

# How to Avoid False Hope

Matthew 7:13-23

Isaiah: 30:9-10 These are rebellious people, deceitful children, children unwilling to listen to the LORD's instruction. <sup>10</sup>They say to the seers, "See no more visions!" and to the prophets, "Give us no more visions of what is right! Tell us pleasant things, prophesy illusions. <sup>11</sup>Leave this way, get off this path, and stop confronting us with the Holy One of Israel!

Jeremiah 5:30-31 "A horrible and shocking thing has happened in the land: <sup>31</sup>The prophets prophesy lies, the priests rule by their own authority, and my people love it this way. But what will you do in the end?"

## Face the truth and ask some questions:

### 1. *Where are my footsteps taking me?*

Luke 6:46 "Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?"

John 6:28-29 Then they asked him, "What must we do to do the works God requires?" <sup>29</sup>Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent."

➤ The direction of my life reveals the destination of my life.

### 2. *What is my life's fruit telling me?*

John 15:5-6 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned.

➤ The nature of my fruit reveals the true nature of my life.

### 3. *How is my false faith fooling me?*

John 10:14-15 "I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— <sup>15</sup>just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep.

Matthew 7:27-28 My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup>I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand.

➤ The right reason for hope is a right relationship with Jesus.

The saddest words to ever be spoken will be "I never knew you, depart from me."

The gladdest words ever to be spoken are, "Come to me, I will give you rest," and "whoever will may come." (Matthew 11:28; Revelation 22:17)