

Discernment 3 – Discerning the Man

Outline

Introduction

All books, sermons, videos and heresies come from people.
Therefore know the source

Know the fruit of his life

Exposition of Mat 7:15-23

Who is he?

Who does he relate to? Evil company corrupts
good manners 1Cor 15:33.
What are his influences?
Where did he train?
Where does he fellowship?
Who does he submit to?
Who does he quote?
Has he repented of previous negative influences?
Has he over-reacted to previous negative influences?

What qualifies him to be a teacher?

How long has he been a true believer?
How old is he?
Does he have a track record of serving churches or
is he para-church?
To whom does he submit?
Does he exhibit competence in handling
the Scriptures 2Tim 2:15
Does he preach the word, or stories, fables and
human ideas?
Does he speak the truth or tickle ears? 2Tim 4:2

Conclusion

If you don't know the man, do not receive
from him

Study Questions - Discerning the Man

Know the Fruit of His Life

Read Matthew 7:15-23

What does this say about how to tell who is a false prophet?

If someone says Jesus is Lord does that qualify them as a Bible teacher?

What does Jesus have in mind when He says to examine the fruit?

Read Galatians 5:22-23

How does this relate to the question of examining the fruit of person.

Who Is He?

The teaching in this video related many questions to ask in order to determine a man's character. These are a helpful guide in and of themselves. One of the most important is found in 1 Corinthians 15:33. How does this truth help frame our discovery of the fruit of a teacher.

A second, very important question is "where does he fellowship?"

Why is this important according to Scripture. What examples or verses help us understand the importance of fellowshiping with a godly group of believers.

Thirdly, why does a pastor or teacher need to be accountable?

Lastly, what does it mean to repent of "previous negative influences?"

What does it mean to have "guilt by association"?

Have you ever known someone who has "over corrected" after a negative experience?

What Qualifies Him to Be a Teacher?

Can you think of reasons to desire a qualified teacher of the Bible to have experience and longevity and a track record?

What is the reason to require experience of someone serving in the life of a local church?

Read 2 Timothy 2:15

Ask yourself this question, "does my pastor exhibit actual competence in his handling of the Word of God." A second follow-up is, "does he actually preach the Word or a bunch of stories or fables or human ideas?"

Read 2 Timothy 4:2

A real teacher of truth is someone whose life goal and daily life is fastened around the central idea of preaching the Word. Day in and day out whether it is popular or not a preacher of the truth preaches the Word in line with sound doctrine.

Conclusion

If you don't know the man, do not receive from him.

How would the Lord lead you into truth as a result of listening to this message today?

Specifically, is there someone you listen to that you should stop *receiving* from?