

## A Dose of Discernment

Jude 10-16

To defend the faith you must be able to recognize error

### 1. Examine the motives of those who teach (vs. 10-11)

Are they guided by self? - Cain

Are they greedy for stuff? - Balaam

Are they greedy for significance? - Korah

So: Stop and ask some questions

### 2. Look beyond the appearance of those who teach

(vs. 12-16)

Do they produce refreshment or dryness? - clouds

Do they produce nourishment or starvation? - trees

Do they produce guidance or lostness? - stars

So: Don't take everything at face value

Conclusion:

A dose of discernment will offer great protection

## The Rules of Truth Detection

1. If the teaching doesn't "seem right" - watch out
2. If the teacher doesn't seem sincere - watch out
3. If there is a minimum amount of Bible and a maximum amount of conjecture - watch out
4. If there isn't a chapter and verse- watch out
5. If the teaching elevates man rather than God - watch out
6. If there is a hidden meaning - watch out
7. If the teaching leans toward extreme freedom of behavior - watch out
8. If the teaching leans toward extreme legalism in behavior - watch out
9. If the teaching mars the doctrine of Christ- watch out