

## Don't Buy the Fake News about True Faith

There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death.

Proverbs 14:12 (NIV)

For a time is coming when people will no longer listen to sound and wholesome teaching. They will follow their own desires and will look for teachers who will tell them whatever their itching ears want to hear. They will reject the truth and chase after myths. But you should keep a clear mind in every situation. Don't be afraid of suffering for the Lord. Work at telling others the Good News, and fully carry out the ministry God has given you. 2 Timothy 4:3-5 (NLT)

### How to tell when news about God is fake (Jude 1:5-16)

#### 1. It leads me to rebel against God's leadership.

So I want to remind you, though you already know these things, that Jesus first rescued the nation of Israel from Egypt, but later He destroyed those who did not remain faithful. Jude 1:5 (NLT) (Reference: Numbers 13-14)

#### 2. It leads me to ignore God as the ultimate authority.

And I remind you of the angels who did not stay within the limits of authority God gave them but left the place where they belonged. God has

kept them securely chained in prisons of darkness, waiting for the great day of judgment. **Jude 1:6 (NLT)** (Reference: Genesis 6:1-5, Isaiah 14:12 -14, Ezekiel 28:12-18, and 2 Peter 2:4&9)

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NIV)

#### 3. It leads me to reject God's design for life.

And don't forget Sodom and Gomorrah and their neighboring towns, which were filled with immorality and every kind of sexual perversion. Those cities were destroyed by fire and serve as a warning of the eternal fire of God's judgment. Jude 1: 7 (NLT) (Reference Genesis 19:1-28)

# 4. It leads me to believe there is no <u>consequence</u> to Sin. (*Sin = to miss the mark*)

For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life. God sent His Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through Him. "There is no judgment against anyone who believes in Him. But anyone who does not believe in Him has already been judged for not believing in God's one and only Son. And the judgment is based on this fact: God's light came into the world, but people loved the darkness more than the light, for their actions were evil. All who do evil hate the light and refuse to go near it for fear their sins will be exposed. John 3:16-20 (NLT)

Going deeper on your own. Read Jude 1 in its entirety. Re-read verses 5 -16. As you do, write down how people had fallen away from God in the past - Israel, the Angels, Sodom and Gomorrah, Cain, Balaam, and Korah (look up their stories if you need to; for help, go to www.gotquestions.org). Then write out what lie they believed that caused them to fall away from God and His truth. What was the cost of their falling away? Has there ever been a time when you have fallen away from God and His truth? Why? What was the fake news that you believed that lead you to that point? Read 1 John 1:9 and practice this verse. Now, read Joshua 24:15 and make this your commitment today.