



EXILES – A Study Through 1st & 2nd Peter – Destruction & Deliverance

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Week of March 13th, 2022

SERMON TEXT // 2 Peter 2:1-10A English Standard Version

¹But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction. ²And many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of truth will be blasphemed. ³And in their greed they will exploit you with false words. Their condemnation from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep.

⁴For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to chains of gloomy darkness to be kept until the judgment; ⁵if he did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a herald of righteousness, with seven others, when he brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly; ⁶if by turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to ashes he condemned them to extinction, making them an example of what is going to happen to the ungodly; ⁷and if he rescued righteous Lot, greatly distressed by the sensual conduct of the wicked ⁸(for as that righteous man lived among them day after day, he was tormenting his righteous soul over their lawless deeds that he saw and heard); ⁹then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment until the day of judgment, ¹⁰and especially those who indulge in the lust of defiling passion and despise authority.

SERMON OVERVIEW // In our text this morning, Peter begins to unveil a painting he had alluded to in chapter one which he will now put on full display for a majority of the remaining two chapters of this letter. **2 Peter 2** was written as a warning to believers about the reality of false teachers who were within the church. Peter's main premise for this warning, which comes on the heels of his charge to trust both the apostolic witness and the prophetic word of God, is centered around the fact that false teachers are looking to draw believers away from biblical truth. They would attempt to have us believe counterfeit truths; lesser truths, that would lead to **destruction** rather than **deliverance**.

From the First Century, to the Nineteenth, and into the Twenty-first – this reality remains. There are people inside and outside of the church looking to steer us away from the truth of God's Word – the very Word Peter has thoroughly explained is in fact trustworthy. (2 Peter 1:12-21) Within this portion of his warning against false teachers we first see Peter paint a clear **description** of false teachers, (vv.1-3) as well as the **destruction** that is certain for false teachers, (vv.4-6) and the **deliverance** that is certain for God's people. (vv.7-10A)

SERMON APPLICATION // False teachers try and diminish the truth of the Gospel. That is what is at stake here: if Christ and the gospel are being blasphemed among God's people – there is little hope for those outside the church. If those outside the church are to **hear the truth** – those inside must **know the truth**. The reality is: false teachers cater to the flesh – biblical teachers surrender to the Father. We must be able to recognize the difference.

REFLECT. II POINT. II MAKE.



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COMMUNITYGROUPS | Week of March 13th, 2022

Question 1 // Read **2 Peter 2:1-10A**. What is something from the text that resonated with you, a truth that encouraged you, or even a question you may have surrounding the text theme?

Question 2 // The beginning of **2 Peter 2** serves as a warning to all believers to be on the lookout for false teachers and prophets. Pastor John Piper says, *"Everybody says true things from time to time — even the devil. But that doesn't make them reliable teachers."* **What do false teachers and prophets look like in our day? How can we identify whether or not something is false?**

Question 3 // Peter identifies two key figures in the Old Testament in verses five through seven: Noah and Lot. Adam pointed out that, *"While these men were not perfect – God sovereignly chose to preserve their lives and deliver them in the midst of flooding the world and consuming Sodom in fire respectively. They had done nothing to earn this deliverance – God simply chose to save them."* **Can you think of other old testament figures that fall into this category? How do we fall into this category?**

Question 4 // Sadly, false teachers are not the only avenue bad doctrine draws us away from sound doctrine. Frequently, bad theology and doctrine in our own thinking can really have a negative effect on our walk with the Lord. **Can you think of false doctrines you have had to defeat or overcome in your own journey? Share with the group if you are comfortable, and be sure to share how specifically that doctrine was defeated. Also, can you think of common doctrines that are skewed among the church that have the propensity to be very damaging?**

Reflection & Prayer

Spend some time praying the God would give us a hunger and thirst for His Word. We must know the truth in order for those who are lost without Him have the opportunity to hear the truth. Knowing the difference between false teachers and sound doctrine is critical. Pray and ask Him to give you an ear and heart for the truth so we can easily reject bad doctrine and false teaching.