

FALSE PROPHETS

- From the 4th century on, Christianity has made the Sermon on the Mount the event when Christ abolished the Law of Moses and established the Law of Jesus
- The reality of the arrival of the Kingdom of Heaven and its affect on understanding Scripture was central
- False prophets are the producers of Fake News
- The wolves in sheep's clothing are not necessarily easy to identify

A close-up photograph of a man in a dark suit, white shirt, and patterned tie, adjusting his tie with his hands. The image is used as a background for the title text.

HOW TO SPOT A FALSE PROPHET

- NT prophets not like OT prophets
- NT prophets more approximate Bible teachers, pastors and Rabbis
- “Wolf in Sheep’s clothing” was a common expression originated in Aesop’s Fables 6th century B.C.
- Because false prophets disguise themselves as innocent sheep, they can be hard to spot
- Christ instructs: “You will know them by their fruit”

"You will know them by their fruits"



- This means to know them by what they do
- “Fruit” means spiritual fruit that manifests itself in deeds and works..... whether of evil or good character
- Christ uses nature to explain super-nature because these 2 realms are both from The Creator
- Time, place, and language don't change the realities of the truth about how nature explains the ethereal
- Most important: we must know God's Word well enough to tell the difference between good and bad fruit



NOT LIKE FOR LIKE

- Thorn bushes and Thistles are useless things
- Grapes and figs are righteous things
- Useless things can't produce righteous things
- Humans tend to over-complicate or find ways around the obvious
- If it looks like duck, walks like a duck, and talks like a duck.... it's a duck!



... a Bad Tree Cannot Bear Good Fruit...

- Jesus



- Vss. 17 & 18 are examples of like-for-like
- Average person doesn't know if the fruit is good or bad until they taste it
- Job 14:4, 1John 3:9
- Can a poor tree never become good? Can a good tree never stop being good?
- Chrysostom *"....for he may indeed change to virtue... But while continuing in wickedness he will not bear good fruit"*

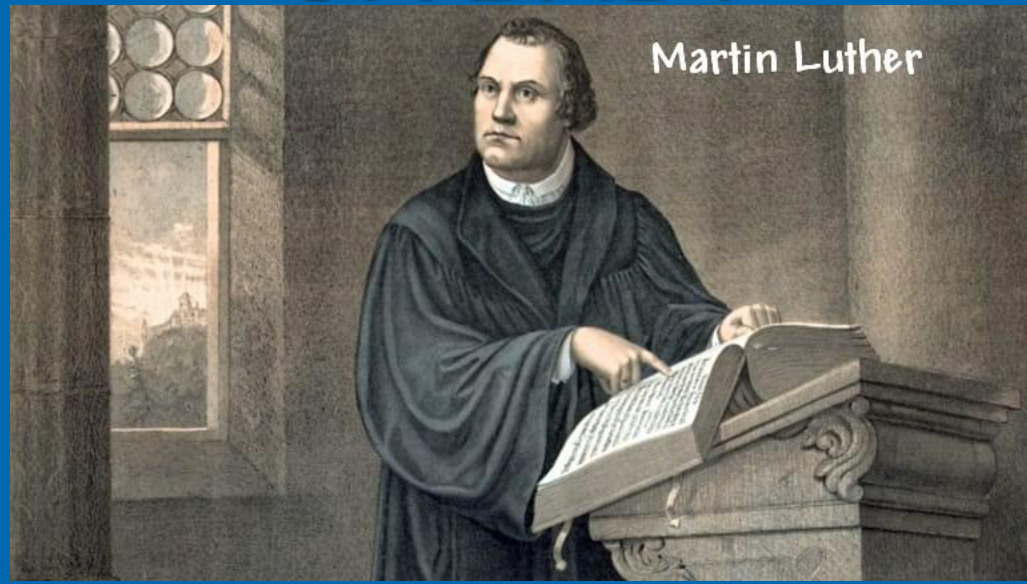
AT THE FINAL JUDGMENT

- IMPORTANT!! Fruit trees that don't produce good fruit get chopped down and burned up!
- Followers of Christ are expected to produce good fruit
- The fruit may be different in kind and amount according to God's will and purpose
- False prophets are very good at deceiving
- Can the deeds of a prophet absolutely define whether he is false or true?



GOOD FRUIT? OR BAD?

- The Christian faith has been permeated with false teachings
- Long ago Bibles were hard to come by, and few could read
- What the Pastors and Rabbis said were all the people had to go on
- Today Bibles are cheap and the onus is on us to study and test what our Pastors and Rabbis say





ENTRY DENIED.

“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. MANY 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? AND THEN I WILL DECLARE TO THEM, I NEVER KNEW YOU; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS!”

-MATTHEW 7:21-23

- Jesus says He will reject a segment of Jewish society from the Kingdom of Heaven
- In the longer view, He is also including Gentile Believers
- Why are some denied entry? Luke 6:46
- How can you NOT follow Christ's teachings, but still say that you're a follower?
- Only those who are part of the "Church" would refer to Jesus as Lord

What is?

CALLING ON THE NAME OF THE LORD



- The crowd was unaware that Yeshua was Savior
- Vs. 21 paraphrase: *“Not everyone who says to Me Savior, Savior....”*
- If calling on Yeshua’s name is not how one gets into the Kingdom, then what does? *“....DO what My Father in Heaven wants”*
- *Avinu* is Our Father, not My Father

A follower of
Christ must
be a
doer.....



- We must seek the will of The Father...and do it!
- James 2:14
- Good works do not bring on our salvation..... The evidence of our salvation brings on good works
- Matt. 7:22 *“On that Day many will say to Me, Lord, Lord!”*
- “That Day” = The Day of Judgment
- The straw man is before Christ on the Day of Judgment, pleading his case for entry into the Kingdom
- Outward acts and deeds are not the determining proof of our salvation

- Vs. 22 is referring to those using Christ's name in a perverse way
- Nothing wrong with teaching, expelling demons, or doing miracles in Christ's name.... But it must be with the right motive
- Vs. 23 refuses entry to the Kingdom of Heaven
- *Anomia* = without law
- The matter comes full circle and connects back to Matthew 5:17 - 19

THE
SCARIEST
WORDS
IN ALL
EXISTANCE

“DEPART FROM
ME, I NEVER
KNEW YOU.”