

The Messiah

a study of the Gospel according to Matthew / 7:15-23

Watch out for the _____!

“Watch out for the false prophets. They come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves ... *you will recognize them.*” (15-16a)

How can we recognize the “ferocious wolves” that come to us?

1. We can recognize them by their _____.

a. Their fruit is _____.

“Watch out for the false prophets. They come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. **By their fruit** you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but *a bad tree bears bad fruit.*” (15-18)

* For certain individuals ... have secretly slipped in among you. They are ungodly people ... (Jude 4) These people are grumblers and faultfinders; they follow their own evil desires ... (Jude 16)

b. Their future will be _____.

“Every tree that does not bear good fruit is *cut down and thrown into the fire.* Thus, **by their fruit you will recognize them.**” (19-20)

* The one who is throwing you into confusion, whoever they may be, will have to pay the penalty. (Galatians 5:10b-c)

2. We can recognize them by their _____.

a. Because they did not do the Father’s _____.

“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but *only the one who does the will of My Father* who is heaven. Many will say to Me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name and in Your name drive out demons and in Your name perform many miracles?’ ” (21-22)

* “Why do you call Me, ‘Lord, Lord’ and do not do what I say?” (Luke 6:46)

b. They will forever remember the Son’s _____.

“Then I will tell them plainly,
‘*I never knew you. **Away from Me,** you evildoers!*’ ” (23)

* “There will be weeping ... and gnashing of teeth,” (Luke 13:28a-b)

“Watch out for the wolves” and don’t be fooled
be faithful and be _____.

Sunday, November 5, 2023
10:30 am

Pleasant View Baptist Church
Foley, Alabama

