

Money Myths and Principles:

Preachers Who Prey

*“Do not touch my anointed ones;
do my prophets no harm.”
1 Chronicles 16:22 (NIV)*

*You see, we are not like the many hucksters who preach for personal profit. We preach the word of God with sincerity and with Christ’s authority, knowing that God is watching us.
2 Corinthians 2:17 (NLT)*

*But there were also false prophets in Israel, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will cleverly teach destructive heresies and even deny the Master who bought them. In this way, they will bring sudden destruction on themselves. ² Many will follow their evil teaching and shameful immorality. And because of these teachers, the way of truth will be slandered. ³ In their greed they will make up clever lies to get hold of your money.
2 Peter 2:1-3 (NLT)*

*“Beware of false prophets who come disguised as harmless sheep but are really vicious wolves.
Matthew 5:16 (NLT)*

*“From the least to the greatest,
their lives are ruled by greed.
From prophets to priests,
they are all frauds.*

*¹⁴ They offer superficial treatments
for my people’s mortal wound.
They give assurances of peace
when there is no peace.*

*¹⁵ Are they ashamed of their disgusting actions?
Not at all—they don’t even know how to blush!
Therefore, they will lie among the slaughtered.
They will be brought down when I punish them,”
says the Lord.
Jeremiah 6:13-15 (NLT)*

*You rulers make decisions based on bribes;
you priests teach God’s laws only for a price;
you prophets won’t prophesy unless you are paid.
Yet all of you claim to depend on the Lord.
“No harm can come to us,” you say,
“for the Lord is here among us.”
Micah 3:11 (NLT)*

These people are false apostles. They are deceitful workers who disguise themselves as apostles of Christ. ¹⁴ But I am not surprised! Even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. ¹⁵ So it is no wonder that his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness. In the end they will get the punishment their wicked deeds deserve.

2 Corinthians 11:13-15 (NLT)

Don't let anyone capture you with empty philosophies and high-sounding nonsense that come from human thinking and from the spiritual powers of this world, rather than from Christ.

Colossians 2:8 (NLT)

So be on guard; then you will not be carried away by the errors of these wicked people and lose your own secure footing. ¹⁸ Rather, you must grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

2 Peter 3:17 (NLT)

Dear friends, do not believe everyone who claims to speak by the Spirit. You must test them to see if the spirit they have comes from God. For there are many false prophets in the world.

1 John 4:1 (NLT)

WHY IS THE PROSPERITY GOSPEL FALSE AND DANGEROUS?

! IT _____ THE SCRIPTURES.

! IT MAKES YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO GOD _____.

Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.

⁵ *You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had.*

⁶ *Though he was God,*

he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to.

⁷ *Instead, he gave up his divine privileges he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being.*

When he appeared in human form,

⁸ *he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross.*

⁹ *Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honor and gave him the name above all other names,*

¹⁰ *that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,*

¹¹ *and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

Philippians 2:3-11 (NLT)

Then the Lord answered Job from the whirlwind:

² *"Who is this that questions my wisdom with such ignorant words?"*

³ *Brace yourself like a man, because I have some questions for you, and you must answer them.*

⁴ *"Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell me, if you know so much.*

Job 38:1-4 (NLT)

! IT CONNECTS _____ WITH GOD'S _____.

*He mocks proud mockers
but shows favor to the humble and oppressed.
Proverbs 3:34 (NIV)*

*Then he said, "Beware! Guard against every kind of greed. Life is not measured by how much
you own."
Luke 12:15 (NLT)*

*You say, 'I am rich. I have everything I want. I don't need a thing!' And you don't realize that you
are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked
Revelation 3:17 (NLT)*

! IT LACKS A THEOLOGY OF _____.

*For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for
him,
Philippians 1:29 (NIV)*

*Yes, and everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.
2 Timothy 3:12 (NLT)*

*Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Matthew 5:10 (NIV)*

! THE ONLY PEOPLE IT MAKES _____ ARE THE _____.

HOW WE CAN AVOID THESE "MINISTRIES":

! _____ BEFORE YOU GIVE.

Ministrywatch.org; ecfa.org are good places to start.

! WATCH OUT FOR _____ TACTICS.

! LOOK FOR _____.