

Proceed with Caution

Week 2 – 2 Peter 2:1-22 (pg. 1027-1028)

2 Peter 1:3a (NLT) By his divine power, God has given us everything we need for living a godly life.

2 Peter 1:12 (NLT) Therefore, I will always remind you about these things—even though you already know them and are standing firm in the truth you have been taught.

False Teachers

False teachers are _____ by sin and selfishness.

2 Peter 2:14-15 (NLT) They commit adultery with their eyes, and their desire for sin is never satisfied. They lure unstable people into sin, and they are well trained in greed. They live under God's curse. They have wandered off the right road and followed the footsteps of Balaam son of Beor, who loved to earn money by doing wrong.

False teachers aren't _____.

2 Peter 2:17 (NLT) These people are as useless as dried-up springs or as mist blown away by the wind. They are doomed to blackest darkness.

False teachers are people of _____.

2 Peter 2:18 (NLT) They brag about themselves with empty, foolish boasting. With an appeal to twisted sexual desires, they lure back into sin those who have barely escaped from a lifestyle of deception.

False teachers are _____.

2 Peter 2:13b (NLT) They love to indulge in evil pleasures in broad daylight. They are a disgrace and a stain among you. They delight in deception even as they eat with you in your fellowship meals.

Results of false teachers:

The way of truth will be _____. (vs. 2b)

Authority will be _____. (vs. 10)

Sexual sin becomes _____. (vs. 10, 18)

Financial practices get _____. (vs. 3, 15)

Innocent people get dragged into _____. (vs. 14, 19-20)

2 Peter 2:8 (NLT) Yes, Lot was a righteous man who was tormented in his soul by the wickedness he saw and heard day after day.

God's desire is to _____, not condemn.

2 Peter 2:1 (NLT) But there were also false prophets in Israel, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will cleverly teach destructive heresies and even deny the Master who bought them. In this way, they will bring sudden destruction on themselves.

2 Peter 2:19b-20 (NLT) For you are a slave to whatever controls you. And when people escape from the wickedness of the world by knowing our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and then get tangled up and enslaved by sin again, they are worse off than before.

2 Peter 2:9 (NLT) So you see, the Lord knows how to rescue godly people from their trials, even while keeping the wicked under punishment until the day of final judgment.

Will you let Jesus _____?

2 Peter 1:3a (NLT) By his divine power, God has given us everything we need for living a godly life.

John 10:10 (NLT, pg. 892) The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life.

Final Thought: _____
(NLT, pg. 174) So be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid and do not panic before them. For the Lord your God will personally go ahead of you. He will neither fail you nor abandon you."

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Discussion Questions

What “famous” false teachers do you remember from past news headlines? Do they fit into the things Peter describes here? Are there other false teachers in our world/culture besides famous or well know people? Why or why not?

Review the results of false teachers that were presented in the message. Which one do you see being the most prevalent today? Explain. “Our culture reflects that we have strayed from God’s plan and God’s truth. They unfortunately are just as true within church culture as they are in worldly culture.” Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Explain.

Compare 2 Peter 2:12 and Romans 12:2. How are these two verses related? How are they different? Have you ever realized that the way you think, or the perspective you see life from is so powerful? Why or why not?

Read 2 Peter 2:19-22. Peter is very clear about the false teachers and their eternal judgement. In verses 20-22 he focuses on those the false teachers lead astray. This passage seems to imply that we will be held accountable according to our knowledge. What is your reaction to this concept? Explain. Does Peter say the people lead astray by false teachers cannot be saved again? What can they do to move forward? Have you been set free through Jesus Christ? Why or why not?

*For further study if you have time; the story of Balaam is found in Numbers 22-24, the specific donkey story mentioned is in 22:21-36. Why do you think Peter chose this story to reference? Also, the book of Jude gives similar teaching and has a lot of parallels regarding false teachers.