



THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

Mt. 7:1-6

“A Warning Word”

Mt. 7:6 Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.



Review

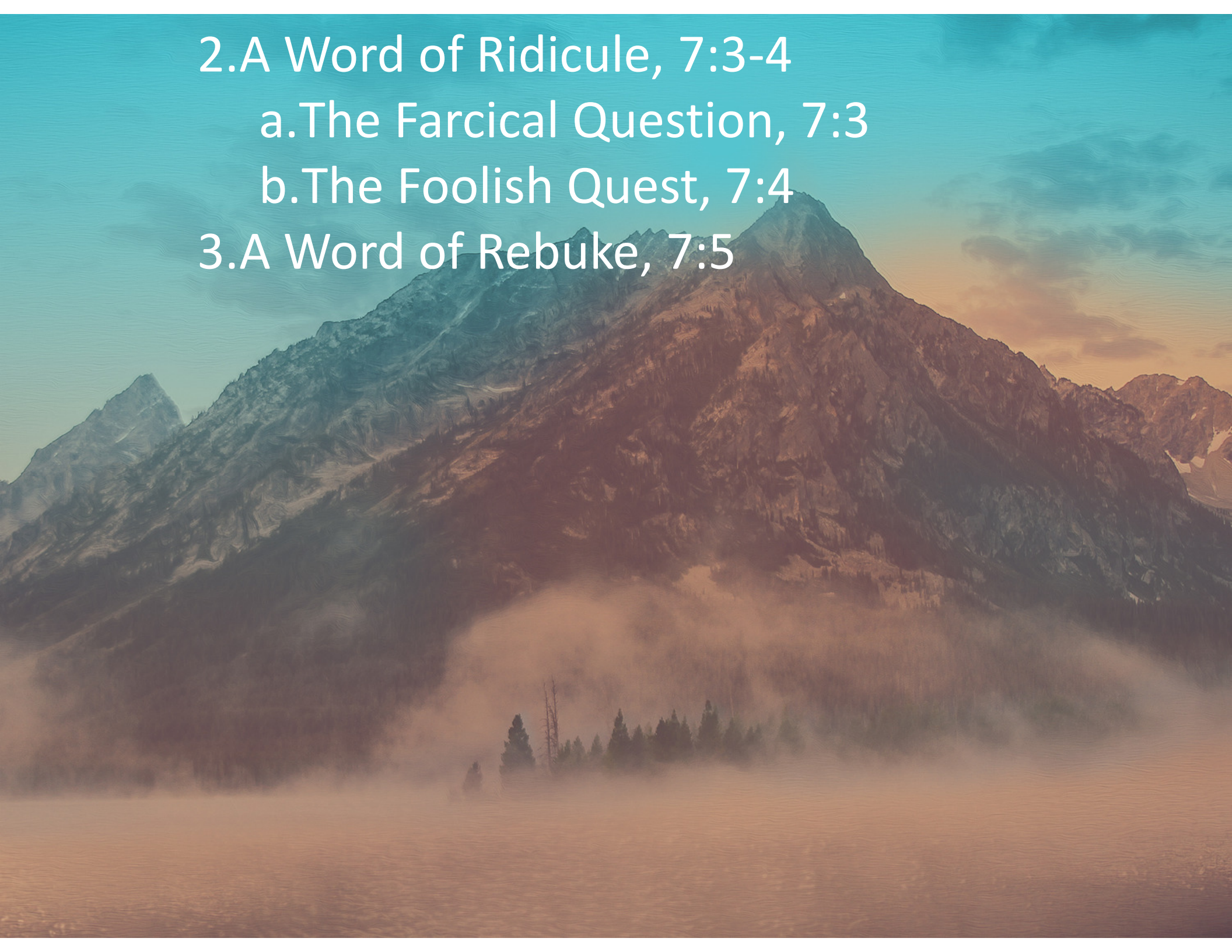
- I. THE DISCIPLE AND HIS BLESSINGS, 5:1-16
- II. THE DISCIPLE AND HIS BELIEFS, 5:17-20
- III. THE DISCIPLE AND HIS BIBLE, 5:21-48
- IV. THE DISCIPLE AND HIS BURDENS, 6:1-34
 - A. Burdens Connected with Worship, 6:1-18
 - B. Burdens Connected with Wealth, 6:19-24
 - C. Burdens Connected with Worry, 6:25-34
- V. THE DISCIPLE AND HIS BEHAVIOR, 7:1-29
 - A. The Fool Exhibited, 7:1-5
 - 1. A Word of Reason, 7:1-2
 - a. What the Critic Does, 7:1
 - b. What the Critic Deserves, 7:2

2.A Word of Ridicule, 7:3-4

a.The Farcical Question, 7:3

b.The Foolish Quest, 7:4

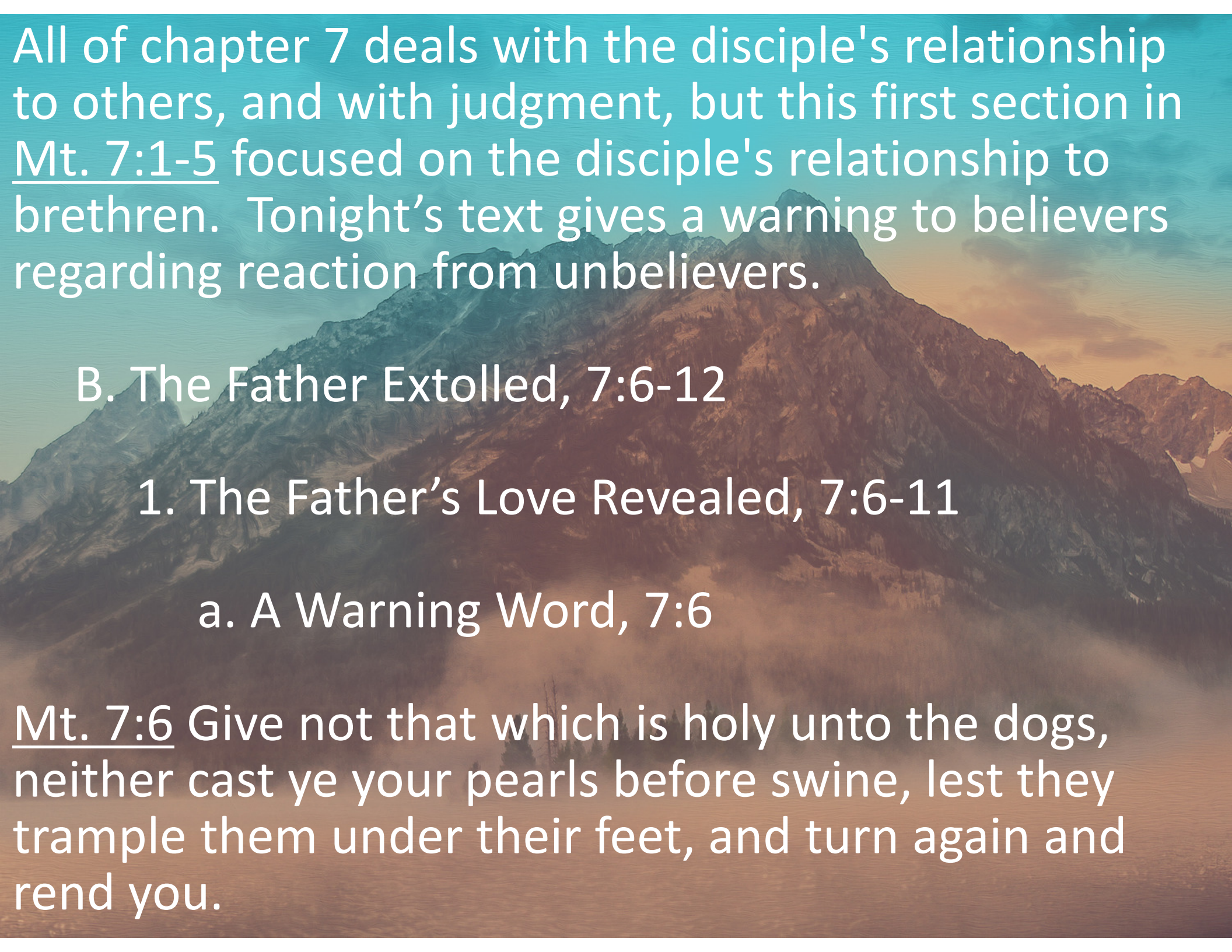
3.A Word of Rebuke, 7:5



Early in the “Sermon on the Mount” the Lord Jesus emphasized His concern regarding “righteousness.”

Mt. 5:20 For I say unto you, That **except your righteousness shall exceed *the righteousness* of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.**

❖ **The Lord Jesus is teaching His disciples that He expects a higher standard of spirituality to be lived by them than how the Pharisees live.**



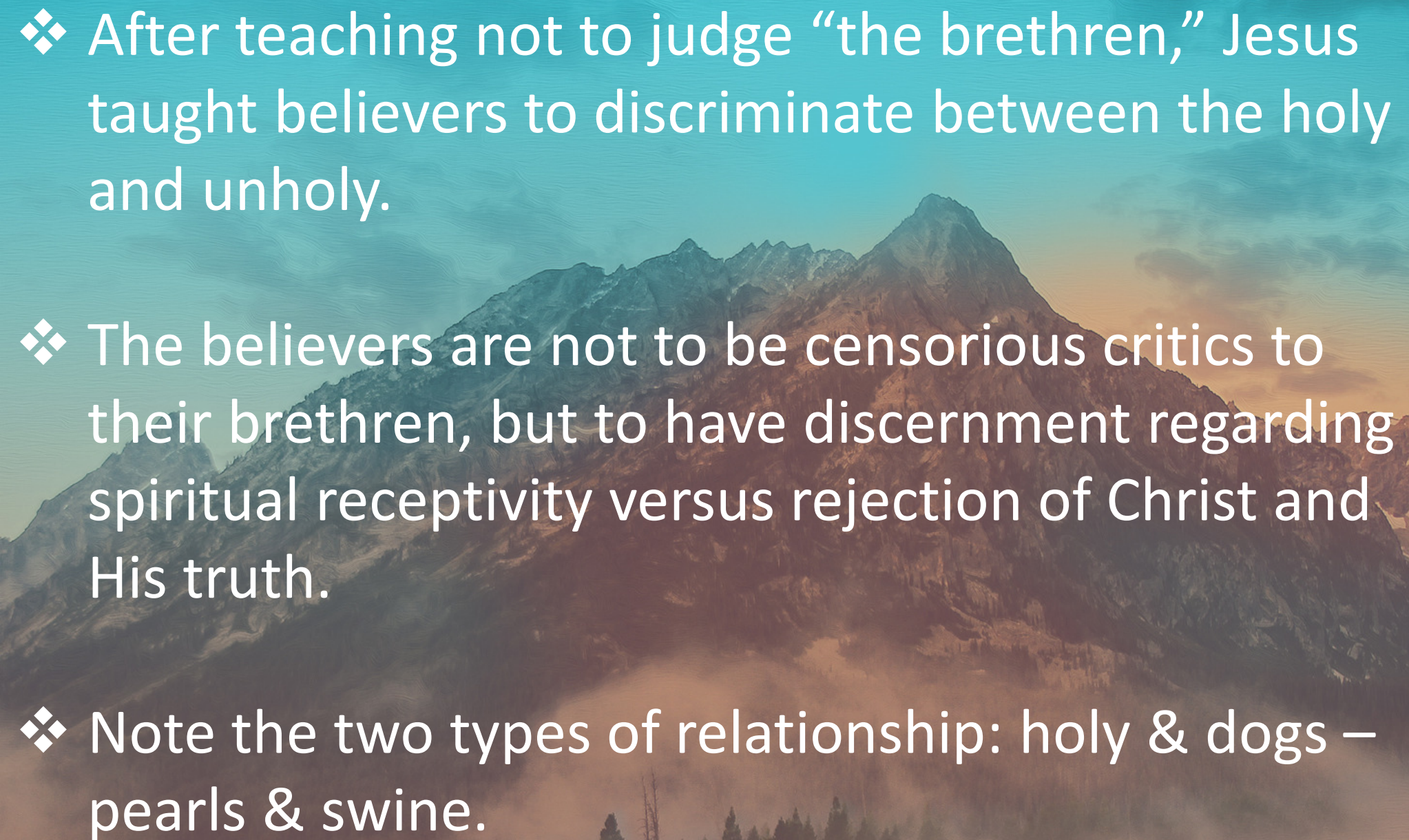
All of chapter 7 deals with the disciple's relationship to others, and with judgment, but this first section in Mt. 7:1-5 focused on the disciple's relationship to brethren. Tonight's text gives a warning to believers regarding reaction from unbelievers.

B. The Father Extolled, 7:6-12

1. The Father's Love Revealed, 7:6-11

a. A Warning Word, 7:6

Mt. 7:6 Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.

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- ❖ After teaching not to judge “the brethren,” Jesus taught believers to discriminate between the holy and unholy.
 - ❖ The believers are not to be censorious critics to their brethren, but to have discernment regarding spiritual receptivity versus rejection of Christ and His truth.
 - ❖ Note the two types of relationship: holy & dogs – pearls & swine.

Original Word: κύων, κυνός

Transliteration: kuón

Definition: a dog; **Usage:** a dog, universally despised in the East.

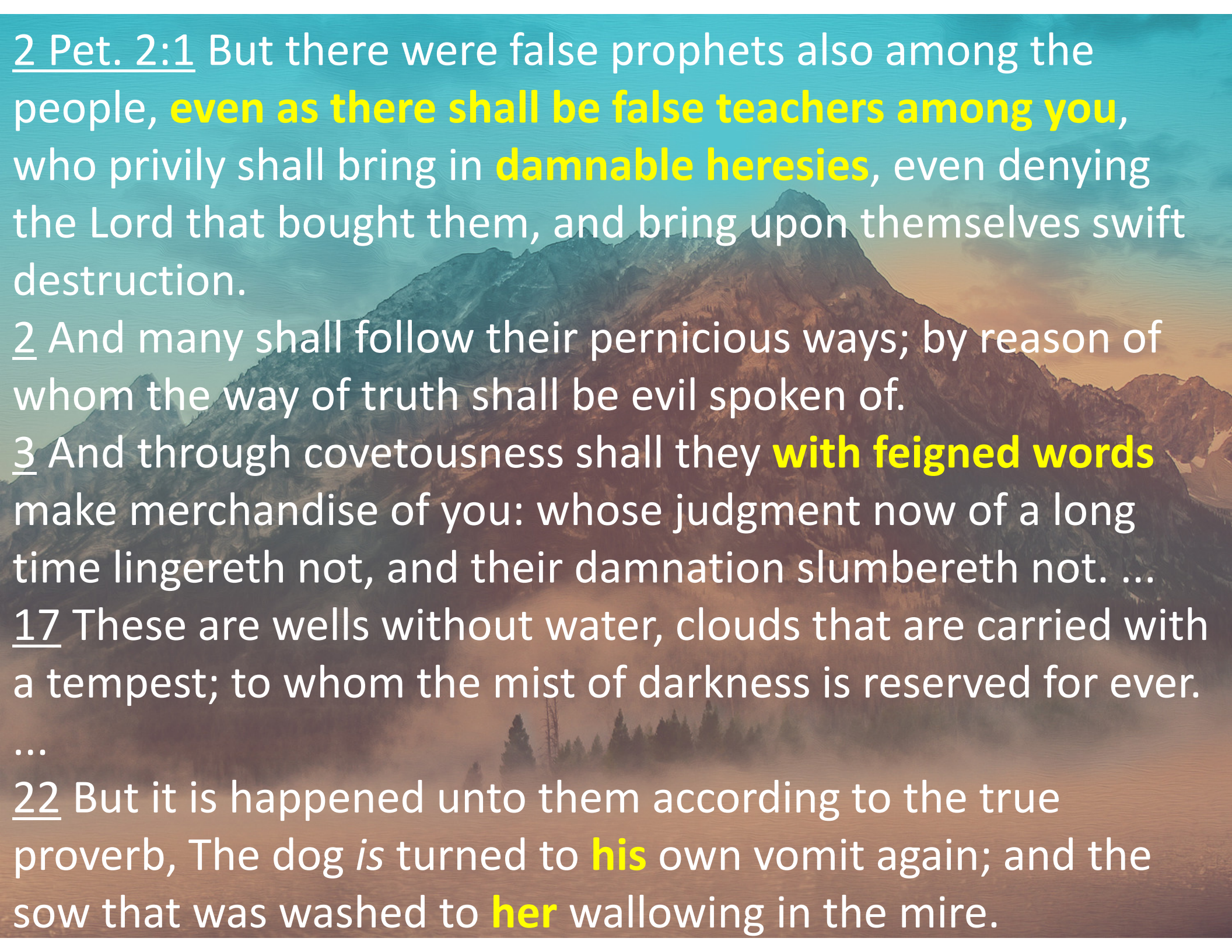
kýōn – literally, a dog, scavenging canine; (figuratively) a spiritual predator who feeds off others.

[A loose dog was disdained in ancient times – viewed as a "*mooch pooch*" that ran about as a *scavenger*.] <https://biblehub.com/greek/2965.htm>

Phil. 3:2 **Beware of dogs**, beware of evil workers, beware of the concision.

Rev. 22:15 For **without are dogs**, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.

- ❖ The "holy" and the "pearls" in this illustration evidently represent the good news announcing the kingdom.
- ❖ These particular animals are connected to false teachers and false doctrine, or heresy.



2 Pet. 2:1 But there were false prophets also among the people, **even as there shall be false teachers among you**, who privily shall bring in **damnable heresies**, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

2 And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.

3 And through covetousness shall they **with feigned words** make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not. ...

17 These are wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever.

...

22 But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog *is* turned to **his** own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to **her** wallowing in the mire.

Prov. 26:10 The great *God* that formed all *things* both rewardeth the fool, and rewardeth transgressors.

11 **As a dog returneth to his vomit**, so a fool returneth to his folly.

12 Seest thou a man wise in his own conceit? *there is* more hope of a fool than of him.

❖ In the Old Testament, the difference was made between the holy and unholy, clean and unclean, and discriminating discernment was commanded.

Ezek. 22:26 Her priests have violated my law, and have profaned mine holy things: they have put no difference between the holy and profane, neither have they shewed **difference between the unclean and the clean**, and have hid their eyes from my sabbaths, and I am profaned among them.

27 Her princes in the midst thereof **are like wolves ravening the prey, to shed blood, and to destroy souls**, to get dishonest gain.

28 And **her prophets have daubed them with untempered mortar**, seeing vanity, and divining lies unto them, saying, Thus saith the Lord GOD, when the LORD hath not spoken. ...

30 And **I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land**, that I should not destroy it: but I found none.

Ezek. 44:23 And **they shall teach my people *the difference between the holy and profane, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean.***

24 And in controversy they shall stand in judgment; **and they shall judge it according to my judgments:** and they shall keep my laws and my statutes in all mine assemblies; and they shall hallow my sabbaths.

- ❖ The warning is not to “give” or “cast” that of spiritual value in a haphazard way.
- ❖ Besides a connection to false teachers and heresy, this verse admonishes the soul-winner to be discerning of the “ground” receiving the seed.

Mark 4:26 And he said, So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should **cast** seed into the ground;

❖ The parable of seed sowing is a revelation of receptivity, how much is “bad” or “good” ground.

Prov. 15:23 **A man hath joy by the answer of his mouth:** and **a word spoken in due season**, how good *is it!* ...

28 **The heart of the righteous studieth to answer:** but the mouth of the wicked poureth out evil things.

Prov. 14:7 **Go from the presence of a foolish man,** when thou perceivest not *in him* the lips of knowledge.

Prov. 23:9 **Speak not in the ears of a fool**: for he will despise the wisdom of thy words.

❖ The soul-winner must be discerning of the audience and the situation.

Prov. 26:4 **Answer not a fool** according to his folly, lest thou also be like unto him.

5 **Answer a fool** according to his folly, lest he be wise in his own conceit.

❖ Jesus before Pilate and Herod was an excellent of discriminating His answers:

Luke 23:3 And **Pilate** asked him, saying, Art thou the King of the Jews? **And he answered him** and said, Thou sayest *it*. ...

8 And when **Herod** saw Jesus, he was exceeding glad: for he was desirous to see him of a long *season*, because he had heard many things of him; and he hoped to have seen some miracle done by him.

9 Then he questioned with him in many words; **but he answered him nothing.**

❖ Paul followed the same example:

Acts 13:46 Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: **but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles.**

Acts 18:6 And **when they opposed themselves, and blasphemed, he shook *his* raiment, and said unto them, Your blood *be* upon your own heads; I *am* clean: from henceforth I will go unto the Gentiles.**

❖ Mature believers discern the best method for the moment when witnessing:

1 Cor. 9:19 For though I be free from all *men*, yet have **I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more.**

20 And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law;

21 To them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law.

22 To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: **I am made all things to all *men*, that I might by all means save some.**

23 And **this I do for the gospel's sake**, that I might be partaker thereof with *you*.

❖ Those who reject the Lord Jesus are in spiritual darkness:

2 Cor. 4:3 But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:

4 In whom **the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not**, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

5 For **we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord;** and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake.

6 For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to *give* the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

- ❖ Jesus condemned censoriousness, but He encouraged discrimination of character.
- ❖ The dogs "turn and tear to pieces" those who give them special gifts, and the pigs "trample" under foot the "pearls" thrown before them.

Prov. 11:22 **As a jewel of gold in a swine's snout**, so is a fair woman which is without discretion.

Mt. 15:12 Then came his disciples, and said unto him, Knowest thou that **the Pharisees were offended, after they heard this saying?**

13 But he answered and said, Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up.

14 **Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.**

Conclusion

Mal. 3:16 Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard *it*, and **a book of remembrance** was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name.

17 And **they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels**; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.

18 Then shall ye return, and **discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not.**