



“FAKE NEWS”

Galatians 1:6-10






SPIRITUALLY FAKE NEWS!

- Spiritually Fake News Can Hijack Your Faith
- Beware of False Teachers Whose Aim is to Pervert the Gospel of Christ

“Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves.”

Matthew 7:15



Beware Because False Teachers Are Out There!

Romans 16:17-18

“Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them. For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple.”



Spiritually Fake News!

“Prosperity Gospel”

“The Word of Faith Movement”

“The Seed of Faith Movement”

***“The Name It and Claim It
Religion”***

***(If you want a specific blessing from
God, just verbally declare the
blessing, then claim it)***

Prosperity Theology

- **Sickness and poverty are the result of man's fallen condition, which we become locked into because of our lack of faith**
- **We are in a “contractual relationship” with God:**
 - #1 Suffering exists because of Adam's sin**
 - #2 We continue to suffer because of a lack of faith which is our part of the contract**
 - #3 God must end our suffering if we display acts of life-changing faith which is His part of the contract**
 - #4 Christians who make positive confessions about God's blessings, and believe they have been already granted, will get their blessings, because God must grant faithful request**



Why Is This Spiritually Fake News?

- The promise of prosperity and health is at the core of the belief
- *“If you want to have money?” Just name it and claim it!*

The “Seed Money” Appeal Tactic

Letters are sent to people saying that God wants to bless them. “If you would send in a donation called, “seed money,” you are promised that God will reward you financially in proportion to the size of your “seed!” The more you give, the more you get!



Can We Manipulate God, By Speaking What We Want?!

“If you want success, if you want wisdom, if you want to be prosperous and healthy, you’re going to have to do more than meditate and believe; YOU MUST BOLDY DECLARE WORDS OF FAITH, and victory over yourself and your family.”

Your Best Life Now, p.132

Joel Olsteen

(Name it and claim it)



Preacher, What's the Problem?

**God Is a God Who Can Do
Mighty Things, Right?**

When We Pray:

- If He wants to make us rich, He can**
- If He wants to heal our illnesses, He can**
- If He wants to advance our careers, He can**

This Theology Hijacks God Teachings and Warps Them!

- There was a soldier who was in the midst of battle with bullets flying everywhere and he discovers a silver cross while digging the foxhole
- He's trying to dig a foxhole as fast as he can when a bomb explodes nearby and he feels an army chaplain dive into his foxhole with him with his head buried in his arms.
- The soldier looks at the chaplain and again at the cross and says *"good to see you, how do you get this thing to work?!"*





***IT IS FOOLISH TO
BELIEVE THAT WE
CAN CONTROL
GOD'S BLESSINGS!***


(Like a Genie In a Magic Lamp!)



“But It’s Biblical!!”

Malachi 3:10

“.....Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the Lord Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour down so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.”



What Do the Scriptures Teach Us?

- The real issue in Malachi is that God's people had turned away from His instructions and had not obeyed them. Tithing was just an example. The real message is: **IF YOU RETURN TO GOD HE WILL BLESS YOU!**

*The Take Away Point is not: If You Give \$\$\$ To This Ministry God Will Bless You
100 FOLD!*




What Do The Scriptures Teach?

- Nowhere in scripture does it say that God wills the financial prosperity of every Christian
- Nowhere in Scripture does it say it is wrong for a Christian to be poor
- God blesses us with more than money
 - Uses us as “conduits” through which blessings flow to others
 - Quality Time engaging with one another
 - Treatments for disease
 - God blesses many of us with contentment (inward sufficiency) 1Tim. 6:5

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- **God loves us, but the fact is that we live in a world ruled by Satan**

“Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for all have sinned.”


Romans 5:12

- **Because Adam, the first man, relinquished his authority over the Earth to Satan, all of humanity is subject to Satan’s corruption**
 - **This means that bad things can happen to good people**
 - **When a mass murderer enters a church, and violently destroys lives there, we can’t conclude that their “lack of faith” or donations got them killed**
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Jesus Was Asked This Question in Luke 13:1-5

***“Now there were some present at the time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices. Jesus answered, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered this way? I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish.”*”**



“And my God will supply all your needs according to the riches of His glory in Christ Jesus.” Phil.4:19


- **There is a huge difference between a “need” and a “want”**
 - **God knows that we need basic things to sustain our bodies and to provide for us a level of earthly comfort, and if we first “seek the Kingdom of God and His righteousness” these things are available to us. We must trust God to look out for our welfare**
 - **It is not just a matter of believing, professing, and claiming; It’s through constant obedience to the righteousness of God, Luke 6:46**
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What Do The Scriptures Teach?

1 Timothy 6:5-10, (NIV)

That false teachers are those who:
“who think that godliness is a means to financial gain. But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that.....”



“....Those who want to get rich fall into a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.”



What Does the Scripture Teach?

**Many Of God's Children, Like Jesus,
Will Go Through Trials!**

“My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.....”

James 1:2

- ▶ **Some of our most famous brothers and sisters have suffered trials, past and present**


You Think Life Was Easy For An Apostle?


Do Christians Who Fight Special Needs Daily Simply Not Give Properly or Not Have Enough Faith?



1 Peter 4:12-13

“Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you, as though something strange were happening to you (don’t jump to the conclusion, that God isn’t on the job). But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed.”





The Suffering Of God's Children Is Part of the Struggle, Hebrews 11:35-39

“There were others who were tortured, refusing to be released so that they might gain an even better resurrection. Some faced jeers and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were put to death by stoning; they were sawed in two; they were killed by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute,…”



....persecuted and mistreated—the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, living in caves and in holes in the ground.

These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised, since God had planned something better for us, so that only together with us would they be made perfect.”



The Plan Of Salvation

Hear the Gospel	Acts 15:7
Believe the Gospel	Acts 15:7
Repent Of Sins	Acts 17:30
Confess Christ	Acts 8:37
Be Baptized	Acts 8:38

