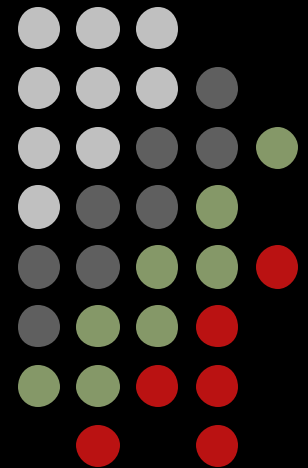


# Counterfeits

Spotting False Christs, False  
Apostles, & False Ministers



# False Christs



- **Matthew 24:4-5** *"And Jesus answered and said to them, "See to it that no one misleads you. "For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will mislead many. "*
- **Matthew 24:23-24** *"Then if anyone says to you, 'Behold, here is the Christ,' or 'There He is,' do not believe him. "For false Christs and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect. "*
- These passages are specifically referring to the first century and the destruction of Jerusalem, but this counterfeit has not been limited to the first century. An example in recent times is David Koresh who claimed to be the messiah to the Branch Davidians in Waco, Texas.

# The True Christ



- **1 Corinthians 15:3-8** *"For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He appeared to Cephias, then to the twelve. After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep; then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles; and last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared to me also. "*

# False Apostles



- **2 Corinthians 11:13** *"For such men are false apostles, deceitful workers, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ. "*
- **Revelation 2:1-3** *"To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: The One who holds the seven stars in His right hand, the One who walks among the seven golden lampstands, says this: 'I know your deeds and your toil and perseverance, and that you cannot tolerate evil men, and you put to the test those who call themselves apostles, and they are not, and you found them to be false; and you have perseverance and have endured for My name's sake, and have not grown weary. "*

# True Apostles



- **2 Corinthians 12:11-12** *"I have become foolish; you yourselves compelled me. Actually I should have been commended by you, for in no respect was I inferior to the most eminent apostles, even though I am a nobody. The signs of a true apostle were performed among you with all perseverance, by signs and wonders and miracles."*
- **Acts 4:33** *"And with great power the apostles were giving testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and abundant grace was upon them all."*
- **Acts 5:12** *"At the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were taking place among the people; and they were all with one accord in Solomon's portico."*
- **1 Corinthians 2:4** *"and my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power,"*

# False Ministers



- **2 Corinthians 11:13-15** *"For such men are false apostles, deceitful workers, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ. No wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. Therefore it is not surprising if his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness, whose end will be according to their deeds."*
- **2 Timothy 4:3-4** *"For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths."*

# True Ministers



- **2 Timothy 4:1-2, 5** *"I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom: preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction. ... But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry."*
- **1 Timothy 4:16** *"Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; persevere in these things, for as you do this you will ensure salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you."*