General Topics :: Any tips? Wolfs in Sheep Clothing

Any tips? Wolfs in Sheep Clothing, on: 2005/7/13 1:30

Now, ive asked my pastor, and a guest at my church. "Who do you know that major on this topic 'exposing wolfs that are in sheeps clothing'?" He replied Derek Prince, yet im to find one great thing from hin on this topic, maybe im just not a good researcher (ah...college soon, i hope thats not true).

I've seen some different sites on this topic, but NO ONE that i've seen DOES IT.

I've had an encounter with the "famous" Rodney Howard-Browne and he lives in my area. 'Tampa Bay area'. He comes to my city once a month now..(3rd month this month..ekk).

My spirit did turns, other seekers of God that i KNEW PERSONALLY felt a little uneasy about it. They were 'pushed over', 'no solid testimonies on healings' etc..

I wanted to shout, cry, scream, and just say 'Lord, why wont you burn this man?'. I know, i know what the Lord said to His disciples... But i never really prayed this. It was just how i felt. My heart was yurning...it was crying..i wanted to just weap....to hear such a person to try to deceive God's people.....oh my!

I never grew up in the Pentacostal circles....i grew up baptist, but tested everything. I never thought 'wolfs' would really live so close to me. I wanted to TRULY WEAP...you have no idea, even now it breaks my heart.....it ...ugh..

All in all, after this, holy anger raged in me, it was Holy. We asked the Lord to truly save those who needed to hear His voice, cause HIS WORD DOESNT RETURN VOID. No matter who plants the seed.

Me and my friend got in trouble for 'laying hands on someone' when anyone in any church would say 'that person is just praying for them with their hand on her arm'. SHE ASKED US TO PRAY, SHE WAS IN A WHEELCHAIR, ASKING FOR A MIRACLE. HOW DOES THAT BREAK YOUR HEART! It breaks mine. Then latter to get rebuke by the 'leaders' of Browne's ministry.

Browne is false, i dont care what you think, let God break away those WICKED SCALES. You have to be really in satan's domain to receive such lies.

Again, Who majors on such tings? Exposing Wolfs in sheeps clothing... id like some audio and video, and worthly articles and such..plz

Re: Any tips? Wolfs in Sheep Clothing - posted by jeremyhulsey (), on: 2005/7/13 1:35

Look for these sermons in the download section:

Carter Conlon:
Wolves
Ministers of Laciviousness
When Liars Stand Before God's Throne
Run For Your Life
Dangerous Shepherds
A Heap Of Frogs And A Stinking Land

David Wilkerson:
The Reproach Of The Solemn Assembly
God Is Training A Holy Remnant
The Famine Has Begun
A Reproach Among the Heathen
Winning Christ
Another Gospel

Re:, on: 2005/7/13 1:42

You have no idea, how much of help that was!!

Re:, on: 2005/7/13 11:20

anymore....im not closing the book on this...

Re: Any tips? Wolfs in Sheep Clothing - posted by ccchhhrrriiisss (), on: 2005/7/13 12:56

Hey Yeshua...

I've had an encounter with Rodney Howard Browne (as well as with a counterpart of his, Chris Harvey). I attended a "crusade" starring Rodney Howard Browne, and my heart ached because of the blatantly false displays -- and the accusation that much of these displays were "the work of the Holy Spirit." I felt so incredibly grieved inside of me!

A few months later, Chris Harvey (a lesser known "evangelist" who claims to have traveled with Rodney Howard Browne and who also claims to "carry the same annointing") traveled to the church that I attended at the time. The services were nearly identical to those of Rodney Howard Browne.

The services began with each man telling everyone what was "about to happen" by using anecdotes of his previous meetings' events. They tell the congregation that "entire" congregations of those churches "fall under the power of uncontrollable holy laughter." Then, as the service progresses, the man prays for each willing member of the congregation -- waiting until they begin to laugh uncontrollably. While praying, he constantly tells them "not to worry about reputation because that will hinder the Holy Spirit's move in your life" while also warning the member, "don't fight against God." Talk about soulish peer-pressure! Most people eventually fell down and laughed uncontrollably, but many later admitted that they did it because they felt pressured to.

What strikes me as characteristic of nearly all of these "holy laughter" (or *gold-filling, gold-dust, stretched-leg, frozen-beli ever*) type of "ministries" is the emphasis on the physical results or manifestations -- and almost never on the work of Go d in the hearts of either believers or unbelievers.

Sure, they end up pointing out the small amount of people who ever-so-often are amazed at such events and who seem nearly afraid of what they have seen (but have not experienced) and *seem* to eagerly repent. But almost all of the time i n the services is spent "enjoying the manifestations of the Holy Spirit." There is hardly any preaching. There is hardly a ny intimate worship. And worse of all, there is hardly any Word of God (other than a few Scriptures that are taken out of context). It almost seems that the congregation totally neglects Christ in favor of what they perceive as the physical wor ks of the Holy Spirit.

Can God do the things that these men point as a work of the Spirit? God can do anything! But there are some things th at God *will not* do -- because it is against his very nature as made clear by his Word. We can only test such things throu gh the Word of God, and not by the experiences of man. God can and does miracles -- but God will not surrender any o f his glory to men.

I attended those services, as I attend all services, without any preconceived ideas about either men. That is perhaps wh y I felt so heartbroken. I didn't judge whether or not these men were *intentionally* preaching and teaching such false doc trines. It might be entirely possible that they are doing it believing that they are doing a work for God. But irregardless o f the motivations of these men, the Word is entirely clear that these men are not preaching the Truth.

Thus, the greatest book concerning whether or not any doctrine is true or false is, of course, the Word of God. But what about wolves?

It is so difficult to know whether or not such men are truly wolves. Like I said, it is entirely possible that some preachers truly believe what they are teaching. But does that make them a wolf? The Word is clear that while we cannot judge the heart or intentions of man, we can "know a tree by the fruit it bears." Do such meetings, preachings or teachings *turn m en away from Christ*? Are believers devoured by Satan through such men or meetings?

As a young believer, I was scourned by some of my elders for not unconditionally accepting so much of what was preac hed, taught or accepted by the leaders or guests in our church. They accused me of having "seeds of doubt" which coul d "hinder God's will for my life." As an eager and totally sincere young Christian, I cried out to the Lord for help. I didn't

want to be "judgmental," yet I didn't want to accept or believe something contrary to God's Word just because I was told t hat I needed to. I was encouraged through the verse that implores us to *work out our own salvation with fear and trembl ing*.

I am under the impression that the best method is to believe nothing but the Word. We must test everything (I Thessalo nians 5) by God's Word (like the Bereans in Acts 17) in order to know the certainty of our beliefs. It is true that God has given us pastors, teachers, and other leaders who are there to "equip the saints," but it is also true that these are still jus t *men*.

It is so encouraging that most of our Bible heroes were so utterly flawed! They made mistakes in action and judgment th at still makes believers today shutter. In fact, it seems that the "greater" a man or woman was used by God -- the greate r the flaw they displayed! If men like David, Saul, Samson, Noah, Solomon, Abraham, Moses, etc... made such mistake s -- then we must realize that we can not trust any preacher or teacher totally -- no matter how pious or sincere! Remem ber, a man can be *sincere*, but he can also be *sincerely wrong*.

I agree with the messages that were mentioned (from Carter Conlon and David Wilkerson) that speak about wolves. Th ere are truly wolves who "prowl" about for self-glory and physical gain (and even those who desire to do damage to the Church). But such men and teachings are no match for a believer who has placed his faith completely in Christ -- *and in Christ alone*! In my opinion, this should be taught to even the youngest of believers.

This understanding has helped me greatly in the last few years. I was greatly disappointed by a pastor who "heard God" tell him things that God obviously did not tell him. Later, I learned that this man was actually "casting lots" in his office d uring prayer time. He would write different messages on paper, then crumble them up, shuffle them, and then spread th em out on his desk. He would then ask God to lead him to the right paper wad. When I confronted him about it, he defe nded such actions by saying that he was just doing the same thing that Gideon did. I told him that Gideon did not cast lo ts -- but laid a fleece before the Lord, asking God *to do the impossible*! I told him that even after the impossible was acc omplished -- *Gideon still did not believe*! So he asked God to do the impossible a second time. Afterward, Gideon acce pted what was already told to him! "Throwing paper wads or lots," I told him, "is no different than using an 8-ball found i n the toy section of Wal-Mart." Besides, I told him that after the Church was filled with the Holy Spirit, they no longer cas t lots. Why? Because now they had a "sure word" from the Lord.

As much as I enjoy messages from this website from men like Leonard Ravenhill, David Wilkerson, A. W. Tozer, etc... -- I still believe that the Lord desires for us to always test everything. These men of God are still *men* -- and they are fallibl e. Anyway, I imagine that you probably already know this. I might just be reinforcing my own thoughts on the matter. I will be praying for you, that the Lord gives you wisdom and discernment though all things. Please do the same for me!

:-)
-Chris
Jeremiah 29:11-13

Re: ministry to discern wolves, on: 2005/7/13 13:21

In Neil's thread (on not being negative), he posts something from another website (p5) which quotes Discernment Ministries International. Here's a page of links (http://www.emnr.org/links.html) http://www.emnr.org/links.html, though h e quotes from a different site, to do with Olsteen.

ccchhhrrriiisss,

Thanks for your testimony. Many things ring bells, but, I now see the 'minister' of whom I'm thinking, was small fry comp ared with these guys who make a lifestyle out of misleading large gatherings. I believe they *are* wolves in sheep's clothi ng, even though you may have no evidence about other activities which could convince you. One thinks of some of Pet er's comments in his second epistle.

Re:, on: 2005/7/13 15:39

(https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/articles/index.php?viewarticle&aid15110) "Wolves in Sheep's Clothing" article

It doesn't name names, but it scripturally outlines a false teachers characteristics. Because it's long it may be best to print off. I hope it helps.

Re: - posted by todd, on: 2005/7/13 16:23

Chris,

As you mention, we are told to test everything.

You wrote:
"Most people eventually fell down and laughed uncontrollably, but many later admitted that they did it because they felt pressured to."

Were these people in your church? Did they admit this in front of the church? Is there any way to contact them?

Re: Any tips? Wolfs in Sheep Clothing - posted by todd, on: 2005/7/13 16:28

Yesh,

Back to your original post:

"Now, ive asked my pastor, and a guest at my church. "Who do you know that major on this topic 'exposing wolfs that are in sheeps clothing'?" He replied Derek Prince, yet im to find one great thing from hin on this topic, maybe im just not a good researcher..."

I am somewhat familiar with Derek Prince's ministry and I am confidant that he does not major on this topic. Perhaps he has good teaching on it, but from what I've seen, he's far from majoring on it.

Do you really think anyone is called to major on this topic?

Re:, on: 2005/7/13 16:35

Y'all are naming names... I cant believe it. This thread is mean spirited and judgemental. How dare you! You should all be ashamed of yourselves!

(Note: Tongue planted firmly in cheek)

Krispy

Wolves in Sheeps Clothing - posted by aeryck (), on: 2005/7/13 17:18

Todd,

I agree Derek was a really wonderful human, I have a tape where he was preaching in New Zealand where he began weeping over them.

Derek was extremly positive, and would rather teach about a problem and then invest much time in dealing with a solution.

I have a huge library of his books and tapes and Cd's, and so far I have found he talks about a general problem and avoids the names, concentrating on providing scriptural solutions.

He said something quite funny once. 'Often those who talk most about grace, know very little about it.'

I learned the first principles of the doctrine of Christ, from his notes in 1977. This really helped me to identify a false cult

very quickly.
When you have the blue print it is easy to notice a fake.

Even on one occassion he mentioned Willian Marion Brahnam. Now even though WMB is 'Jesus only' all Derek said was, he was amazed at the way William stood praying for hours for thousands of sick people. He even debated Chuck Missler and humbly acknowledged Missler's views on the Rapture.

I think what has marked Derek's ministry was his humble spirit in God. At 83, he felt there were things in his life that need tending and drew aside to pray and seek the Lord for 2 weeks.

In Jesus,
Triangulation.

ps. hope I did not punch this section too hard. Seems there is a light hearted spirit hear, right?
:-P

Re:, on: 2005/7/13 17:34

ccchhhrrriiisss

Your quote about 'not knowing a wolf in sheeps clothing' Honestly, those that you mentioned are, they are either wolfs/goats or sheep. Rodney is truly a wolf, maybe he once 'tasted the divine nature', i dont know, i read one of his books 'The Touch of God' (This is truly what i believe, what he (rodney) wrote in this book). I believe the book was right on the money, has he changed? maybe, maybe not i dont know. All i know is the present. He is not teaching the word of God, but doctrines of DEMONS! Not even of man, DEMONS I SAY.

I love Rodney, just as i love a homosexual, Adolf Hitler, and a homeless man on the street. But if ANYONE preaches in the name of Christ, and fails the test and isn't willing to come forward with open arms saying 'Sorry folks, etc..etc..' or 'Here are all the accounts i have of healings and truth...' Then that man is hiding something. Did any man/women of God hide something? I doubt it.

This is part, that i believe is PART of the Great Delusion, and the other part is the pre trib rapture (lets keep this outta this thread, cause its not part of this topic).

I don't believe your pastor is ALL (maybe some, but not all) wrong on his situation with 'casting lots' the apostles did, maybe they drawed straws as one pastor put it, or maybe they did what your pastor did.

I think either your pastor is just desperate for a true genuine touch of God. To hear His voice. But i dont believe its wrong to 'cast lots' when the motives are correct.

Todd

I do believe someone is probly called to 'major' on this topic. Why? cause there are different parts of the body and different funtions.

Krispy Krittr

Judging isn't bad. Mean spirited? Actually, im truly learning alot. That's fruit in my life. Judgemental? Well, Jesus never said 'Judging is bad' instead 'you will be judged in the same manner'. And hey, i dont think anyone here minds being judged in the same manner we are judging others.

Lots of money, covetess motives....worshipping the gift and not the giver. If im classified as these, then i will truly be under judgement by the people and the Lord.

Also, the bible says to 'mark the false ones and stay away from them'. (thats a paraphrase..of i think two different scriptures)

So, i believe there is tremendous fruit coming from this conversation. And it has truly lifted me up. Any more comments folks?

Re:, on: 2005/7/13 17:36

aerky, can you name some of Derek's stuff on 'marking a cult' or something of that nature?? so that in the future i maybe able to buy it...and dwell on these things..

Re: - posted by ccchhhrrriiisss (), on: 2005/7/13 17:45

Hi Todd...

Yes, this happened in a church that I used to attend. Those who quietly professed "faking" their holy laughter didn't admit this is front of the entire congregation -- because this rather large Church still stands behind these men (as well as some other extremely controversial guest ministers).

The "holy laughter" movement in this particular church lasted for several years, and still exists in a somewhat more subdued version. Usually, it occurs within a particular small group of ladies in the congregation, who begin laughing uncontrollably during the sermon.

For the first six months or so, the Pastor and some leaders in the Church loved it! However, after a while, it became very disruptive. For a while, it seemed that the ushers were forced to carry out the same ladies nearly every service to p revent further disruption of the service. However, the women would be carried to a room in the building where they were permitted to laugh and roll on the floor all they wanted.

Eventually, other guest speakers commented negatively about such disruptions, but it still continued. A couple of times, some guest speakers were forced to ask some of the "Holy Ghost drunks" (as they became known) to be quiet during so me services. The senior pastor was perplexed, because many people in the congregation grew impatient about the entir e notion. He eventually had to say something from the pulpit, telling people that while he totally believes in "holy laughte r," that it should happen with "decency and order" and not to take preeminence over the service every week.

According to friends of mine that still attend the church, those same ladies experience "holy laughter" manifestations at l east twice a month on Sunday mornings. While the pastor still defends it and vigorously forbids people from questioning the manifestations (or his leadership in allowing such things), the movement is hardly mentioned anymore. For a while, t he church experimented with television, and the main TV ministry guy told me that he was told to not film the manifestati on, and to edit out any inadvertant displays.

Most of the people who spoke about having "faked" the manifestation still attend the church. I no longer attend that chur ch, but I remain in contact with several of them. If you would like, I could ask them to contact you.

I have asked some of them why they faked the manifestation, but most of them really don't have an answer. Some told me that they felt pressured to, while others didn't want to feel like they were *unspiritual* for not falling down, laughing, etc. .. (since so many others were doing the same). I have often wondered why people feel the need to do that in many of to day's modern charasmatic churches. I've watched Christian TV shows where thousands did this at the same time. I've even attended services where people experienced holy laughter, only to get up a couple of minutes later and invite me t o eat (and even to watch a movie after the service).

Like I said in my first post, I don't want to appear judgmental. I have seen some amazing things. And nothing changes t he fact that God can do abundantly more than we ask or think. But as I said before, there are some things that God *will not do* because it is against his character (as found in the Word). Again, I have seen some awesome things that God ha s done since becoming a christian. But I have also seen some things that were attributed to God that contradicts his Wo rd.

Anyway, PM me if you would like for me to place you in contact with some of these.

:-)
-Chris
Jeremiah 29:11-13

Quote:

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todd wrote:

You wrote:
"Most people eventually fell down and laughed uncontrollably, but many later admitted that they did it because they felt pressured to."

Were these people in your church? Did they admit this in front of the church? Is there any way to contact them?

Re: Sound Teaching exposes Wolves - posted by aeryck (), on: 2005/7/13 18:13

Todd,

Sound teaching is often the secret to dealing with the type of things I see mentioned on this thread, nothing that a little w ater of the Word won't do to cool of fakes.

Paul, does clearly outline correct order in the manifestations of the Holy Spirit. Laughter is not out of order, as is crying. I remember once listening to a woman sobbing gently in the Holy Spirit, it touched me so deeply that I began crying too, I just realized at that moment that Jesus was weeping through her. Wow, where did that come from.

In Jesus,
.A.
:-P

ps. I will certainly let you know as soon as I remember. 'Blessing or Curse'- You can choose, is the only one that comes t o mind, and another where he dealt with a 'bewitched' church, I think it was his teaching on the book of Galatians. His ta pe library is extensive. I mean literally thousands of hours of ministry. I prefer Chuck Missler when I am not reading Paul ...lol

add-
Come to think of it the real boffin in exposing cults is Dr Walter Martin, and Al Dager. More recently is a guy called Warre n Smith, not to be confused with Rick Warren. Dr Walter Martin is really thorough. Whew, he sweeps clean. He has a tw o books, Kingdom of the Cults and Kingdom of the Occult. Pricey but worth it, I believe recommended reading for some colleges. Chuck Missler actually toured with the late Doctor. He was amazed at the mans commitment to caring for peop le who were troubled.

Often the best way of examining a cult is to look for testimonies of poeple who have been involved, I was more moved b y the testimonies of ex jehovah's witnesses than anything I have ever read in the manuals about the cults, it also gave m e a proper understanding. I now cannot wait to hear the knock on my door and make them tea and love them as much a s I know how in the Lord. They live lives of such terrible fear. I had no idea till I listened to a testimony. Mp3 audios are s o cool... :-P try http://www.waltermartin.org

Re:, on: 2005/7/14 0:15

Here is a personal question for all of you.

Does it break your heart when you see, hear, and experience false manifestations and teachings? Does it break your h eart when someone walks away when someone is NOT healed? I wanna weap for hours. God has been breaking me re sently. I've heard many different prophetic words...and such, but still waiting on the Lord. When God opens the door (fo r TIME, cause right now salvation of the youth is my #1 priority) i will be running thru it.

It truly breaks my heart, to see people down the street, in pain, to see people in schools hurting in their souls, to see the m dead spiritual.

It hurts, its something i truly would ask Christ for more of, is compassion.

So again, my question.

Does it break your heart when you see, hear, and experience false manifestations and teachings? Does it break your h

eart when someone walks away when someone is NOT healed?

Re: - posted by jeremyhulsey (), on: 2005/7/14 0:29

Quote:
----------Does it break your heart when you see, hear, and experience false manifestations and teachings? Does it break your heart when so meone walks away when someone is NOT healed?

It breaks my heart when someone who is not physically healed thinks it's that way because their faith is lacking somewh ere.

Re:, on: 2005/7/14 5:56

Quote:
----------Krispy Krittr

Judging isn't bad. Mean spirited? Actually, im truly learning alot. That's fruit in my life. Judgemental? Well, Jesus never said 'Judging is bad' instead 'yo u will be judged in the same manner'. And hey, i dont think anyone here minds being judged in the same manner we are judging others.

Lots of money, covetess motives....worshipping the gift and not the giver. If im classified as these, then i will truly be under judgement by the people an d the Lord.

Also, the bible says to 'mark the false ones and stay away from them'. (thats a paraphrase..of i think two different scriptures)

Ahhh... young Jedi... you must be new here!

When someone uses the expression "tongue in cheek" they mean that what they said was not meant to be taken seriou sly. I have oft times come on this site and warned of a doctrine or teacher... and I get called names and my motivations and heart get judged by those who say I am judgemental... you should go back thru the archives here and you will see t hat you misunderstood my earlier post on this thread.

I have merely stayed on the side lines on this topic because you're all handling it quite well... and it should be obvious to anyone with even a minimal amount of familiarity with the Bible that Rodney Howard-Brown is a false teacher on par wit h Benny Hinn.

Krispy

Re:, on: 2005/7/14 8:08

Let me also clarify that at times my words about false teachers have been perceived as harsh... and at times I have to a dmit that they have been. And some here have challenged me on that, and they are correct to do so. It's not in my heart to be harsh, but sometimes I need to choose my words more wisely. I am learning to season my words with more grace.

What I reject is the notion that we should overlook error in the name of unity. Jesus never taught this... and Paul certainl y did not. We can never have unity with untruth. Unity based on tolerance of error is not biblical unity... it is, according to scripture, partaking in the the error.

Exposing error, and warning of it with a godly attitude, is love.

Krispy

Re: - posted by todd, on: 2005/7/14 14:08

Here's the thing I've noticed with all of this. Many people sincerely think they are exposing error but really they are just s preading unsubstantiated and speculative junk based on thier interpretation of the Bible, false assumptions, and overgen eralizations.

I think that every single time I've looked deeper into some of these things, that I've tried to actually get to the root source, I've come away with a very different understanding of the situation. Either I totally disagree with the "error-finders" asses sment of the situation, or I see it is a very different light than they expressed it.

I'm not saying that none of these folks have ever made a real mistake or that all their doctrine is flawless. But I've notice d people are far too ready to jump to conclusions, especially when they already have a major bias.

But in most cases I've found that there is very little actual proof of error. It takes time and patience to really assess thes e kinds of things.

Re:, on: 2005/7/14 14:09

Thanks for clearing that up.

I don' think 'harsh words' are bad, because Christ said to be as 'shurd as serpents'. But if it is without love, that is 'too' h arsh.

My 2 cents ;)

Re: Any tips? Wolfs in Sheep Clothing - posted by jeremyhulsey (), on: 2005/7/14 14:17

A book by David Kirkwood called (http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/tg/detail/-/0962962570/qid1121364929/sr8-1/refsr_8_xs_ap_i1_xgl14/102-940012 0-8836149?vglance&sbooks&n507846) The Great Gospel Deception is another source I would recomend.

Re:, on: 2005/7/14 14:23

Quote:
----------Here's the thing I've noticed with all of this. Many people sincerely think they are exposing error but really they are just spreading un substantiated and speculative junk based on thier interpretation of the Bible, false assumptions, and overgeneralizations.

I dont think thats true of most people on this site. I always back up my warnings with direct quotes from the teacher in qu estion ... either from their sermons, books, interviews, etc. And I use sources that anyone on here can look up for thems elves if they so chose to do so (and I recommend they do).

I never talk about their personal lives, with the exception of one time on here, and that was about a "prophet" who I have met personally who was caught in sexual sin (using his "ministry" to get sex) and he was right back out there "ministerin g". I knew the facts and backed them up.

You're correct that we should never go on false assumptions, and overgeneralizations, and I try my best to not do that. I' m not perfect, but I think if you scroll thru the old posts and threads, you will see I cover myself the best I can with facts.

I do not believe I've even once on here ever discussed Benny Hinn's lavish lifestyle. Joyce Meyer's lifestyle was discuss ed on here once (and I did not participate), but it was backed up by a 4 page newspaper article about her in her own loc al newspaper... and she granted the interviews, and supported the article.

I think you are overgeneralizing... be careful lest you be guilty of what you accuse others of.

Krispy

Re:, on: 2005/7/14 14:27

Quote:
----------But in most cases I've found that there is very little actual proof of error.

Todd... I'm not trying to be antagonistic at all. Accept my words in the spirit in which they are meant, ok brother?

Anyway... name a teacher I have called a false teacher... and I'll give you proof.

BTW... a lot times proof has been given on here, but you need to go back thru several months of threads to find it. Some times there is no point in repeating something over and over again whenever a false teacher's name comes up. Lack of proof may just be a perception (assumption) on your part.

Krispy

Re: - posted by todd, on: 2005/7/14 15:38

Krispy,

Quote:
"I dont think thats true of most people on this site. I always back up my warnings with direct quotes from the teacher in q uestion."

I think you might have assumed I was talking about you! (Ok, ok, I admit you were floating around in my mind when I wr ote the post). But really it was just some observations that I've noticed in general regarding these things, sometimes on this site but not that much anymore.

I've done all of those things I mentioned many times myself. I was the biggest critic of the Toronto Blessing, Latter Rain, Brownsville Revival, Laughing Revival, Prosperity Preachers, you name it- that I knew of at one time.

Then I started looking at things with love and especially how it is patient, kind, does not take into account a wrong suffer ed, does not rejoice in unrighteousness but rejoices with the truth, and especially how it hopes all things and believes all things. I realized that I had some kind of sick fascination and got some enjoyment out of focusing on other peoples probl ems. I think it distracted me from my own. I believed that it was mainly zeal for the truth, which I sincerely had, that led me to do what I did. But I discovered there was a lot more going on inside of me.

Perhaps this is not the case with you, but now you kind of know where I'm coming from. I am now very slow to conclude in these matters.

Because when I started looking at things with love, pretty soon everything started looking very different. That's not to sa y all of those things and the people involved in them are flawless, but they're not all bad either.

Quote:
"I always back up my warnings with direct quotes from the teacher in question ... either from their sermons, books, interv iews, etc. And I use sources that anyone on here can look up for themselves if they so chose to do so (and I recommend they do)... I never talk about their personal lives, with the exception of one time on here..."

If all of that is true then that is admirable on your part. If this kind of thing is to be done, I think it should be done just like that. I can't verify if you have, indeed, held to that standard. But if you have, I applaud you.

Quote:
"I think you are overgeneralizing... be careful lest you be guilty of what you accuse others of."

You could be right, I hope not. I do receive that warning. God help me.

I just met someone a couple weeks ago on a fishing trip who admittedly was a "heresy-hunter." We ended up having a v ery interesting and good conversation about God and the things of God nonetheless. Every single person in the world h

as something valuable to give because they have lived a unique life and they have a unique perspective. I try to keep th at in mind.

I will take you up on your challenge, though I think we might have different views of what a false teacher and a false pro phet are. Do you think someone is a false teacher or a false prophet if they have taught or prophecied some things false but had good motives?

I would be interesting in looking deeper into your claims of Osteen being a false teacher, since that one is fresh in our mi nds and I know very little about the man and his ministry. That should be interesting. But I think we should start a new t hread if we're going to do it.

And I am only willing to engage you in a discussion like this under the following conditions:

1. The "proof" you use must be accessible and available to look at in context. Your response seems to indicate you alre ady recognize the importance of that.

2. We stay focused on one thing at a time. For example, if you have a quotation or evidence that you feel proves a teac her to be false, we stay with that piece of evidence unitl it is exhausted before moving on to another.

3. You don't just copy large amounts of information and give links to articles and other information. If you feel somethin g is relevant, copy and comment on the specific part you think is relevant. This will minimize any potential overgeneralizi ng.

4. If you are using Scripture to support your position, state plainly the connection- don't just flash a verse. You know wh at I mean?

If you agree to all that and you still want to have a discussion like this, go ahead and start it up on a new thread. It could be fruitful for us.

Quote:
" BTW... a lot times proof has been given on here, but you need to go back thru several months of threads to find it. Som etimes there is no point in repeating something over and over again whenever a false teacher's name comes up. Lack of proof may just be a perception (assumption) on your part."

Good point. But let's not make such assumptions on this new thread. As it stands, Osteen's ministry has a big question mark (?) over it in my mind, not and x.

Re: - posted by todd, on: 2005/7/14 15:45

Actually I just changed my mind. I would rather look into Rodney Howard-Browne's teachings (or more specifically your claims of him being a false teacher) if you are willing. I know more about him than Osteen, but I wouldn't say I know a lo t.

Re:, on: 2005/7/14 16:07

Very gracious response to my post, Todd. I'm glad you received my words in the way I intended them to be received, and not misinterpret my spirit in this. (That doesn't happen often!)

I don't have time to address everything... but there is a prevailing attitude that has crept into the church that says "Love means we don't confront... but accept". I reject that notion. We should confront deception when we see or hear it. It needs to be done with love, meaning our motivation needs to be godly. We should want to confront it because it tears our soul out to see people deceived. I was deceived about many things as a new believer, and perhaps that explains my utter distaste for deception. It's a sinking feeling when you see you've allowed yourself to believe lies.

Thank God someone had the guts to confront me about what I believed, and had the guts to speak out agaisnt those leaders I was following. Otherwise... who knows where I'd be.

Love is NOT **tolerance** of error. Nor does love enjoy exposing error, but it does so because of the heart wrenching fact t hat many will stand before Him thinking they were believers... but they were deceived and believed another gospel.

I've been to Toronto, Brownsville... etc etc... we wrestle not against flesh and blood. They are not bad people... but they **are** deceived people who are deceiving tens of thousands... and they need to be confronted and rebuked. The end goal should be to see them come to the truth of scripture.

Please please please, Todd... get the book "Who Are You To Judge?"

Krispy

Re:, on: 2005/7/14 16:09

Quote:
----------Actually I just changed my mind. I would rather look into Rodney Howard-Browne's teachings (or more specifically your claims of hi m being a false teacher) if you are willing. I know more about him than Osteen, but I wouldn't say I know a lot.

Patience... I'm running low on time today. I'm about to log off for the day, lots going on this afternoon. I'll get back to you on this tomorrow.

Krispy