

# Basic Patterns in Cults

1. Cults in the twenty-first century will be nearly invisible.

## —No cult ever presents itself as a “cult!”—

So how can we recognize a cult? Jesus tells us how to recognize false teachers.

## —The Bible Tells Us!—

### MATTHEW 7:13-23

Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it. Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits. Grapes are not gathered from thorn bushes nor figs from thistles, are they? So every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, nor can a bad tree produce good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. So then, you will know them by their fruits. Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven *will enter*. Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.'

## —The fruit of a prophet is prophecy—his teaching!—

2. Cults generally do one or more of the following:

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ to the word of God

- Mormons
- Jehovah's Witnesses
- The Unification Church (Moonies)
- Contemporary Spirit Guides (e.g., J. Z. Knight)

THE BIBLE SPEAKS  
Deuteronomy 4:2  
Revelation 2:18

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(2) \_\_\_\_\_ from Jesus Christ

**THE BIBLE SPEAKS**  
2 Corinthians 11:3-4

- Mormons
- Jehovah's Witnesses
- The Way International
- The Unification Church
- Remnant Fellowship

(3) \_\_\_\_\_ the requirements for salvation

**THE BIBLE SPEAKS**  
2 Timothy 1:8-11

- Jehovah's Witnesses
- Mormons
- The Unification Church
- Remnant Fellowship

(4) \_\_\_\_\_ the loyalties of the member between God and the Organization.

**THE BIBLE SPEAKS**  
1 Timothy 2:5-7

- Jehovah's Witnesses
- Mormons
- International Church of Christ (Boston Church of Christ)

**NOTES** \_\_\_\_\_

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