

# TRUE *or* FALSE ?

*How can you tell if someone's teaching is true or false? Jesus tells us how.*

**READ JOHN 7:14-24**

The Jews didn't want to accept Jesus' teaching because:

- He didn't have the kind of degree that they expected their teachers to have (v 15).
- He didn't follow their laws like they did (v 23). He healed on the Sabbath when they expected Him to be like them and do only what their laws allowed on the Sabbath (5: 1-11).

Jesus had an answer to both their objections. He didn't need to spend years in the Theological Colleges of the Jewish Rabbis to learn about God so that He could teach about God - His teaching was from God (v 16). Those who are serious about doing God's will know that Jesus' teaching is the truth (vs 17, 19). Much false teaching is full of half-truths and can be very deceptive. You can be trained in the most renowned Bible College but if you are not sincere about wanting to do God's will, you can still be deceived. All false teachers seek glory for themselves. Jesus' desire was to glorify God (v 18). Sadly, there are Christian preachers and evangelists who go on and on about themselves and the "wonderful" things they do. You don't have to listen to them or go for their meetings. The second objection they had against Jesus was that He didn't obey their laws on what could and couldn't be done on the Sabbath. Thus His teaching could not be true. Jesus pointed out to them that they themselves did not keep their own laws (vs 22-23). Every boy-child was circumcised when he was eight days old whether the Sabbath was the eighth day or not. If they could do that on the Sabbath, how could they fault Jesus when He healed on the Sabbath (v 23)? Jesus told them what their problem was - they judged using the wrong standards (v 24). For them, things, rules and regulations were more important than people and doing God's will.

## **GET YOUR STANDARDS STRAIGHT**

**As long as your standards are not God's standards, you won't be able to tell right from wrong and true from false. The more you study the Bible, the more familiar you will become with God's standards (Exodus 20).**