

False Teachers

By Ron Boatwright

False teachers have always been in the world, even from the very beginning. Satan was the first false teacher in telling Adam and Eve the lie that "You will not surely die" (Genesis 3:4). Anyone who teaches anything that is more than, less than, or different from what God says, is a false teacher. The purpose of false teaching is to deceive.

God's word says, "many false prophets have gone out into the world" (1 John 4:1). The denominational world today is full of false teachers. Jesus warns us to "Beware of false prophets who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves" (Matthew 7:15). False teachers can falsely appear as ministers of God's word, but their main purpose is to spiritually destroy people with their false doctrine, so people will lose their souls in the eternal torments of Hell.

We are warned to "Let no one deceive you with empty words" (Ephesians 5:6). False teachers "by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple" (Romans 16:18). We must be watchful for false teachers, "that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting" (Ephesians 4:14). There are many people in this world who are fooled by false teachers. False teachers "trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ" (Galatians 1:7).

We must be watchful and on-guard to "Let no one cheat you of your reward" (Colossians 2:18) of Heaven. How can we be cheated of our reward of Heaven? "Beware lest any one cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men...and not according to Christ" (Colossians 2:8). We must watch out for false teachers because many people will not go to Heaven because they have been deceived by false teachers.