



Until Then (Part 3)

2 Peter 3:13-18

“Satan’s greatest ambassadors are not pimps, politicians, or power-brokers, but pastors. His priests do not peddle a different religion, but a deadly perversion of the true one.”

- Tim Challis

Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will recognize them by their fruits (Matthew 7:15-16a).

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II. Make the most of God's patience (vv.15-16a).

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And remember, our Lord's patience gives people time to be saved. (v. 3:15a, NLT)

The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. (2 Peter 3:9)

For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” (Rom.10:13)

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)

But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him?

And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? (Rom.10:14, NLT)

III. Stay on Guard (vv.16b-17).

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There are some things in them that are hard to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do the other Scriptures. (v.16b)

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You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, take care that you are not carried away with the error of lawless people (vv.17a).

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For I would have you know, brothers, that the gospel that was preached by me is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ. (Galatians 1:11-12)

2. “Sound doctrine grounds its authority within the Bible; false doctrine grounds its authority outside the Bible.”

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Christians in Berea received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so (Acts 17:11).

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As I urged you when I was going to Macedonia, remain at Ephesus so that you may charge certain persons not to teach any different doctrine (1 Timothy 1:3).

If anyone teaches a different doctrine and does not agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching that accords with godliness, he is puffed up with conceit and understands nothing.

He has an unhealthy craving for controversy and for quarrels about words, which produce envy, dissension, slander, evil suspicions, and constant friction among people who are depraved in mind and deprived of the truth, imagining that godliness is a means of gain. (1 Timothy 6:3-5)

Sound Christian teaching originates with God (origin), is grounded in the Bible (authority), and agrees with the whole of scripture (consistency).