**Do Not Be Robbed**By *Ron Boatwright*

     The greatest possession we have is our soul.  Jesus says, "For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?  Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Matthew 16:26).  Our soul is worth more than the whole world and everything in it.  Jesus warns us to "Beware of false teachers who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves" (Matthew 7:15).  A ravening wolf is going to kill and destroy.

     God’s word says, "many false prophets are gone out into the world" (1 John 4:1).  There were many false prophets in the first century just as there are many today.  Jesus says, "Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many" (Matthew 24:11)…"They are blind leaders of the blind.  And if the blind leads the blind, both will fall into a ditch" (Matthew 15:14).  The purpose of a false prophet is to deceive, just as they are doing today.  There are many who have been deceived and are blindly following false teachers.

     Anything that is more than, less than, or different from what God says in the Bible is false doctrine.  Today the many different denominational churches are all teaching and practicing different man-made doctrines and plans of salvation which are all designed by Satan to cause people to be eternally lost.  But Jesus warns, he that "climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber" (John 10:1).  Jesus continues to say, the thief comes "to steal, and to kill, and to destroy" (John 10:10).  This is what the many false teachers are doing and they are very successful in what they are doing.  By their different false teachings they are leading many souls on the broad path into Hell (Matthew 7:13).

     If one robs a bank and is caught, he is then tried, convicted, and sentenced to a Federal prison, as he should be.  But these teachers of false doctrine are praised as a kind and loving "pastor" or "reverend", when they are actually, "ravening wolves in sheep’s clothing", helping Satan rob people of their most precious possession – their soul!!!  These false teachers are not punished today by the laws of our land for robbery, but God will severely punish them through out all eternity.

     Let’s not be robbed of our most precious possession, our soul.  To protect our souls we must study God’s word and faithfully follow what it says in doing only what God says, all of what God says, in the way God says, and for the reason God says.