

Luke
See Jesus
Lies Can Cost You Everything
Luke 20:45-21:4

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Peter LaRuffa / November 5, 2023

Luke 20:45-21:4 “And in the hearing of all the people He said to His disciples, ⁴⁶ ‘Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and love greetings in the marketplaces and the best seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at feasts, ⁴⁷ who devour widows’ houses and for a pretense make long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.’”

21 Jesus looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the offering box, ² and He saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins. ³ And He said, ‘Truly, I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them. ⁴ For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on.’”

Reader: This is the Word of The Lord.

Response: ***Thanks Be To God!***

I. You need to see false teaching as more than just “different,” or “disturbing.” It’s deadly!

Luke 20:45-46a “And in the hearing of all the people He said to His disciples, ⁴⁶ ‘**Beware of the scribes...**’”

A. The Bible contains vivid and powerful language when speaking of false teachers.

Jeremiah 5:31 “The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests rule at their direction; My people love to have it so, but what will you do when the end comes?”

Jeremiah 14:14 “And the Lord said to me: ‘The prophets are prophesying lies in My name. I did not send them, nor did I command them or speak to them. They are prophesying to you a lying vision, worthless divination, and the deceit of their own minds.’”

5 Characteristics of False Teachers

1. False teachers go “the extra mile” in order to appear pious.

Luke 20:46a “Beware of the scribes, **who like to walk around in long robes...**”

2. False teachers love to be recognized and greeted with formality.

Luke 20:46b “Beware of the scribes, **who...love greetings in the marketplaces...**”

3. False teachers love to be seen among people of status.

Luke 20:46c “Beware of the scribes, **who...love...the best seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at feasts...**”

4. False teachers tend to prey on the most vulnerable members of society.

Luke 20:46a,47a “Beware of the scribes...⁴⁷ who devour widows’ houses...”

5. False teachers distract people from God and call attention to themselves.

Luke 20:46a,47 “Beware of the scribes...⁴⁷ who...for a pretense make long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.”

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II. You need to know that refusing Christ’s compassion and rejecting Christ’s invitation brings Christ’s condemnation.

Jeremiah 6:14 “They have healed the wound of My people lightly, saying, ‘Peace, peace,’ when there is no peace.”

Isaiah 48:22 “‘There is no peace,’ says the Lord, ‘for the wicked.’”

Ezekiel 7:25 “When anguish comes, they shall seek peace, but there shall be none.”

Questions for Personal Reflection and/or Community Group Discussion:

1. When have you encountered false teaching and seen its deadly potential?
2. Why is it important to be grateful that one of the foundational “Big Rocks” for our church is the fact we’re “Bible-based?”
3. Pastor Peter gave “5 Characteristics of False Teachers.” Which of those characteristics have you seen in modern-day false teachers?
4. Take a moment to thank God for protecting your heart and mind from false teaching, and ask Him to continue to do so.
5. Think of someone you know and care for who is currently believing a false teaching. Take a moment to pray God will grant them repentance and show them His saving truth.