

False

False Prophet

How To Tell a False Prophet When You Hear One

Jeremiah 23:16-32

Jeremiah 23:16a

This is what the Lord Almighty says:

“Do not listen to what the **prophets**
are **prophesying** to you;

1. When they speak from their **own mind** and not God's.

Jeremiah 23:16

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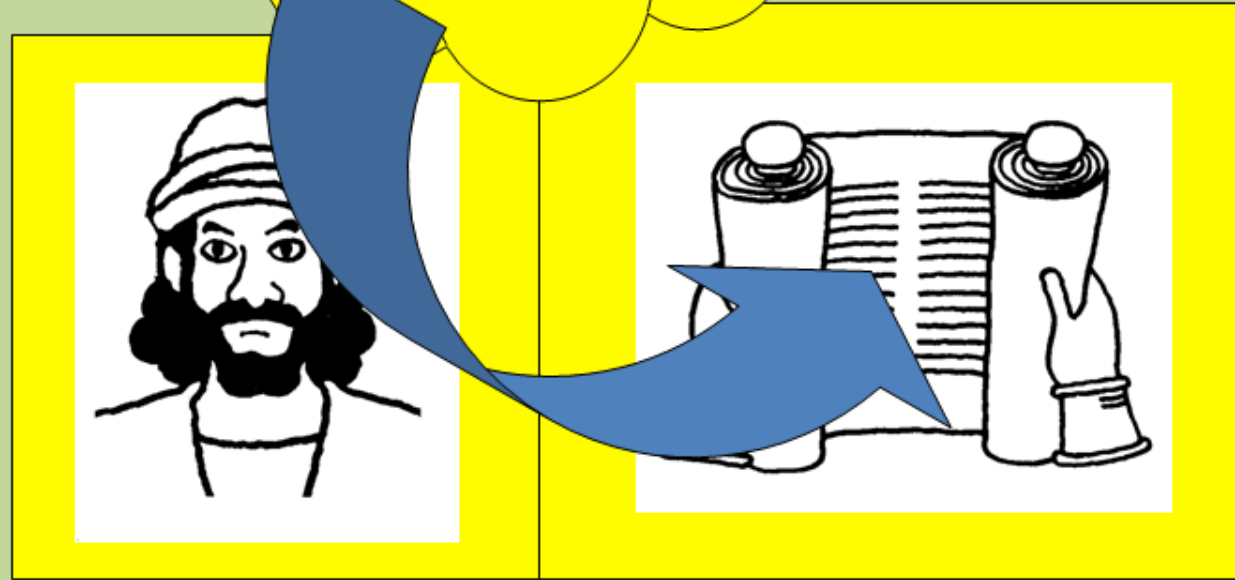
This is what the Lord Almighty says:
“**Do not listen** to what the **prophets**
are **prophesying** to you; they fill you
with **false hopes**. They speak **visions**
from their **own minds, not** from the
mouth of the Lord.

Colossians 2:8

See to it that no one takes you captive through **hollow** and **deceptive** philosophy, which depends on **human tradition** and the elemental spiritual forces of this **world** rather than on Christ.



**God
Breathed**



Inspiration

2. When they say “there are
no consequences for sin.”

Jeremiah 23:17-24

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They keep saying to those who despise me, 'The Lord says: You will have peace.' And to all who follow the stubbornness of their hearts they say, 'No harm will come to you.'

Jeremiah 23:18-24

But which of **them** has stood in the council of the LORD to see or to hear **his word?** Who has listened and heard **his word?**

Jeremiah 23:19-24

**See, the storm of the LORD will burst
out in wrath, a whirlwind swirling
down on the heads of the wicked.**

Jeremiah 23:20-24

The **anger** of the LORD will not turn back until he fully accomplishes the purposes of his heart. In days to come you will understand it clearly.

Jeremiah 23:21-24

I did **not** send these prophets,
yet they have run with **their message;**

I did **not** speak to them,
yet they have prophesied.

Jeremiah 23:22-24

But if they had stood in my council,
they would have proclaimed **my words**
to my people and would have **turned**
them from **their evil ways** and from
their evil deeds.

Jeremiah 23:23-24

“Am I only a God nearby,” declares the LORD, “and not a God far away?”

²⁴ Who can hide in secret places so that **I cannot see them?**” declares the LORD. “Do not I fill heaven and earth?” declares the LORD.

3. When they try to make a
name for themselves.

Jeremiah 23:25-27

Jeremiah 23:25-27

“I have heard what the prophets say
who prophesy **lies** in my name. They
say, ‘I had a dream! I had a dream!’

Jeremiah 23:26-27

How long will this continue in the hearts of these **lying prophets**, who prophesy the **delusions** of their **own minds?**

Jeremiah 23:27

²⁷ They think the dreams they tell one another will make my people forget my **name**, just as their ancestors forgot my **name** through Baal worship.

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1. When they speak from their **own mind** and not God's.
2. When they say "there are **no consequences** for sin."

How To Tell a False Prophet When You Hear One

2. When they say “there are **no consequences** for sin.”
3. When they try to make a **name for themselves** instead of Jesus.

4. When they stop telling
God's Word just like **it says!**

Jeremiah 23:28-29

Jeremiah 23:28-29

Let the prophet who has a dream tell his dream, but let the one who has my **word speak it faithfully.** For what has straw to do with grain?” declares the Lord.

Jeremiah 23:29

“Is not my word like fire,” declares the Lord, “and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?”

**Inspiration from
God.**



From the author's cultural perspective, communicating God's Word to the culture of the original audience.

**Truths that transcend
time and
space**

Trying to understand from our own contemporary cultural perspectives.



**Any contemporary
interpretation of scripture
must correspond to the
meaning intended by the
author and understood
by the ancient reader.**

5. When they **steal** one
another's **sermons**.

Jeremiah 23:30-31

Jeremiah 23:30-31

“Therefore,” declares the Lord, “I **am against** the prophets who **steal** from one another **words** supposedly from me. ³¹ Yes,” declares the Lord, “I am against the prophets who **wag their own tongues** and yet declare, ‘The Lord declares.’”

John 12:49-50

For I did not speak on my own accord,
but the Father who sent me
commanded me **what** to say and **how**
to say it. ⁵⁰ I know that his command
leads to eternal life. So whatever I say
is **just what** the Father has **told me**
to say.”

6. When their words **lead**
people **astray**.

Jeremiah 23:32

Jeremiah 23:32

Indeed, I am against those who prophesy false dreams,” declares the Lord. “They tell them and lead my people **astray** with their reckless lies, yet I did not send or appoint them. They do not **benefit** these people in the least,” **declares the Lord.**

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How To Tell a False Prophet When You Hear One

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6. When their words lead people **astray**.

How To Tell a False Prophet When You Hear One

**Better Stick with God's Word
or I'm not Listening!**