

*The Gospel-Shaped Church: Paul's Letters to Timothy*  
**Beware of Counterfeit Gospels (Part 2)**  
1 Timothy 4:3–16 | Andrew Belli

**Thesis:** The church must be on guard against any teaching that distorts the gospel of grace while striving to exhibit the godliness that flows out of God's saving grace in our lives.

**I. The Counterfeit Gospels of False Teachers (4:1–5)**

A. The Source of Counterfeit Gospels (1–2)

1. Deceitful spirits and teachings of demons
2. Through lying human teachers

B. The Lies of Counterfeit Gospels (3–5)

1. *Over-realized eschatology*: we can claim future blessings now
2. *Hyperspirituality*: our earthly/physical life is worthless or evil
3. *Asceticism*: godliness is achieved and demonstrated by self-denial or self-imposed suffering
4. *Legalism*: salvation is achieved through our works or we must repay God's grace by strictly obeying his law