

THE KING &
HIS *Cross*

The Danger of Corrupting Lies

Matthew 16:1–12

Why are we prone to resist God's truth
and listen to voices that reinforce unbelief?

We must believe the truth about our risen Messiah and
guard our hearts against false teaching.

Matthew 16

1 The Pharisees and Sadducees approached, and tested him, asking him to show them a sign from heaven. 2 He replied, “When evening comes you say, ‘It will be good weather because the sky is red.’ 3 And in the morning, ‘Today will be stormy because the sky is red and threatening.’

Matthew 16

You know how to read the appearance of the sky, but you can't read the signs of the times.

4 An evil and adulterous generation demands a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah.”

Then he left them and went away.

Trust Rather than Test

Can our requests press God for a response?

If God doesn't respond to our satisfaction, does that mean he doesn't care?

How should I make requests to God without testing him?

Trust Rather than Test

*“What more can He say than to you He hath said,
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?”*

Matthew 16

5 The disciples reached the other shore, and they had forgotten to take bread.

6 Then Jesus told them, “Watch out and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees.”

7 They were discussing among themselves, “We didn’t bring any bread.”

Matthew 16

8 Aware of this, Jesus said, “You of little faith, why are you discussing among yourselves that you do not have bread? 9 Don’t you understand yet? Don’t you remember the five loaves for the five thousand and how many baskets you collected? 10 Or the seven loaves for the four thousand and how many large baskets you collected?

Matthew 16

11 Why is it you don't understand that when I told you, 'Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees,' it wasn't about bread?"

12 Then they understood that he had not told them to beware of the leaven in bread, but of the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees.

Guard against false teaching

Be on your guard against false prophets who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravaging wolves.

You'll recognize them by their fruit.

Matthew 7:15–16

Guard against false teaching

For some people, who were designated for this judgment long ago, have come in by stealth; they are ungodly, turning the grace of our God into sensuality and denying Jesus Christ, our only Master and Lord.

Jude 4

How to Identify False Teachers

- 1) They appear spiritually impressive while remaining blind to truth
- 2) They stretch Scripture to support their message rather than letting Scripture shape and determine their message.
- 3) They tell people what they want to hear, placing felt needs above divine revelation.
- 4) They draw attention to themselves and resist correction.
- 5) They blur essential doctrines and soften God's commands.

How to Identify Teacher's of Truth

- 1) They open Scripture carefully and submit themselves to its authority.
- 2) They make much of Christ and little of themselves.
- 3) They preach the whole counsel of God, including truths that confront us.
- 4) Their lives give credibility to their words through humility and holiness.
- 5) Their teaching bears the good fruit of the gospel in others