

# Wolves in Sheep's Clothing

## False Teachers in the Church

Matthew 7:15, 20, 13:24-30



- \* In the \_\_\_\_\_ gospel, also known as the “Word of Faith Movement,” the believer is told to use God, whereas the truth of biblical Christianity is just the opposite—God uses the believer.
- \* Prosperity theology sees the Holy Spirit as a \_\_\_\_\_ to be put to use for whatever the believer wills. The Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit is a \_\_\_\_\_ who enables the believer to do God’s will.
- \* The prosperity gospel movement closely resembles some of the destructive greed \_\_\_\_\_ that infiltrated the early church.
- \* Paul warned Timothy about such men in (1 Timothy 6:5, 9-11). These men of “\_\_\_\_\_” supposed godliness was a means of gain and their desire for riches was a trap that brought them “into ruin and destruction” (v. 9). The pursuit of \_\_\_\_\_ is a dangerous path for Christians and one which God warns about: *“For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs”* (v. 10).
- \* Some of the richest people in America are Prosperity Gospel preachers:
  - \* Jessie Duplantis: Net Worth \$20 Million
  - \* Joyce Meyers: Net Worth \$25 Million
  - \* Creflo Dollar: Net Worth \$27 Million
  - \* Joel Osteen: Net Worth \$40 Million
  - \* Benny Hinn: Net Worth \$42 Million
  - \* Steven Furtick: Net Worth \$55 Million
  - \* Pat Robertson: Net Worth \$100 Million
  - \* Kenneth Copeland: Net Worth \$760 Million
- \* If \_\_\_\_\_ were a reasonable goal for the godly, Jesus would have pursued it. But He did not, preferring instead to have no place to lay His head (Matt. 8:20) and teaching His disciples to do the same. It should also be remembered that the only disciple concerned with wealth was \_\_\_\_\_.
- \* Paul said covetousness is \_\_\_\_\_ (Eph. 5:5) and instructed the Ephesians to avoid anyone who brought a message of immorality or covetousness (Eph. 5:6-7).

- \* \_\_\_\_\_, according to the Word of Faith doctrine, is not submissive trust in God; faith is a \_\_\_\_\_ by which we manipulate the spiritual laws that prosperity teachers believe govern the universe.
- \* A favorite term of prosperity gospel teachers is “\_\_\_\_\_.” This refers to the teaching that words themselves have creative power. What you say, prosperity teachers claim, determines everything that happens to you- (James 4:13-16) clearly contradicts this teaching.
- \* Instead of stressing the importance of wealth, the Bible warns against \_\_\_\_\_ it. Believers, especially leaders in the church (1 Tim. 3:3), are to be free from the love of money (Heb. 13:5).
- \* The \_\_\_\_\_ of money leads to all kinds of evil (1 Tim. 6:10). Jesus warned about this in the Parable of the Rich Fool (Luke 12:15-21).
- \* In sharp contrast to the prosperity gospel emphasis on gaining money and possessions in this life, Jesus said, “*Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal*” (Matt. 6:19).
- \* The irreconcilable contradictions between prosperity teaching and the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ is best summed up in the words of Jesus in (Matt. 6:24), “*You cannot serve both God and money.*”