What do YOU think of False Teachers?

“But there arose false prophets also among the people, as among you also there shall be false teachers, who shall privily bring in destructive heresies, denying even the Master that bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction”

II Peter 2:1

Solomon wrote, “A lying tongue hates those whom it hath wounded” (Prov. 26:28). False teaching is a lie because it does not represent truth (see I Jn. 2:21). Lies will only lead men astray (I Jn. 2:26). When a man or woman speaks spiritual words of error their hatred is spewed to all who hear and heed. Erring doctrine is “troublesome” and helps no one (Gal. 1:6-7). What does God think of false teachers and what should my view of them be?

God’s view of False Teachers:

God views false teachers as those accursed (Gal. 1:8-9) and condemned to eternal hell (Jude 1:7). Under the Mosaic System, the Lord commanded said liars to be put to death. Moses wrote, “Ye shall walk after Jehovah your God, and fear him, and keep his commandments, and obey his voice, and ye shall serve him, and cleave unto him. And that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams, shall be put to death, because he hath spoken rebellion against Jehovah your God,
who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and redeemed thee out of the house of bondage, to draw thee aside out of the way which Jehovah thy God commanded thee to walk in. So shalt thou put away the evil from the midst of thee” (Deut. 13:4-5). Furthermore, Moses instructs, “thou shalt not consent unto him, nor hearken unto him; neither shall thine eye pity him, neither shalt thou spare, neither shalt thou conceal him: but thou shalt surely kill him; thy hand shall be first upon him to put him to death...” (Deut. 16:8ff). God views the false teacher as an unwanted animal that is put down in death (II Pet. 2:12). He hates their deeds (see Rev. 2:6).

What should my view of False Teachers Be?

Should I listen to their lies? Should I have pity on them because they are my close friend or family member? Should I spare them from shame? Should I conceal their error? Should I go on a campaign to eradicate any who call out my lying friend’s name as a false teacher? Please note that God commended the Ephesians for having “hatred” for the works (erroneous teaching) of the Nicolaitans (see Rev. 2:6). Those who had accepted the erring doctrines of the Nicolaitans and Balaam were called upon to “repent” (Rev. 2:16). The child of God is never to shrink back (i.e., hide, conceal, or shun) any part of the will of God (Acts 20:27). Those who teach error on God’s simple laws of marriage, divorce, and remarriage are to be exposed rather than coddled and called to hold meetings. Those who put matters of salvation into Romans 14 ought not to be showed pity, concealment, or be spared. Those who believe we ought to set aside doctrinal differences for the sake of peace and unity are to be viewed as those who wound with hatred. Those who teach and practice support of human institutions from the church treasury are to be looked upon as a rebellious people. Said men and women are liars. They have the spirit of antichrist (I Jn. 2:18) and the son of perdition (II Thess. 2:3ff). Until brethren view these men by their fruits they will continue to be smitten by their lies (see Matt. 7:15-16). What do you think about false teachers?

John C. Robertson
The Everlasting Covenant
Ezekiel 37

Introduction:

Ezekiel had been given a divine vision by the Lord of dry bones in a valley. The bones represented the house of Israel who had sinned against God and had apparently lost all hope (Ezek. 7:5-8; 23:46-47). Many had forgotten God’s covenant made with Abraham yet the Lord remembered. If only the people would look to God’s promises they would find that they had the opportunity to be a part of God’s eternal kingdom that would be governed by an everlasting covenant. People today ought to consider the eternal kingdom of God and its eternal covenant that they may have hope and motivation to live godly in this wicked world.

I. What is a Covenant?
   A. “An arrangement between two parties” (Liddell and Scott 187).
   B. “A binding agreement made by two or more persons or parties; compact, law” (AHD 334).
   C. God’s covenants with man are equivalent to laws (Ps. 111:9; Deut. 29:9; Heb. 8:6 etc.).

II. The Everlasting Covenant (Ezek. 37:26-28):
   A. Jeremiah termed it the “new covenant” (Jer. 31:31ff).
   B. The author of Hebrews terms this new covenant “better” than the old due to it making man holy, sanctified, and perfect (see Heb. 8:6ff / 7:18-19).
   C. The author of Hebrews identifies the “everlasting covenant” as equated with the blood of Christ (Heb. 13:20-21).

III. God’s everlasting “tabernacle” (kingdom / church) (Ezek. 37:26-28):
   A. God’s eternal kingdom (Eph. 2:19-22).

Conclusion:

Man has been created and designed by God to live for eternity. Though our earthly bodies die our souls will continue in life. God has prepared an eternal kingdom that is governed by an eternal covenant for those who are obedient to Him. Will you not seek out God’s precious promises?