

BALAM

— AND —

A MESSED UP FAITH

WHEN COMPROMISE LEADS
GOD'S PEOPLE ASTRAY



A SERMON SERIES

— with —

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A Messed-Up Faith, And Wells Without Water

2 Peter 2:10-22

Introduction:

He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.

John 7:38 (Jesus told the woman at the well that believers are flowing with living water!)

“Now, I have told you before, my dear friend, it is bad to tell a lie. It’s worse to teach a lie. It is monstrous to teach a lie about God. And, that’s what has Peter so upset, because these lies are not mere mistakes.”

- Adrian Rogers -

“The Bible says that sometimes Satan comes as a roaring lion to devour, I Peter 5, verse 8.

But on other occasions the Bible teaches that Satan comes as a serpent with subtlety and trickery, II Corinthians 11, verse 3. It is very important for the people of God to understand spiritual warfare.”

- Jerry Vines -

I. Our faith is mixed up when we use it to indulge flesh. (V. 10-14)

A. They feed their flesh on whatever is appealing.

Animals have a natural fear of man, but some become blood thirsty. ***But these, as natural brute beasts, made to be taken and destroyed, speak evil of the things that they understand not; and shall utterly perish in their own corruption; (V. 13) And shall receive the reward of unrighteousness, as they that count it pleasure to riot in the day time. Spots they are and blemishes, sporting themselves with their own deceivings while they feast with you; 2 Peter 2:12-13***

B. They focus their flesh on whatever adulterates.

Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling (enticing or charming) unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children: 2 Peter 2:14

Balaam knew the right way, but he could not resist the wrong way; ***And they slew the kings of Midian, . . . Balaam also the son of Beor they slew with the sword.***

II. Our faith is mixed up when we live our life and ignore our faith. (V. 15-18)

A. They are blinded by the vain rewards of the flesh.

Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness; (V. 16) But was rebuked for his iniquity: the dumb donkey speaking with man's voice forbad the madness of the prophet. 2 Peter 2:15-16

Do you think Peter remembered the rooster who set him straight while he pinned this passage? . . . ***The cock shall not crow, till thou hast denied me thrice. John 13:38***

B. They believe in the vain rhetoric of the flesh.

These are wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever. (V. 18) For when they speak great swelling words of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through much wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error.

2 Peter 2:17-18

“In recent years, there has been an epidemic of books that encourage people to succeed at any cost, even to the extent of hurting or intimidating others. The important thing, according to these books, is to take care of yourself—“number one”—and to use other people as tools for the achievement of your own selfish goals.”

- Warren Wiersbe -

For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple. Romans 16:18

“Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again.” John 4:13

III. Our faith is mixed up when we live our life immersed in the flawed. (V. 19-22)

A. They live their life to promote their own selfish agenda.

While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage. 2 Peter 2:19

B. They live their life under the pull of their own sinful appetite.

“On acting religious: It’s like a pig, you can scrub him clean, brush his teeth, and dress him in a pink ribbon, but he will go right back into the mire. A scrubbing on the outside doesn’t change his inner nature.”

- Adrian Rogers -

For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. (V. 21) For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. (V. 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. 2 Peter 2:20-22