

"Followers of Christ, Beware The Counterfeits"

Matthew 24:21-25

- 21 for then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever shall.
- 22 "And unless those days had been cut short, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect those days shall be cut short.
- **23** "Then if anyone says to you, 'Behold, here is the Christ,' or 'There *He is,*' do not believe *him*.
- 24 "For false Christs and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect.
- 25 "Behold, I have told you in advance.

Matthew 24:11

"And many false prophets will arise, and will mislead many.

False Prophets Found in Jeremiah 23

Results Produced

- v.14 Sinners more emboldened.
- v.14 Repentance less emphasized.
- v.14 Sinfulness approaches Sodom and Gomorrah.
- v.16 Faith in God less influential, more useless.
- v.20 Only much later are they uncovered. Meanwhile, a long time elapses being well regarded.
- v.27 Through an emphasis upon dreams, listeners begin to lose knowledge about God they had once professed.
- v.28 Their spiritual influence likens to straw versus grain; that is, having substance without nutrition
- v. 32 Effect on people is a general sidetracking away from God's will.

Character Exemplified

- v.14 Adultery committed widely.
- v.14 Falsehood carried out routinely.
- v.16 Imaginations confused with God.
- v.17 Stubborn strong-willed, insistently entitled regarding their claims and roles.
- v.17 Prophecies are generally affirmative to a fault; avoiding the unpleasant prospects of God as Righteous Judge (positive confession).
- v.25 False prophecies (unintentional and/or intentional?)
- v.25 Dreams become an insistent emphasis.
- v.27 Prophets boldly relate dreams to one another, and borrow
- v.30 Prophets borrow from one another: words, conclusions, stories
- v.32 Grandiose claims are recklessly presented

