## "Some Folks Cheat" By Kirk Hunt

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.

Colossians 2: 8 NKJV

No matter who the preacher or teacher is, I check their work and words in my Bible. I assume other Christians do not cheat or misinterpret Scripture, but even true saints make mistakes. That also presumes that I am listening to a true disciple of Christ in the first place.

There are lots of ways and reasons for the mistakes (innocent) saints can make. There are lots of ways and reasons that some (guilty) folks cheat. Either way, I have to do my part not to be deceived.

I receive God's truth with joy and gladness. Of course, it hurts when His truth is a corrective Word for my life. Still, I am glad that God speaks to me.

God is not the only one trying to get a message through to me (or you). There are a variety of <u>false prophets, errant teachers, and blatant crooks</u> out there. They peddle spiritual <u>snake oil</u> to the unwary. The less actual Scripture is involved, the more likely you are dealing with a cheater.

Follow along in your own Bible. Unique insights hold up under scrutiny. Spiritual truth is always supported by Scripture.

True prophets and sincere teachers always support their work and words with Scripture. God's people, especially teachers and preachers, always accept the Bible as their source and standard. Cheaters always reject correction or accountability.

**Think:** It may sound good, but is it consistent with Scripture?

**Pray:** "Lord, help me to see and resist those who would cheat me out of You."

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