

The Second Epistle of PETER

Chapter 2

“Warning: False Teachers Are Among You!”

Intro: Paul the apostle warned Christians about false teachers in 1 Tim 4:1-4- *Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron, forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.* 2 Tim 4:3-5- *For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.*

I) Revelation of False Teachers (v1-3)

> False teachers M.O. (Mode of Operation) (6 points)

- #1- Secretly brings in destructive heresies (cp. 2 Corinthians ch. 11)
- #2- Denying the Lord
- #3- Many will follow
- #4- The way of truth will be blasphemed
- #5- By covetousness they will exploit you
- #6- They will use deceptive words

- Paul warns us of IDENTITY THEFT! - 2 Cor 11:3-4; 13-15; 20-21 - *But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. For if he who comes preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or if you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted--you may well put up with it! . . . For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works . . . For you put up with it if one brings you into bondage, if one devours you, if one takes from you, if one exalts himself, if one strikes you on the face.*

II) Righteous Judgment of False Teachers (v4-14)

> Examples of their coming judgment:

(v4) Angels in heaven

(v5) Noah's world

(v6) Cities (Sodom & Gomorrah) (Jesus spoke these scriptures of judgment- Lk. 10:12; 17:26-30; Mt. 10:15; 11:23,24; others: Leviticus 18:22; Isaiah 3:9; Romans 1:26-27; 1Cor. 6:9; 1Tim. 1:10; Jude 7; Rev. 21:8)

(v9) Unjust individuals

> Examples of their ungodly practice:

(v10-14) Lust—despise authority—presumptuous—self willed—no fear of God
Speak evil—deceiving themselves—eyes full of adultery—enticing—covetous

III) Recognition of False Teachers (v15-22)

- Their Mug Shot- “Look like Balaam”- A hireling (v15-16)

- Their Appearance- *Waterless Clouds* (Not teaching the Bible), *tempest*- (controlling) (v17)

- Their Speech- *Flattering & Fleshly* (v18)

- Their Organization- Slaves of *corruption* (v19)

- Their Fraudulent Activity- Christian by name-*entangled & overcome* by the world (v20-22)

> FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT TO THE VERY END:

- Jesus **WARNED** us! **Matt 24:4-5; 11-14-** *And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many. Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. But he who endures to the end shall be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.*

- Acts **PREPARES** us! **Acts 2:41-42-** *Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.*

- God's Word **PROTECTS** us! **2 Tim 2:15-** *Study to show yourself approved unto God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*

- Jude **INSPIRES** us! **Jude 3-4-** *I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints. For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ.*