

False Prophets According to the Bible – How to Recognize Them?

The Bible repeatedly warns about false prophets. They speak in God's name, but their words do not lead to truth or peace. How do you recognize them? Is it their doctrine, their way of life, their motive — or the fruit they produce? In this study we show what is written. Two simple questions, one general and one personal:

- Who was the first false prophet?
- Are you biblically faithful?"

Am I biblically faithful? I **examine** the Bible, and I **know** that false prophets do exist.

If you have visited my website for the first time, you will have experienced that my reading of the Bible is different. Perhaps surprising, but one thing is certain: I believe in the one monotheistic God, and He has unlimited love, and nothing is impossible for Him, literally nothing.

I compare Scripture with Scripture; this compels me to regularly consult the apocryphal writings as well. I repeatedly observe that the Bible is incomplete, and even that untruths are present within it. When I hear others speak about being biblically faithful, they mean that the Bible proclaims the truth from cover to cover. They go even further, because those who consider themselves biblically faithful often claim that the Bible is the **only** Word of God. **If that is what you mean by being biblically faithful, then I am not biblically faithful.**

Nevertheless, the subject of false prophets is fascinating. Did you know that the Bible itself speaks about false prophets and literally calls them "**Bible scholars**"? The Bible itself did not come into existence until around the year 400 AD. I quote:

- HTB – **Matthew 23:13** But beware, **Bible scholars** and Pharisees! Hypocrites!
- HTB – **Matthew 23:27** **Bible scholars** and Pharisees! It looks bad for you! Hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs,

I am not biblically faithful, but I take this translation literally. Scribes = Bible scholars = false prophets. All the same.

And let us be honest: the very fact that you must (and can) compare Scripture with Scripture proves that false prophets exist.

The false prophets are not always mentioned by name, but there are many, very many of them.

Acts 20:29-30 For I know this, that after my departure grievous wolves will enter in among you, not sparing the flock; and **from among your own selves will arise men**, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them.

1 Corinthians 5:2 You are puffed up, and ought to mourn, so that he who has done this sin **would be taken away from among you.**

2 Peter 2:1 But there were false prophets also among the people, **even as there will be false teachers among you**, who privily shall bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bringing on themselves swift destruction.

2 Thessalonians 2:3-4 Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition, who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he sitteth in the temple of God **, shewing himself that he is God. **** In other words, in every church Satan resides. The end times are at hand.**

Do you know the workers of lawlessness (Matthew 7:21-23)? Read about the seventy (Luke 10:1-24).

Warning Against False Prophets

Two complete chapters of the Bible are devoted to false prophets:

- Jeremiah 23
- Ezekiel 13

HTB – **Jeremiah 23:9, 11** “As for the prophets, my heart is broken because of them, because they are full of deceit. I wake up in fear and stagger like a drunkard, because the Lord has pronounced a holy judgment against them. ... Even the priests and the prophets are wicked, and I have seen their iniquity in my temple,” declares the Lord.

HTB – **Ezekiel 13:1-3** Then this message came to me from the Lord: Son of man, prophesy against the false prophets of Israel, who invent visions and claim to have received messages from Me, but I have not spoken to them at all.

Below is a summary of these two Bible chapters.

The first eight verses of Jeremiah are symbolic. He who has an ear, let him hear what the spirit...

The first false prophet was Lucifer. He deceived the community in heaven. His subordinate leaders—his fruits—reinforced his lies. This ultimately led to a third of the “gods” being cast down into the earth. The land of [Israel is synonymous](#) with the Kingdom of Heaven. Egypt is synonymous with the earth. An innumerable multitude returns to the Kingdom of Heaven.

NBV21 – **Jer. 23:11** For the prophets and priests (preachers) have become corrupt, and even in my temple (the churches) I have seen their wickedness, declares the LORD. **Verse 13** When I make an end of them, I will bring disaster upon them (time of tribulation), declares the LORD.

Verses 16 & 17 Do not listen to the prophets who preach to you. They are false hopes. Their visions are of their own making; they are not from the LORD. They dare to say to those who despise me, ‘The LORD says it will be well with you.’ And to everyone whose heart is stubborn, they say, ‘No, you will be saved from disaster.’

Disaster: will you be spared it? False prophets speak of a [mass rapture](#) in the form of: pre-trib, mid-trib, or post-trib. **Three, even four fabrications.**

HTB – **Jeremiah 23:27-28** By telling these fabricated dreams, they try to make my people forget me, just as their ancestors forgot me by worshipping the idols of Baal. Let these false prophets tell their dreams, and let my true messengers deliver my words truthfully. For there is a difference between the wheat and the chaff!

HTB – **Ezekiel 13:10** For these wicked men – and women – deceive my people by saying, “God will [send peace](#),” **when I have no intention of doing so.** My people are building a unstable wall, and these prophets praise them for it and whitewash it!

God's Plan!

The righteous will be killed by **war, pestilence, human wild beasts, and famine**—Revelation 6:7-8. **They will die like Him**—Numbers 23:10. **This is the mass rapture: 25% of the world’s population:** Jesus [returns](#) in the clouds, they... will enter eternal peace.

A bible Inventory on False Prophets

A list of the characteristics of false prophets, relating these to Bible texts.

1. False teaching.
2. Religious pretense.
3. Long prayers and visible prayer.
4. Financial exploitation.
5. Exploitation of vulnerable people (widows).
6. Abuse of power
7. And ... idolizing Jesus!

It starts with: where do you find false prophets? The answer is as simple as it is logical. You find them in those places where people can be deceived, and where... there's money to be made.

They come from the MIDDLE of the community:

- 1 Corinthians 5:2 will be cut off from among you.
- Acts 20:28-30 and from among yourselves men will arise.
- Revelation 3:9 who say they are Jews, when they are not, but lie – Jews: synonym for children of God.
- 2 Peter 2:1 just as there will be false teachers among you.
- 2 Thessalonians 2:4 so that he will sit in the temple of God. Temple = church: every church.

Evangelizing to make a profit, to 'earn' a wage.

- 1 Timothy 6:5 "...people who think that godliness is a means of gain."
- Acts 8:18–20 (Simon the sorcerer) "May your money be with you in ruin..."
- 2 Peter 2:3 "Out of greed they will exploit you with false words."
- Micah 3:11 "Their priests teach for hire, and their prophets divine for money..."
- Titus 1:10–11 "...they subvert whole families by teaching things they ought not to, for shameful gain."
- 2 Corinthians 2:17 "We are not like so many who profit by the word of God..."

RELIGIOUS APPEARANCE: Showing off how "good" you are; hypocrites do that in abundance.

- **1 John 4:5** They are of the world; therefore they speak of the world, and the world listens to them.
- **Matthew 6:2** When you give to the poor, do not ... **be like the hypocrites who pray in the synagogues and in the streets** ... to be seen by men.
- **Matthew 6:5** "When you pray, do not be like the hypocrites who pray ... **in the synagogues** ... to be seen by men.

Matthew 23:14 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you devour widows' houses, and for a pretext make long prayers..."

Mark 12:39-40 They love to have the most prominent places in the synagogue and at the table. But watch out for them! They despoil widows, even their houses. And for a show of virtue they offer long prayers. Therefore their punishment will be more severe.

Luke 20:47 But watch out for them! They despoil widows, even their homes. And for a show of virtue they offer long prayers. Their punishment will be more severe.

A preacher receives a good to excellent salary, but do the listeners? Do they all receive a good salary too? Just think about that tithe. While it's written that the water of life is FREE – Revelation 22:17. Here Jesus connects:

- Religious pretense
- Long prayers
- Financial exploitation
- Vulnerable people (widows)

HTB – **Matthew 7:15-23** Beware of false prophets. They will come to you pretending to be harmless sheep, but in reality they are ravenous wolves. You will know what a man is by his actions, just as a tree is known by its fruit. Do not look for grapes on thornbushes, nor figs on thistles. If you want to know whether a tree is good or bad, look at its fruit. A good tree does not produce bad fruit, nor does a bad tree produce good fruit. All trees that do not produce good fruit are cut down and burned. What I mean is that you can know what a man is by his actions.

Not all who say, "Lord," will enter the kingdom of heaven. For you will enter only if you do what my heavenly Father wants.

On the day of judgment, many will say to Me, "Lord, we prophesied in Your name. Lord, we used Your name to cast out demons and perform miracles." But I will answer them, "I never knew You. Go away! You are evil and have only done what you please."

A financial contribution, hmmm?

As soon as you enter a church, you'll often see an offering box. If you don't see one, they'll probably clear a space for begging during the sermon. [Many churches have special begging bags.](#) Some churches even send you a check for your regular contribution. Could they have overlooked the words "free" or "for nothing"? After all, it's only one or two words.

But it's not just about churches. It goes much further. If you visit a theological website or a website that proclaims the [gospel](#), you'll also find people begging for money. This begging is then given the fancy word: donation.

Note: the picture is not translated, you will understand it this way.

geloofstoerusting.nl/doneren

Doneren

Mijn donatie

Kies een bedrag

5,00 10,00 20,00 50,00 100,00 Anders

50

Kies een Project

Eenmalige donatie Maandslijks

Openbaring 22:17 Neem het levenswater om niets.

Am I missing something?

Isn't God's word FREE?

It doesn't cost anything, does it?

REVELATION 22:17

The Spirit and the bride say, "Come."

And whoever hears this **should also say**, "Come."

Whoever is thirsty, come. And whoever would like to drink, take of the water that gives life, FREE.

False prophets elevate Jesus into an ... idol.

Jesus is idolized by false prophets. An idol can also be described as:

- an object of worship
- a deified figure
- an object of devotion

They rave about Jesus; Jesus is admired immensely. They talk about Jesus all the time.

But... is that what Jesus wants? To be ... idolized?

The striking thing is that they all talk about Jesus, but ... what they tell is always a different story. The number of denominations is countless, and... they all try to sell their own narrative. This is called "[the good news](#)." If we continue comparing, we see the characteristics of the false prophets one by one. Do you remember what the characteristics of the false prophets are? I'll list a few more:

- Money is being made
- All different stories
 - Each story even more beautiful than the last
- Wanting to be in the spotlight
 - Without that spotlight, you won't stand out and you won't be able to tell your story
- Acting very pious, especially showing that you believe
- [Praying](#) long and hard, while it's written: God knows beforehand...

The "fruits" are their followers who imitate their "leaders." They, too, cry out, "Lord, Lord," and evangelize profusely.

They—the false prophets—will say to Me (Jesus), "Lord, we prophesied in your name. Lord, we used your name to cast out demons and perform miracles." But I will answer them, "I never knew you. Get away from me! You workers of iniquity."—Matt. 7:23.

Why then did Jesus come to earth?

For the long story: research everything, research this website – www.hetplanvangod.nl.

The short story: About 33% of the angels were thrown down to earth out of pride to die like men: Because they needed to learn to walk with God in humility – Micah 6:8 – and love their neighbor as themselves.

That is exactly what Jesus demonstrated!