

## **Dealing with Deceivers (2 John v 7-13)**

**1. False teachers are dangerous and deceptive (7-8).** See also the warnings of Jesus (Matt.7:15), Paul (Acts 20:29,30), Peter (2 Pet.2:1) and John (1 Jn.4:1-3).

**2. What were they teaching? (7).** That Jesus had ‘not come in the flesh’. See also 1 John 2:18-23. This teaching was the result of forcing the word of God into a popular world view, i.e. that matter was evil and spirit was good.

Some recent examples:

Scientism  
Pluralism  
Selfism  
Consumerism

**3. Our response to false teachers (9-11)**

- a) ‘Continue in the teaching’ (9), i.e. the teaching of the apostles.
- b) ‘Do not welcome him’ (10-11)

**4 Two important distinctions.**

- a) Distinguish between Christians who have been misled and leaders or teachers who have misled them
- b) Distinguish between denial of basic Christian doctrines and differences over secondary matters. Not *everyone who disagrees with you is a false teacher!*