1-5).
 - 2. _____ (Deuteronomy 18:20-22).
- D. There is a New Testament test for false religion – _____
(Galatians 1:6-9).
 - 1, Teach the Gospel.
 - 2. No man should preach any other gospel.

3. There is only one gospel.

III. WHAT IS THE ATTRACTION OF FALSE CULTS?

- A. It offers people an authority _____.
- B. It offers a _____.
- C. Love and acceptance.
- D. Pride.

IV. RECOMMENDED READING

The Chaos of the Cults, by J. K. Van Baalen

The Kingdom of the Cults, by Walter Martin

David Hunt has written many books concerning the cults, including:

The Cult Explosion, Seduction of Christianity, Occult Invasion, The God Makers, A Woman Rides the Beast, and others. They are all worth reading.