



Throughout our society, opinions are everywhere and differ based on knowledge, character, and personal goals. At the very core of opinions, we can discern whether people desire to stand for the truth, or choose personal feelings.

Opinion is defined as a personal view or belief about something that is not necessarily based on fact or knowledge. As it applies to the Word of God, the same principle stands, as 2Peter 1:20-21 says, "No prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke *as they were* moved by the Holy Spirit."

In other words, we shouldn't try and twist God's Word to suit the desires of our flesh. In essence, we must choose to become a clean and willing conduit for God, rather than filter God's Word through our self-centered opinions.

Is there a solution? Paul in Rom 12:2 said, "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

As Pro 3:5 says, will we "Trust in the LORD with all our heart, and not lean on our own understanding," or will we practice "Athletic Psychology" and jump to conclusions without true facts?

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The greatest deceivers aren't obvious sinners in this world, but rather they are the false prophets who profess to know and represent Christ? That's why Jesus warned us so we can be always equipped and prepared to discern between truth and lies.

The apostle John added: "Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world." (1John 4:1) In essence, we will only be able to know the truth if we are trained and study the Word of God. Paul warned us, "Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ." (Col 2:8)

The common denominator is that only through the knowledge of God's Word, the understanding of its message, wisdom and discernment following, will we be enabled us to know and apply the truth of God to our lives. Paul gave us this warning: "Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience." (Eph 5:6)

Will we focus our lives on God and Christ for discernment, or will we adopt the deceptions of lying false prophets?

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