

Remnant Life Church
August 4, 2013

Spotting the Counterfeit – Part 2

- **REVIEW**

1. Where do we see counterfeit in the Bible?

- First – Garden of Eden – **Genesis 3:1-6**

- A counterfeit is a lie
- Satan lied to Eve and caused her to substitute the truth with a lie
- ***The purpose of a counterfeit is to cause a person to believe something that is not true***
- Satan brought a counterfeit to the truth of what God had created
- He is doing the same thing today - *clever not creative*

2. Effective counterfeits cannot be easily spotted

- Satan will take what is genuine and twist it just enough to keep it looking real but in reality it is a fake and NOT WHAT GOD DESIRES FOR YOU
- Do we always have to fall for the counterfeit?

- Anything that God does or has done satan wants to twist, pervert and bring a counterfeit to keep us from having in our lives all that God desires - Why?

1. If we live with counterfeit we live with lies
2. It keeps us from true fellowship with the Father
3. To discourage us from a promise that we have been given
4. It keeps our churches focused on things that are not important
5. It dulls our hearts to the sin of the world and the lost
6. It weakens our power in the Holy Spirit

- How can I spot a counterfeit?

1. **Does it sit well in my spirit?**

- A Christian has the Holy Spirit as a guide to living our lives IF WE WILL LISTEN!
- **John 14-16**– the disciples are distressed that Jesus said He is leaving them but He will send the Advocate; the Counselor
- **John 16:13** – *But when he, the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth.*
 - Jesus sent the Holy Spirit specifically to encourage, strengthen and guide us
 - Do we listen to the Holy Spirit or do we call it...
 - Intuition
 - A feeling
 - Gut reaction
 - Spider Sense

2. What do others say?

- If anyone who truly loves you is offering a counter opinion to what you want – LISTEN TO THEM
- The Holy Spirit will often work through other people
 - Before John the Baptist was born an angel told Zechariah that he would be filled with the Holy Spirit
 - John's power to preach and lead others to Jesus was through the power of the Holy Spirit
- **John 10:27** - *My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.*
 - The sheep knew the master's voice because it was familiar
 - We can only know the voice of Jesus, the voice of the Holy Spirit, if we spend time with Him

3. Are you not acting like yourself as you decide?

- When you are not being led by the Lord your demeanor, your personality, your very nature can be altered
 - **I Samuel 13** – Saul offers the sacrifice without Samuel
 - **I Samuel 28** Saul calls for a witch to summon the ghost of Samuel
 - Saul knew better but he was not acting like himself
 - God rejected Saul and his family in favor of David
 - **Walking out of God's will even in the time of greatest frustration will carry great consequence**

4. Do you increase or decrease your prayer regarding the decision?

- Honest prayer will reveal the true nature of what you are considering
- Asking God directly if what you are dealing with is real or counterfeit positions your heart to see clearly
- **I Samuel** – when Saul or David asked God what they should do they were victorious in their battles

5. If you do not get what you want, are you willing to continue waiting on God?

- Asking God means I give up my desires and desire His
- Asking God means sometimes not getting what I want but knowing that He loves me and wants the best for me
- Waiting on the genuine of God by recognizing the counterfeit many times means that we receive a greater blessing

• We would be amazed at how much we have missed in our lives due to our impatience, greed and pride.

1. Moses did not get to enter into the promised land because he allowed his pride to rise up – **Numbers 20:12**
2. David's family was a house divided because of his disobedience to God's law – **2 Samuel 12:10**

3. Many of the churches of the NT struggled and suffered because they believed counterfeit teachings about Jesus and His love
- **Good News: God will still be glorified and victorious**
 1. Recognizing what I did is the first step to our coming to the place of putting God back first in our lives
 - That does not necessarily mean the circumstances will be altered
 - It usually means that we change and God can work through us despite the environment we have put ourselves in
 2. God's love for us does not change
 - He will forgive us if we repent
 - **I John 1:9** - *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.*