

## Love & Hate Part 10: “False Teachers” (7-23-2017)

**Special Notes:** DR prayer, Items collection, and Kid’s announcements: 3<sup>rd</sup> class & Christina

### Series Review

- **Love & Hate defined:** (Story of the Loving Father) (What & How does God hate)
- **Walking in Church Unity:** Maintaining Relational Unity & Resolving Conflict
- **Last Week - When we don’t agree:** Resolving Doctrinal Differences

### Opening: Matthew 7 – Parables on Judging

#### Matthew 7:1-6 (ESV)

(1) "Judge not, that you be not judged. (2) For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. (3) Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? (4) Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when there is the log in your own eye? (5) You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye. (6) "Do not give dogs what is holy, and do not throw your pearls before pigs, lest they trample them underfoot and turn to attack you.

- **Log & Speck** (Be careful **HOW** you judge) . . .
  - Same measure will be used on you
  - Remove your log first
  - Clear sight then to remove your **brother’s** speck (see better, and more gentle)
- **Pearls & Pigs** – some things aren’t worth sharing to some people, so judge well.

#### Matthew 7:15-20 (ESV)

(15) "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. (16) You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? (17) So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. (18) A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. (19) Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. (20) Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.

- **Tree & Fruit** – the fruit exposes the root, the health of the tree will be revealed. Pay attention to fruit!
- **Sheep and Wolves** – what does a hungry wolf do amongst the sheep? Eat them!!

#### Matthew 10:16 (ESV)

Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent (harmless) as doves.

- **Serpents & Doves** – don’t destroy, but identify & navigate through.

## Beware of False Teachers . . . Watch Out, Call Out, Keep Out

### 1) Watch Out

#### James 3:1 (ESV)

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness.

**Note:** Teachers are warned – don't be teachers! There is a stricter judgment, so watch out!

### 3 teachings to watch out for . . .

#### a) Incomplete truth (or variations of truth)

#### Acts 20:26-31 (ESV)

(26) Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all, (27) for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. (28) Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. (29) I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; (30) and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. (31) Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears.

**Note:** Paul taught the Whole Counsel, False Teachers – twisted things.

#### b) Convenient truth (or compromising truth)

#### Jude 1:3-4, 17-19 (ESV)

(3) Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints. (4) For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ . . . (17) But you must remember, beloved, the predictions of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ. (18) They said to you, "In the last time there will be scoffers, following their own ungodly passions." (19) It is these who cause divisions, worldly people, devoid of the Spirit.

**Note:** Watch out for a sensual gospel – promotes & encourages Their Own ungodly passions

#### c) Impersonal Truth (hypocrisy & legalism)

#### Matthew 23:1-4 (ESV)

(1) Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, (2) "The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat, (3) so do and observe whatever they tell you, but not the works they do. For they preach, but do not practice. (4) They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on people's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to move them with their finger.

**Note:** Beware of teachers for whom what they teach isn't personal – a sure sign? Hypocrisy & Legalism

**1 more thing to Watch Out for . . . False Teachers arise because we want them!!**

### **2 Timothy 4:1-4 (ESV)**

(1) I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: (2) preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. (3) For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, (4) and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.

**Note:** Paul warns Timothy about us!! Watch out that we aren't swayed by our own desires & seek out these kinds of teachers. If we aren't careful, then we will enable incomplete, compromising, legalistic, and hypocritical gospels!

**Peter's sobering warning in 2 Peter chapter 2. Here are some snippets to give you a sense of the seriousness . . .**

### **Warnings describing False Teachers from 2 Peter 2:1-22 (ESV)**

- (1) False teachers will secretly bring in destructive heresies, bringing upon themselves swift destruction.
- (2) Many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of truth will be blasphemed.
- (3) And in their greed they will exploit you with false words.
- (4-12) Judgment coming on them like Fallen Angels, Noah's Flood, or Sodom & Gomorrah
- (13) They are blots and blemishes, reveling in their deceptions, while they feast with you.
- (14) They have eyes full of adultery, insatiable for sin. They entice unsteady souls. They have hearts trained in greed. Accursed children!
- (17) These are waterless springs and mists driven by a storm. For them the gloom of utter darkness has been reserved.
- (18) For, speaking loud boasts of folly, they entice by sensual passions of the flesh those who are barely escaping from those who live in error.
- (19) They promise them freedom, but they themselves are slaves of corruption. For whatever overcomes a person, to that he is enslaved.
- (22) What the true proverb says has happened to them: "The dog returns to its own vomit, and the sow, after washing herself, returns to wallow in the mire."

**Notes:** We read that in order to understand what we do with false teachers and why we do it . . .

## **2) Call Out**

### **Acts 18:24-28 (ESV)**

(24) Now a Jew named Apollos, a native of Alexandria, came to Ephesus. He was an eloquent man, competent in the Scriptures. (25) He had been instructed in the way of the Lord. And being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately the things concerning Jesus, though he knew only the baptism of John. (26) He began to speak boldly in the synagogue, but when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.

**Note:** Call out privately to correct

**Galatians 2:11-14 (ESV)**

(11) But when Cephas (Peter) came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. (12) For before certain men came from James, he was eating with the Gentiles; but when they came he drew back and separated himself, fearing the circumcision party. (13) And the rest of the Jews acted hypocritically along with him, so that even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy. (14) But when I saw that their conduct was not in step with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas before them all, "If you, though a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how can you force the Gentiles to live like Jews?"

**Note:** Call out **publically** to correct

If that doesn't work we follow Jesus example with the Pharisees – Call out **publically** to **Warn!!**

**3) Keep Out****1 Timothy 5:19-20 (ESV)**

(19) Do not admit a charge against an elder except on the evidence of two or three witnesses. (20) As for those who persist in sin, rebuke them in the presence of all, so that the rest may stand in fear.

**Titus 1:9-11, 13-14, 16 (ESV)**

(9) He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it. (10) For there are many who are insubordinate, empty talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision party. (11) They must be silenced, since they are upsetting whole families by teaching for shameful gain what they ought not to teach. . . (13) Therefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith, (14) not devoting themselves to Jewish myths and the commands of people who turn away from the truth. . . (16) They profess to know God, but they deny him by their works. They are detestable, disobedient, unfit for any good work.

**2 John 1:9-11 (ESV)**

(9) Everyone who goes on ahead and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God. Whoever abides in the teaching has both the Father and the Son. (10) If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your house or give him any greeting, (11) for whoever greets him takes part in his wicked works.

**Conclusion:** Matthew 7 – Build on a firm Foundation

**Matthew 7:24-29 (ESV)**

(24) "Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. (25) And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. (26) And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. (27) And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it." (28) And when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at his teaching, (29) for he was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes.