

INTRODUCTION

- fake sheep among God's flock...

"Error, indeed, is never set forth in its naked deformity, lest, being thus exposed, it should at once be detected. But it is craftily decked out in an attractive dress so as, by its outward form, to make it appear to the inexperienced (ridiculous as the expression may seem) more true than truth itself." – *Irenaeus*

- God's expectations for His under-shepherds

1. Behavioral assessment (1:10-11)

- *there are many...*

Rom. 16:17

- *rebellious...empty talkers...deceivers...money grabbers*

- how God's under-shepherds must respond

Ps. 63:11; Ezk. 16:63
Prov. 10:31
1 Tim. 1:3; Mt. 22:34

2. Spiritual assessment (1:12-14)

- calling it as it really is
- spiritual priorities of these false teachers

– Jewish mysticism

Gen. 14:14

– Jewish legalism

Mk. 7:5-8; Col. 2:20-23

- how God's under-shepherds must respond

3. Summary assessment (1:15-16)

- the *pure* v. those who merely *profess*

- how God's under-shepherds must respond

1 Tim. 6:20; 2 Tim. 1:14

CONCLUSION

Mt. 3:7-8; Jn. 15:2, 4; Rom. 7:4