

False Religions And Cults

'As you have received Jesus the Lord, walk in Him. Have the roots of your faith deeply planted in Him, be built up in Him just as you were taught, overflowing in faith with thanksgiving. Be careful no one robs you by so-called philosophy and vain deceit, following the traditions of men, of the world and the universe, disregarding the teachings of Jesus. In Him the fullness of the Godhead dwells in the form of the body, and in Him you are made complete. He is the Head of all principality and power ... Let no one rob you of your prize by self-humility and worship of angels, taking his (the false prophet's) stand on visions he claims to have seen, vainly puffed up by his unspiritual mind and not holding on firmly to the Head (Jesus) from Whom the whole body grows ... Such things appear like wisdom in self-imposed worship and self-humiliation of the body, but they are of no value in checking the indulgence of the flesh' (Colossians 2:6 to 10, 18, 19 & 23).

'Give no attention to myths (legends, fables) and endless genealogies, which cause disputes rather than God's administration which is in faith ... Some have wandered off into sin and have turned aside to useless discussions' (1 Timothy 1:4 & 6).

'The Holy Spirit distinctly declares, in latter times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to seducing spirits and doctrines demons teach. Through the hypocrisy of liars whose consciences are seared, who forbid people to marry and teach them to abstain from certain foods, which God has created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth ... Refuse profane and godless fictions, old wives' fables and silly myths. Train yourselves towards Godliness' (1 Timothy 4:1 to 3 & 7).

'The time is coming when people will not tolerate sound doctrine but having itchy ears, they will gather to themselves teachers, chosen to satisfy their own lusts and will turn aside from hearing the truth and turn to myths and fables' (2 Timothy 4:3 & 4).

'Beloved, do not have faith in every spirit but test the spirits to discover whether they proceed from God because many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you may know the Spirit of God; every spirit who confesses Jesus came in the flesh is of God. Every spirit that does not confess Jesus has come in the flesh is not of God. This is the spirit of antichrist of whom you have heard will come and is in the world already ... By this we know the Spirit of Truth and the spirit of error' (1 John 4:1 to 3 & 6).

The scriptures give us very strong warnings about not believing in things that are not from God. If we study the Bible and hold on to its teachings, false religions and cults will not deceive us. Once we know the truth about Jesus and hold onto the truth, we will never be deceived. We will learn there is no other Person and no other way to eternal life. Only ignorance about Jesus the Messiah, can allow people to be deceived by any cult or false religion. We are to have our roots firmly embedded in Jesus. Any religion that does not have its roots in Jesus the Messiah is false, it is not from God, and we are to ignore the teachings. Reading these above passages of scripture, we can see there were incorrect beliefs described in the apostle's time, that are in the modern world.

We are not to turn away from our faith in Jesus once we have believed. We are not to listen to philosophy for it is nonsense, as are idle fantasies, crude notions and false beliefs such as Confucianism, Buddhism, New Age, Darwinism, Hinduism, freemasonry, astrology, science fiction, 'christian' science, Babylonianism, Gothic cults, Taoism, Zen, Neo-Nazi-ism, stigmata, wicca and all forms of the occult and witchcraft. People who believe these things are all deluded by seducing spirits and all disregard the teachings of Jesus. Self-humiliation is the whipping of ones-self. Some people go so far as to have themselves crucified! That is utter foolishness and will never bring them close to God. The worship of angels is sin. Angels are special ministers of God to help born-again believers. We are to respect and appreciate them, but we are not to worship them (Hebrews 1:14; Revelation 19:10 & 22:9). There are several false religions that have been started by people who claim to have seen a vision. Unless God gives the vision, then it is false. Some examples of false religions started by deluded visionaries and false prophets are Scientology, Islam, Mormonism, Jehovah's Witnesses and some breakaway Catholic-styled sects. None of these deal with the carnality of the fallen human race, nor do they hold the promise of the reality of eternal life with God. We all need to have our sins washed away by accepting Jesus as our Saviour, and receiving the forgiveness He promises.

Not so long ago, it was acceptable for families to spend every Sunday morning in church, and for people not to go, was considered an affront by the community. In this day and age, people are sometimes mocked when they say they go to church. Millions of people have turned away from faith in Jesus. People think they can be 'cleansed' by consuming a vegetarian diet, rather than being cleansed by the blood of Jesus. The inner organs such as the liver and kidneys were designed by God to clean themselves. Going on a 'liver cleansing' diet is foolish and has no spiritual value. Eating a normal healthy diet is enough and to teach others to become vegetarians or to abstain from eating certain foods is an evil teaching. To forbid people

from getting married is also an evil teaching and the two main religions that have their celibate nuns and priests are Buddhism and Catholicism. Godless fictions are things like reincarnation, evolution and the so-called 'global warming'. The planet on which we live has a normal cycle of hotter seasons and cooler seasons. In the year 1,000 AD, the planet heated up so much, whole tribes and communities were wiped out. Millions of people died from the heat. We are possibly entering just another warm phase that may last some time – or it may not. There are deluded 'experts' who tell us all about the melting icebergs – but they do not mention the active volcanos deep under the sea causing the ice to melt. The Bible says people who teach these things are not just deluded, they are liars (1 Timothy 4:2). These scientists are deliberately lying to us about 'global warming' to deceive and lead many astray. The scriptures tell us to avoid these godless fictions and train ourselves towards Godliness.

Many people do not like to hear about Jesus because they know they will have to take responsibility for their sins and that is something most people do not like to consider. We are sinful people and we need Jesus to cleanse us from the inside out. That thought is offensive to a lot of people so they follow a teaching that is pleasing to their ears and choose to listen to errors. They will not tolerate the truth of the Gospel nor do they want to repent of their sin (2 Timothy 4:3).

We need to have a close look at the teachings of religions, and if their teaching does not line up with the Word of Truth, then we need to dismiss them as being false. How can we identify a false religion? If there is any religion, anywhere in the world that does not confess Jesus as the Saviour and Messiah, it is a false religion and do not listen to the teachings of that religion for they are antichrist. We must not disregard the teachings of Jesus (Matthew 28:20) and the apostles (Acts 2:42). If there is a religion that does not believe in Jesus, then that religion calls God a liar and to do that brings eternal judgement upon ones-self. 'They who believe in the Son of God has the testimony within themselves. They who do not believe God, has made Him out to be a liar because they have not believed the evidence God has given regarding His Son' (1 John 5:10). 'Who is the liar but those who deny Jesus is the Messiah? The Antichrist spirit is in those who deny the Father and the Son' (1 John 2:22). 'These are the end times, and you have heard the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have arisen. By this we know it is the final hour' (1 John 2:18). 'Many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not confess Jesus the Messiah came in the flesh. This is the deceiver and the Antichrist' (2 John 1:7). People involved in cults, sects, false religions and worldly beliefs have been deceived by the deceiver – the devil. Unfortunately, the deceived go on to deceive others and try to drag them down to hades with them.

If we do not believe in Jesus then we cannot be saved. If we are not saved then we are condemned to go down to an eternity without God. We need to repent, be born-again by the Spirit of God, forgiven for our sins, baptised and then we will be saved. The scriptures tell us very clearly ... 'They who believe and are baptised will be saved, but those who do not believe will be condemned' (Mark 16:16). If you are involved in a cult, a sect, false religion, follow worldly philosophies and other worldly beliefs, God is saying to you through the Bible, do not believe what they say. Come out of it, turn away from it and find a church that believes the truth of the Bible. Find a genuine Baptist, Evangelical, Pentecostal or Charismatic Christian church to attend. Give your life over to Jesus and you will be saved. Learn to love Him with all your heart, soul, mind and strength (Mark 12:30). Jesus is the only Way, Life and Truth and no one can go to the Father except through Him (John 14:6). There are only two places where mankind will spend eternity – either in heaven or in the lake of fire. The Lord will say, 'Well done you good and faithful servant ... Enter into the joy of your Lord' (Matthew 25:21), or the Lord will say, 'Throw the useless servant into outer darkness, where there is weeping, wailing and gnashing of teeth ... Depart from Me you cursed, into the eternal fire, prepared for the devil and his angels' (Matthew 25:30 & 41). Where would you prefer to spend eternity? There is only one way to heaven and that is through Jesus. Believe the truth or believe the lies of a false religion. It is your choice.

Amen and God bless you.

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