

the

Faith



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## 2. Fake News

### 1. The Prophecy

“There were also false prophets among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you.” (2 Peter 2:1)

### 2. Different Source—Where does the message come from?

A. “We did not follow cleverly invented stories when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ” (1:16).

B. Beware of what is made up

But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction. <sup>2</sup>And many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of truth will be blasphemed. <sup>3</sup>And in their greed they will exploit you with false words. Their condemnation from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep. 2 Peter 2:1-3

### 3. Different Message—What is the substance of the message?

A. Jesus Christ is central.

<sup>3</sup>His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence (2 Peter 1:3).

B. But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction. (2 Peter 2:1).

4. Different Position—In what position will the message leave you?

A. The true Christian is drawn near to Christ character

<sup>4</sup>by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire. (2 Peter 1:4).

B. They promise them freedom, but they themselves are slaves of corruption. For whatever overcomes a person, to that he is enslaved. (2 Peter 2:19).

5. Different fruit-What kind of fruit does the message produce?

A. The true believer pursues godly fruit (2 Peter 1:5-7).

<sup>5</sup>For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, <sup>6</sup>and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, <sup>7</sup>and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love,

B. The counterfeit Christian is marked by arrogance and slander

<sup>10</sup>and especially those who indulge in the lust of defiling passion and despise authority. Bold and willful, they do not tremble as they blaspheme the glorious ones, (2 Peter 2:10)

<sup>14</sup>They have eyes full of adultery, insatiable for sin. They entice unsteady souls. They have hearts trained in greed. Accursed children! (2 Peter 2:14)

6. Different Appeal—Why should you listen to the message?

A. God has spoken, and the true teacher appeals to his Word.

<sup>19</sup>And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, <sup>20</sup>knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. <sup>21</sup>For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit. (2 Peter 1:19-21)

B. The false teacher makes a rather different appeal:

<sup>18</sup>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. (2 Peter 2:18)

6. Different End—Where does the message ultimately lead you?

A. The true believer will receive “a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ” (2 Peter 1:11).

B. The false believer will experience “swift destruction” (2:1) “Their condemnation has long been hanging over them and their destruction has not been sleeping” (2:3).