

Psalm 119:103

How sweet are Your words to my taste, Sweeter than honey to my mouth!

People want to know how to spot a cult, or false teaching, and we try to explain that by studying other religions and their writings or teachings is not the right way to approach it, and that we should study the word of God to expose false teachings and cult. Yet some do not understand this. Therefore, one way we usually try and explain this is using the example of a Bank Teller, and how they are trained to spot counterfeit money. They are taught by handling the real thing, and nothing but the real thing, that way when they are handed counterfeit money, they know it just does not feel right in their hands and that something is wrong, because it's not the real deal. And you make shake your head up and down, thinking, "*Yeah I understand this*", which we do to a point, but we are not Bank Tellers so we really can't relate 100 percent to this. But let me put it in a way that we can all understand and have experienced before.

Here in Texas where I live, up until this last weekend, it's been 100+ degrees for almost two months straight. So with that heat, what better thing to have than Ice Cream. Oh, we all love ice cream and we all have our favorite flavors. So during the summer, we buy ice cream from the store or the ice cream parlor or wherever, and we enjoy it whenever we can, some even like it during the cold of winter. So thinking of that and that we have eaten ice cream for years and years; therefore, we know how it should taste with all it's cold, sweet, creamy goodness.

But lets say you buy your favorite ice cream at the store like you usually do. You take it home and can hardly wait to open it up and scoop it into a bowl. Then you take that first bite that you have been waiting for all day, and when you do, it tastes funny to you, like something just isn't right. So you grab the container and read it to make sure that it hasn't expired, which it hasn't. But as you are putting the container down, you notice it say "Sugar Free", meaning it does not contain real sugar, but rather artificial sweetener, which if you don't eat artificial sweetener, it brings a bad after taste to your mouth. So you spit it out and are disappointed that you grabbed the wrong container of Ice Cream.

But the reason you knew it wasn't the real deal and that it was not made with real sugar was, not because you always eat things containing artificial sweeteners, but because you are used to the real deal, which is ice cream made with real sugar, or even all other foods made with real sugar.

That's how it works with the word of God. If you read it over and over, but do very little if any reading on what cults or false religions teach, then when someone brings this strange doctrine to you, just like the ice cream with artificial sweetener, it brings a bad taste to your spiritual pallet.

† **Hebrews 13:9** *Do not be carried about with various and strange doctrines. For it is good that the heart be established by grace, not with foods which have not profited those who have been occupied with them.*

Also notice I use the word “Artificial sweetener” because in today’s verse it says that “***How sweet are Your words to my taste, Sweeter than honey to my mouth!***” Honey is a natural sweetener, so when a artificial sweetener touches your tongue, you can tell right away. Just like when those artificial teachings that are not from the word of God comes along, you notice it as well.

But if you can’t spot false teaching, it could be because you have been gorging on artificial sweeteners, and you are used to the fake stuff, which would be fake, watered down, imitation, non biblical teachings.

They say you are what you eat, the same is true spiritually, you are what you feed your spirit, the real deal “***Your words to my taste, Sweeter than honey to my mouth***” or artificial teachings that profit no one “***various and strange doctrines***”.

- † **2 Peter 2:1** *But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction.*

- † **Acts 20:29-30 (NLT2)** *I know that false teachers, like vicious wolves, will come in among you after I leave, not sparing the flock. Even some men from your own group will rise up and distort the truth in order to draw a following.*