

Identifying Some Signs of the Last Days

by William Crews

William Crews discusses the signs of the last days, focusing on the rise of false prophets and the importance of discernment in faith.

Duration: 1:07:28

Scripture: Matthew 23:13-24, 2 Timothy 4:3-4, 2 Peter 2:1-2, Revelation 18:23-24, Revelation 21:8

Topics: "False Prophets", "End Times"

Description

This sermon delves into the dangers of false prophets and teachers, emphasizing their deceptive tactics, the rise of false doctrines, and the impact on individuals and society. It warns against being led astray by false teachings and highlights the need to discern the truth from deception, especially in the last days.

Transcript

...all around the world, and you are participating in the morning worship service of the Unity Baptist Church in Spartanburg, South Carolina. Thank you for joining us today as we continue our studies on Bible prophecy. So tell your friends and your relatives, your neighbors about the availability of this worship service, and if they can't tune in at the same time, it's 11 o'clock here, Eastern time in the United States.

I don't know what it is in China and Japan and the Middle East. I can't keep up with all those time changes. Anyway, we're glad to have you a part of our audience.

In case you'd like to contact us, you can call us at 864-285-4656. That's 864-285-4656. In case you'd like to write us, it's Post Office Box 2184, Spartanburg, South Carolina, 29304.

That's Box 2184, Spartanburg, South Carolina, 29304. Of course, you can contact us, as you know, through Sermon Audio, and we do get contacts through Sermon Audio, and we're always delighted and thrilled to hear from you folks. We like the number of persons who are a part of this service overseas, China, the Soviet Union, not Soviet Union, it's Russia now, and various other countries where maybe the gospel in some countries can't be openly preached, like Israel.

You can't really preach the gospel in Israel, and you can't evangelize either in Israel. That is, Christians can't, and yet we ally and we support Israel, and I'm all for that, because the Bible teaches it. Welcome to all of you out there and here as well.

Our opening hymn is hymn number 491. Sing my life and let it be, Concentrated, Lord, to Thee. Make my hope and let it be, At the end of my life, At the end of my life.

Take my proof and make me blind, It shall be no longer blind. Take my pardon and my love, It shall be thy royal throne. It shall be thy royal throne.

It shall be thy royal throne. Till I find the day of duty. In the cross.

O come, to Bethlehem. This day all glory and praise shall rest upon Him, So willing to die in my place. I will glory in the cross, In the cross.

This is the reign for me and they. I will heed no more for the cross that He wore. I will glory in the cross.

O come, O come, O come, O come, to Bethlehem. O come, O come, O come, O come, to Bethlehem. I will glory in the cross, In the cross.

This is the reign for me and they. I will heed no more for the cross that He wore. I will glory in the cross.

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross, Till I draw it at last my way down. I will cling to your rugged cross, And exchange it someday for a crown. I will heed no more for the cross that He wore.

I will glory in the cross. O come, O come, O come, O come, to Bethlehem. I will glory in the cross.

And let us pray. Father in Heaven, bless today as we give your tithes and our offerings. And I pray that you will multiply them and sanctify them to the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the reaching of lost sinners, those who are gone elect from the foundation of the world.

And I thank you that you have an elect people. And I do believe that they will be reached by the spirit of the living God in connection with the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, with the exception of infants and idiots and imbeciles. And I pray, Father, use these receipts to the glory of Christ, in whose name I pray, in whose name I pray.

At this time we're going to sing an old, old favorite. That is so theologically sound that it just brings hair to stand on top of my very body. A song that touches the soul called Amazing Grace.

How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me. Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me. I once was lost, but now I'm found.

Was blind, but now I see. God's grace endures my heart to fear. And grace my fears free.

I once was lost, but now I'm found. God's grace endures my heart to fear. If we'd been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to see God's face than when we first begun.

Amazing grace! Thank you very much. And the Holy Spirit will put amazing back into grace. And today's grace is cheap grace, and it is not amazing grace.

As John Newton, the hymn writer, said, it is amazing grace. We're talking about the Bible speaks to the last days, and we're identifying some signs of the last days. And we've dealt with numerous signs of the last days, and we have been in the process of dealing with the sign of the great rise of false prophets.

We've noticed their number, that they are many. And we've noticed their influence and their damage. And we've noticed their marks.

We've spent several weeks on the marks of false prophets. Today we bring you message number 15 in this continuing series, and it won't be long until we'll be on Russia and Iran, and we'll be on China, and we'll be on when will Christ come again. That's the question.

And I'm going to deal with when will Christ come again. And what I have to say will challenge many people on what they've always heard. I'm not interested in hand-me-down doctrine or theology.

I'm interested in what the Bible says. And what the Bible says is true. Do I hear an amen? If it has to correct our ideas or our notions or our hand-me-downs, that's okay, that's well and good.

We've talked about their marks. And I believe today is number 15, if I remember correctly, Adam. Number 15.

And I want to notice that the false prophets are connected with the religion of deception. False prophets are connected with the religion of deception. And I want us to read Matthew 24, so please open your Bibles to Matthew 24, and I go hurriedly because I want to finish this area today so we can get into other areas next week.

And it won't be long until we'll be getting into Where is the church during the days of tribulation? I ask that question now in preparation. And you need to be here for that one. Where is the church during the days of tribulation? We've always heard that it's at the marriage supper of the Lamb.

Let's see what the Bible says where the church is. During the days of tribulation. And I'll be talking about the tribulation, and I'll be talking about the seven years and the three and a half years, but we're going to use a thus saith the Word of God, and I want you to be here and I want you to follow me.

And I want you here to have your friends come and join us because it will be an eye-opener. And I want also those of you out there beyond the boundary of this local congregation here in Spartanburg, South Carolina to invite your friends to join you as well. I'm going to challenge some of the ideas that have been handed down since 1830.

You need to remember that date, 1830. And I'll talk about that later. We've talked about the marks of false prophets.

They fail accurately 100% successfully predicting the future if they fail one time, their false prophets. Now, folks, can I tell you that many false prophets shall arise and deceive many? That's what the Bible says. And I've talked to you also about the marks of false prophets.

Now, today I want to talk to you about how they're connected with religion and with religious deception. Matthew 24. Notice verse 4 in Matthew 24.

Six times, false teachers and false prophets are mentioned in Matthew 24. We read in verse 4, And as Jesus answered and said unto them, Peter, James, John, and James, Take heed that no man deceive you. That's deception.

And in verse 16, no, that's not right. Matthew 24 and verse, I guess it's verse 24, There shall arise false prophets and false Christ and false prophets and will show great, note this, great signs and wonders

insomuch that if it were possible they should deceive the very elect. Who are the elect? Well, the Jews have been the elect, but they're not the elect now.

The Gentiles are the elect. Those that are chosen out of every nation, kindred, tribe, and tongue are the elect. We say, well, we don't believe in election.

Yes, we do. Read your Baptist faith and message. Read the Philadelphia Confession of Faith.

Read the New Hampshire Confession of Faith. Read the London Confession of Faith of 1689. Or ADA.

Read the London Confession of 1629. And you'll follow who the elect are, but most of all, read the Bible. Ephesians 1, according as he has chosen us in him.

When? Before the foundation of the world. Somebody said God had a vote, the devil had a vote, and you had a vote. You didn't have a vote, because before the foundation of the world you were too young to vote.

You hadn't been born. Okay, well, you're hearing new things? That's okay. Six times I've told you in chapter 24 we have numerous false teachers and false prophets mentioned.

Verse 4, verse 5, verse 11, verse 23, verse 24, and verse 26. Now, these false prophets, false teachers, false apostles, false prophetesses, they're wrong. They predict and prophesy and people believe it.

God have mercy on people who just are gullible and vulnerable to false prophets and false prophetesses. I know they're prophetesses. The Bible speaks of prophetesses.

But it also speaks of false prophets and false prophetesses. Don't let anybody come and tell you God told them you didn't need to do this or you didn't need to do that. Baloney! Falder off! That's not a bad word.

I haven't cursed in the pulpit. I've cussed in the pulpit. But that's a bunch of junk.

God hadn't told them anything about you that you don't need to know until you. Amen? Do I hear amen? They've got a hotline or a holy line or some kind of line to heaven? Uh-uh. I don't believe a word of that.

There are a lot of self-made prophets, preachers, priests and apostles and elders and deacons. I heard not long ago and I've heard through the years of deacons firing preachers. That's a bunch of junk! Who in the world ever called deacons to fire preachers? They didn't call them, they came fire them.

I've told preacher, I've told church, here's the church, you can't fire me. You didn't hire me. I'm not here to preach for money.

I'm here to preach the Bible to the glory of God. I've had deacons call meetings without me and somebody said, why in the world don't we invite the pastor in? He said he'd take the Bible and disprove all of us. That's all the more reason why I need to have been called.

I'm not going to back up on this Bible, so help me God! If the stars fall from heaven, if the moon ceases to shine or light, if the sun becomes dark, becomes dark at midday, I'm not going to compromise the Word of God for anybody! For anybody here or anybody out there! I've never been known to compromise. And I'm not young enough to start now. Notice the way I said that.

I'm really too old to start now. But I didn't want to say that. You say, well, you're an old fuddy-duddy.

You're an old preacher. Well, bless God, we need some old preachers. When the old preachers pass off, I don't know what's going to happen to this church and this generation.

Preachers that will preach the Bible, hellfire, damnation, judgments to come! It's not I'm okay, you're okay! Preachers that will preach the Word of God! I better hurry up or I'll never finish. Signs and wonders are produced by these false prophets and false teachers. When I talk about false prophets, I mean false teachers also and false apostles, and I mean those who represent God.

I can't even talk about the Pharisees! Because they were false teachers! Verse 24, Matthew 24, For there shall arise false Christs and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders. Good night, Lord! And inasmuch as if it were possible to deceive the very elect. I'll tell you what, if it were possible to deceive the elect of God.

But I'll tell you what, it isn't possible. But I'll tell you to come close to it. You listen to the babbling voices of today.

I don't mean to condemn anybody. I don't mean to talk about anybody in particular. I've mentioned no name.

But I'm talking about there are false preachers and false priests and false apostles and false teachers and false elders and false deacons. Whoever called a deacon to call a preacher to preach in his church. Whoever called a deacon to fire a preacher find it in the Bible.

We've left the Bible a long time ago. That's why we're in the mess we're in in the modern day Christian church. You can go to a church that runs 3,000 or 2,000 or 4,000 in church or in Sunday school.

That doesn't mean a thing! Numbers don't prove the validity of the work of God. In that church, I had a church one time I preached it down to about 30 people. And I said to them, would you also go away? I'm like John Wesley.

I'd rather have 10 men that fear God, that seek souls, that are afraid of sin and God than I'd rather have thousands just nominal church members. Now, you can go to whatever church you want to and you can feel good if you want to feel good. But I tell you what, we need to feel bad before we feel good.

We're living in the last days and the last days are perilous times, are dangerous times. Men shall be lovers of their own selves and they will be imbibing doctrines of demons. That's what the Bible says.

Preacher, you're pretty tough. Well, so be it. Somebody's got to be tough.

But I said, again, I'm not going to compromise. Signs and wonders. Boy, what are you talking about? They can call fire down from heaven.

They can heal, they can extend legs in a healing service. They can heal people and cause their blindness to disappear and they can be able to see and they give all kinds of testimony. Signs and wonders shall these false prophets do! Signs and wonders are produced by them.

All kinds of signs that will convince people they're of God when Satan is the one that's behind the signs and the wonders. Also, these signs and wonders are very convincing. Verse 23 of Matthew 24.

Note this. We read in verse 24, there shall arise false prophets, false Christs and false prophets and shall show great signs and wonders insomuch that if it were possible they should deceive the very like. They're very convincing.

They will stamp upon your soul by the God of this world that they are men of God, women of God, servants of God. They'll be very convincing. I've seen people that are very convincing.

I've heard testimonies of blind people that couldn't see, that were able to see. I'm not denying the power of God and the healing power of God. That's true.

But don't do it to give honor and glory to man. Do I hear an amen? They're very convincing. That's why we have to be very careful.

We can turn the radio on, the television on. We can listen to some people behind the pulpit and they're very convincing. But some of them are not of God.

Also, destructive and abominable heresies are connected with them. Turn with me to 2 Peter 2. I'm going hurriedly because my time is absolutely rushing away. I want to get out of this area.

2 Peter 2. I want you to note with me verses 1 and 2 in 2 Peter 2. Destructive and abominable and evil heresies are connected with these false prophets and teachers. Chapter 2, verses 1 and 2. And there were false prophets also among the people. Even there shall be false teachers.

Notice, see? False prophets, false teachers. Where there's one, there's the other among you who privately or privately privately or secretly shall bring in well, the Greek really says destructive or abominable heresies as King James translates it. Even denying the Lord that bought them and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

Destructive and abominable heresies. I could camp out here for the rest of my time. Destructive and abominable heresies.

I could name a lot of them. Even denying the Lord that bought them. And I think I mentioned this before and I'll mention this again.

This is not the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. This is, Lord is translated despotos. Not kulios.

Even denying the Lord, really the Greek word here is despotane, that bought them and bring upon themselves swift destruction. It's a quotation from Deuteronomy 32, verses 5 and 6. And many shall follow their pernicious or hurtful ways by whom the way of truth is evil spoken of. I've never seen a time in all my life when the truth is more evil spoken of than today.

They think the truth is evil. They put light for darkness and darkness for light. Sweet for bitter and bitter for sweet.

Folks, I'm fired up on this. Destructive and abominable heresies are connected with them. I could mention a lot of them.

They talk about the seven days of Sabbath. You keep it or you go to hell. Keeping the Sabbath is a mark of the beast.

Foul they're all. Blarney. Nobody can take the Bible and prove to me that the seventh-day Sabbath is the day on which Christians should worship.

And I challenge anybody in Spartanburg, South Carolina or anywhere else to prove to me that the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord and it's the day on which we shall worship. You say, Pastor, are you willing to face it? I'll meet you in debate anywhere, anytime. I'm not afraid of it.

You can't prove that the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord in which we should worship. Seventh-day Adventist and seventh-day Baptist and seventh-day Church of God say that it is the day on which we should worship and the day has never been changed and they claim that the Catholic Church changed it. That's not so! Tommy Rod.

You say, Pastor, you're boastful. No. I'll defend the faith.

If you don't believe it, you try me. Brother Sam knows I'll defend it. Right, Brother Sam? I had a lady argue with me one time at a fruit stand in Sparkler, and some of you would know it if I mentioned it and settled by it.

Boy, she wanted to argue. She got hot and got hot. I said, you prove to me that you know what the seventh day is.

I said, they've been lost in the calendar, in the Julian calendar, in the Gregorian calendar, and they've been so days lost, you don't know if today is the seventh or the first or the sixth or the seventh or whatever! I mean, the eighth, I mean, the fifth or whatever! Oh, she got angry. I know what it means, I guess, to be around an angry woman. And a man, too.

I mean, I'm not talking about just women, but boy, did she get angry at me. Okay? That's not the whole thing. They will always be available for people to connect with.

2 Timothy, turn with me to 2 Timothy. I want you to notice verses 2 and 4. And we have to go hurriedly along because I can't spend a lot of time on this. They will always be available for people to connect with.

And we'll find that in 2 Timothy 4, or rather, chapter 4, verses 2 and 4. Now, notice this. And the Spirit, that's the Holy Spirit, speaketh clearly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to what? Seducing or deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons! A lot of our doctrines in the so-called Christian church are doctrines of demons. Go back and study the history of the Christian church in the area of the Trinity, in the area of predestination, the atonement of Christ, the security of the saints, seducing spirits.

That means they deceive people. Spirits of whom? Spirits of Satan and doctrines of demons! I could talk about the rest of my time, what are the doctrines of demons? And I'm going to preach sometime, hopefully, on the doctrines of demons. Speaking lies in hypocrisy.

Having their conscience seared with a hot iron. Forbidding to marry. Huh.

You know any church that forbids their ministers to marry? I'm calling their names. Sure you do. And commanding to abstain from meats or foods.

Do you know of certain people that are right here in Spartanburg and South Carolina and all throughout the United States that forbid certain people to eat meats? Sure you do. To abstain from meats which God

hath created to be received with thanksgiving by them who believe and know the truth. Look at this, verse 4. For every creature of God is good and nothing to be refused if it's received with thanksgiving.

Amen! Does that mean I'm going to eat rattlesnake meat? No! Now you can eat it if you want to. And I've heard it's very delicious. But I don't care.

I'll take your word for it. But I don't believe it. I'm not eating rattlesnake meat.

I'm not eating gopher. Or highland turpins. I'm not eating possum.

I remember one time I was pastoring in Tampa. And I went through a place where there were a lot of people and a lot of black folks. And there was a truck come by.

It said, I went and looked in the back of that truck and there were a bunch of gophers. I've seen gophers, highland turpins, and I've seen other gophers, too. Gopher, what you got? Amen? Say amen! Somebody say amen! Are you listening? Alright.

Oh my goodness. Preacher, you're meddling. Well, forbidding to marry, so and so, commanding to abstain from meats or foods that God hath created to be received with thanksgiving by them who believe and know them, know the truth.

I think I know the truth about those. Now, I told you there are certain things I'm not going to eat. I'm not going to eat grasshoppers.

And I'm not going to eat frog legs. You can eat frog legs if you want to. They jump around in the fry pan.

If you want to eat frog legs, you can eat frog legs. How many have ever eaten frog legs? Let me see your hand. Okay.

I give you my portion, okay? And I want to know something else. How many have ever eaten gator tail? You can have that too. And you can have my portion because I'm not eating any gator tail.

Okay. Alright, I've got to go from here. Okay, alright.

They will also cause people to believe in demonic doctrines. And notice with me 1 Peter chapter 4 and verse 1. 1 Peter 4 and verse 1. The Spirit speaketh expressly in the latter times. Some of these prophets of faith giving heed to losing spirits and doctrines of diva.

I've already dealt with that. They shall also cause people to hate the truth and reject it so that they cannot be saved. Turn with me to 2 Thessalonians chapter 2. And notice with me verses 8 through 12.

I'm going hurriedly now. Verses 8 through 12. And there shall be that wicked or lawless one revealed and then shall be that lawless one revealed or wicked one whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth and shall destroy with the brightness of the coming.

Even him whose coming is after the working of Satan. We're speaking of even him, Christ. Whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders.

Are we close to the end of the world? Are we close to the end of the age? I'll say the end of the age. Yes. Because we're living in the anteroom in the very next room to the tribulation days.

His coming is after the working of Satan. What have I been talking about? The working of Satan through false prophets and false teachers and false prophets. With power, all power, all power and signs and lying wonders with all deceivable of unrighteousness in them that perish.

Why? Because they received not the love of the truth that they might be saved. Listen, folks. There are thousands of people in Spartanburg County who've never received the love of the truth that they might be saved.

They've not even received the truth much less the love of the truth that they might be saved. And if you don't receive the love of the truth, what's going to happen? The result is verse 11 and through this call, God shall send them or God sends them strong delusion, strong deception that they should believe the lie. Could I tell you many people believe lies more than they believe truth? That they all might be judged who believe not the truth and had pleasure in unrighteousness.

My goodness! They cannot be saved. They don't receive the love of the truth. If a person who listens to me here or out yonder does not receive the love of the truth and obey the love of the truth, you cannot and will not be saved, whatever that truth is.

It may be against your denomination, your faith, your tradition, your inheritance, your family. I don't care! If you receive not the love of the truth, you can't be saved. You can be a preacher.

You can be a cardinal or a pope. You can be a priest. You can be an apostle.

You can be a deacon. You can be an elder. You can be a steward.

But I'm here to tell you, God helped me. God bearing me witness. I'm telling you the truth.

So help me God and nothing but the truth. And preacher, I can't take any more of this. Well, turn me off.

Yeah, boy, get rid of me. Listen to me. Some of you can't get rid of me out there because you know that what I'm telling you is different than what you hear at your church many times and what you have believed.

Also, that caused people to hate the truth and reject it so they cannot be saved. We dealt with that. Also, they will influence people to be heavily engaged in drugs.

I'm going to have to take a little time on this. My time is going to soon run out. I don't have much time.

But you know what? I can take as much time as I want to. We pay for the time we want to use. And we can take as much time as we want to.

Now, some of you got to roast in an oven? Well, next time you need to turn it down to temperature so you can plan to get out at 1230, 1 o'clock. Say, preacher, you going to preach at 1 o'clock? No. I'm not going to preach at 1 o'clock.

But I'm telling you something. Hey, God help us. We won't go to church from 11 to 12.

11 o'clock sharp and 12 o'clock dull. We just want to have what we want to have. I'm fully on that.

Revelation 18.20. It's talking about the harlot. And the harlot is judged by God. This is Mystery Babylon and Religious Harlot, Revelation 18.20. And I want you to read.

I'm going to take time. If it causes the halos of the angels in heaven to fall off on the streets of gold and get burst. Revelation 18:20. Now, the book of Revelation is an apocalyptic.

That's a big word. Hey, that means it is taken from the Old Testament, a lot of it. And it is convulsions and it is a lot of material that demonstrates the earth and the power of God and what happens.

Revelation 18:20. I want you to listen to this. I want everybody to listen. Rejoice over her, that's Babylon's fall.

That's Mystery Babylon, Religious Babylon. Thou, heaven, and ye holy apostles and prophets, for God hath avenged you on her. Verse 23 and 24, verses 23 and 24.

And the light of the lamp shall shine no more in all of thee. And the voice of the bridegroom and the bride shall be heard no more. And all in thee for thy merchants and the merchants.

Good night, that's business people. Were the great men of the earth and by their sorceries, that's drugs. Drugs.

Were all nations deceived. Now notice with me chapter 21 in verse 8. I'm going hurriedly now. I'm not soon.

It will be five minutes. I'm up before I finish. In verse 8. But the fearful and the unbelieving and the abominable, that's the polluted.

And the murderers and fornicators and the snotless sorcerers. Pharmacuseon is the Greek. That's the word from which we get pharmacy.

Or drugs. And idolaters. They're all mixed together.

Unbelievers, abominable, murderers, fornicators. Those users of drugs and idolaters. And all liars shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire in brimstone, which is the second death.

Folks, I've quoted you the Bible. And in this book of Revelation, chapter 18, we have the beast, the dragon, the false prophet. And in mystery Babylon, or religious Babylon, there is the false prophet.

And the false prophet, I don't know how, but he has, and creates an atmosphere for the use of drugs. Okay. Revelation 18, 20.

Revelation 18, 23 through 24. And Revelation 21, 8. Revelation 18, 20. You're too slow.

Revelation 18, 20. And Revelation 18, 23 and 24. And Revelation 21, 8. Pharmacuseon.

Really, the Greek word here in verse 8 is pharmacuseon, which has to do with the pharmacy. Drugs. Pharmacy.

Illegal and illegal. There are some people hooked on legal drugs. They're addicted to legal drugs.

And there are some people that buy them. They buy ecstasy and marijuana. And they buy more severe drugs.

That'll have a high. You hear what it says? Listen. Heavily engaged in drugs.

They're addicted on drugs. They'll give anything to get drugs. I've seen people and heard of people that want drugs.

Nothing but drugs. And they'll give their money. And they'll give their time.

And they'll give their efforts to get drugs so that they can cope and be high. If I'm going to get high, I want to be high on the Lord Jesus Christ. Sit in heavenly places in Christ.

But you know there are a lot of drug addicts. I read on a billboard coming in today about if you're addicted on drugs, call this number. There are people that'll buy.

They'll give their money for drugs. God have mercy on people that have to have the drugs to survive or to live. If we have Christ, can't we live without drugs? That's not to say you can't take a thallium or a Xanax.

I'm not saying that. I'm not saying you can't take a Dipakote. I'm not saying that at all.

But there are people who have to have them. And they'll give anything just about to get them. They'll hire people.

And they will engage people. And they'll pay people to get what they want. And they can be church members or non-church members.

But I'm talking about people in the churches of America, in the churches of South Carolina, in the churches of Spartanburg County. Maybe in this church. Maybe some of you out there in Germany or France or England or Switzerland or China or the Middle East.

The Bible says, Beloved, believe not every spirit but try the spirits whether they are of God. I don't know how they create this. But it may be the absence of preaching, biblical preaching, that creates the atmosphere that's conducive for people to buy drugs and get drugs and get hooked on drugs.

It can be cocaine. It can be marijuana. It can be legal drugs.

There are people who want people to get them legal drugs. For legal drugs like Clonazepam, it sells for a big price on the street. Ecstasy! Big price.

Also, and I'll close in just a minute, they stand in the way of sinners, these false prophets and preachers and ministers. Entering the kingdom, Matthew 23, 23. Matthew 23, 23.

Christ speaking to the Pharisees, and the Pharisees were not a bunch of prophets, but they were a bunch of false teachers. And we can say that in a sense they were prophets, but they were false teachers, as false prophets are false teachers. They are brothers and sisters.

Alright, Matthew 23 and verse 13. But woe unto you, Christ said, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, for you shut up the kingdom against men. For ye neither go in yourselves, neither permit them that are entering to go in.

What does he say? What does our Lord say? He is saying that they stand in the way of sinners entering the kingdom. That's the way it is with false prophets and false teachers, false prophets, false apostles, and false prophetesses. They stand in the way of sinners entering the kingdom.

And those that want to go in, they can't get in, because the false are in the way. My last point. They also seek converts or followers by evangelizing people, but when they get them, they leave them in a worse state than they were before.

Matthew 23 and 15. Woe unto you, Christ speaking this, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, for you come from sea and land. You are evangelizers like Jehovah's witnesses and like the Mormons, a bunch of cults, to make one proselyte convert one person to what you believe.

And when he or she is made, you make them a two-fold more a child of hell than yourselves. They are worse than you are. They seek followers or converts by evangelizing people, but when they get them, they leave them in a worse state than they were before.

Two-fold more a child of hell. It's bad to be one-fold a child of hell, but it's worse to be two-fold more, because a preacher or a false teacher or an evangelist or a false prophet or a false apostle or a prophetess, they make them two-fold more a child of hell than they were before. These are dark days, folks.

I wish I didn't have to preach like this. Honestly, I do. But I have to be true to the Word of God.

Somebody's got to do it. You don't hear it in the modern cupid, O God, our Heavenly Father. The day is far spent.

The night is upon us. And, O God, we need the powerful work of your Holy Spirit to open our ears and our hearts, enlighten our minds, and make our wills subjected to your will. Help us in this hour, for we desperately need the power of the Holy Spirit of the living God to fall upon us.

May today we not have heard only the voice of the minister, but may we have heard the voice of the Spirit of the living God speaking to our hearts. Help us in this hour, O Lord, our God. Remember mercy.

In Christ's name I pray. Amen.

Video: <https://sermonindex2.b-cdn.net/-AzzTZt2Nh4.mp4>

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/william-crews/identifying-some-signs-of-the-last-days/>

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