



Snapshots of a Disciple
A study on teachers - Lesson 14

[www.incpu.org/False_Teachers/lessons-on-teachers\(ls14\).pdf](http://www.incpu.org/False_Teachers/lessons-on-teachers(ls14).pdf)

Hello brothers, sisters, and friends,

Intro: This is continuing in our study of comparing and contrasting true Bible teachers versus deceptive false teachers. Thanks for joining us! ~ Let's dig in!

Next section in the notes of that study

Bible Teacher's side reads:

14 His Master is Jesus, he's a willing servant (bondslave) of Christ

"For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ." (Galatians 1:10)

"The elders who are among you I [*Peter, the apostle*] exhort, I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that will be revealed: shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock; and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away." (1st Peter 5:2-4)

>>> in contrast/comparison to -

False Teacher's side reads:

14 His master is his wants, he is serving self - keeping his sin-nature comfortable

“... whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly [*worldly ambitions*], and whose glory is in their shame--who set their mind on earthly things.”
(Philippians 3:19)

“... [*false teachers are*] destitute of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain. From such withdraw yourself [*get away from false teachers*].”
(1st Timothy 6:5)

“Then he [*the wicked and lazy servant*] who had received the one talent came and said, 'Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.' But his Lord answered and said to him, 'You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. Therefore take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents... And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'” (Matthew 25:24-28,30)

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My additional notes:

Faithfulness. That's a key word that we all need to learn if we want to hear "**Well done good and faithful servant.**" (Luke 19:17) - from Christ Himself. If we are faithful, we will get a warm welcome - and that's a prize to be sought after!

So, what does faithfulness look like for pastors in today's modern culture. Well, according to the world and the paganism that's creeping into Christianity, a pastor should:

- > use up most of his time making people feel better (satanic and deceptive psychology on sundays, counseling, trite prayers for the sick...)
- > read lots of books, quote lots of people - rarely quote the Bible
- > chase away or somehow silence or ignore anyone who graciously holds you accountable to the Word of God - in life or message
- > busy with so many activities that he becomes distracted from his primary work - studying and teaching the Word, and prayer

*** Yet that is far from the pattern that God set up. Should pastors pray for the sick? Of course! But the *why* of praying for the sick is as important as just doing that action. The book of James teaches this: "**Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.**" (James

5:14-16) - Notice that repentance and healing are clearly linked here - and this principle was taught quite clearly by Jesus too - with very few exceptions.

And, if a pastor wishes to please Christ alone, he should know 1 book inside and out - or be aiming that direction. That Book is the Bible. And the only way he will get to know this Book, is by constant and consistent reading and studying and meditating on the Word of God. He must beware to not study men's work about God's Word, but to only spend quality time in the Bible (to the best of his ability) and letting God be his Teacher.

So, what should a Bible-following focus on? Simple:

"Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, 'It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the Word.'" (Acts 6:1-4)

So, whether a pastor's title and focus is on prayer, counseling, leading music, or teaching the whole counsel of the Word of God - his **primary** focus must be to teach the Word with all boldness, letting God's grow him and convict and challenge and purify the hearts of his hearers. He must attend to the spiritual needs of his flock **first** - not the emotional wants and wishes, not the tickling of ears and telling rebels they're doing all right when they're not. No - but graciously and boldly compelling men, women and children to grow in purity - turning away from more sin and evil, and more toward the pure, beautiful, refining Word of God.

In conclusion - one final verse that all Bible-teachers must keep themselves fresh in: **"Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching."** (2nd Timothy 4:2)

Till next time, let's keep growing in following and pleasing Jesus!
~ your friend/brother, a growing servant/life-slave of Jesus, SH

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About this study:

The above new lesson is one of a series that I plan to try to post once a week from. It's based on a new Bible study that my family did in 2012, where we sought to collect and compile verses that show the surface-level similarities between a Bible teacher and a false teacher, yet pointing out the bad fruit that shows up the motives, the message, and the conduct of these individuals. (To find this online - see below)

As you study this along (or read the study for yourself too), you'll notice that we do not name any Bible or false teachers by name, individually. We did that intentionally, to allow God's Word to sharpen all of our spiritual eye-sights to be able to see not just a false teacher better, but also false teaching (even when coming from a growing Bible teacher). In this study, we are not promoting ourselves better than anyone, for we too need to keep growing in hunger and thirst for God's Word and obeying what we read too. Our main point of this study is to encourage those who are studying and teaching the Bible as accurately as they can, while helping to expose false teachers by using God's Word to expose their false teaching. Of course, along the way, we encourage feedback - approving or disapproving, or even noting a gap or typo - all feedback is welcome.

To find the whole study online:

There are 2 ways you can keep up with this study if you wish to - you can email me (see below) to be added to that e-list, or you can find them at my family's Bible study page on Facebook: 'Snapshot of a Disciple' -

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Snapshots-of-a-Disciple/140793325968043>

For those who have not seen the full study yet, here's a link:

[http://www.incpu.org/True-or-false\(booklet\)1.pdf](http://www.incpu.org/True-or-false(booklet)1.pdf)

And, you can find it on Lulu as an e-book (for free) - I hope to update the version soon so it can work for kindle and nook, but here's a link to the first edition:

<http://www.lulu.com/shop/s-henry/a-study-of-bible-teachers-and-false-teachers/ebook/product-20369877.html>

(If that doesn't pull up for you, please email me and I'll be glad to send you a copy of the PDF as an attachment. - Steven.h3@gmail.com)

*** If you missed one of the previous lessons as we work through the study, you should be able to find it here: <http://www.incpu.org/true-false.html>