

**New Series: Last Days – 2 Peter
“False Teachers”
2 Peter 2:1 – 3**

Big Idea - Satan is behind all of the scams, fakes, and false teachers.

counterfeits are nothing new. Satan is the "great imitator" (2 Cor. 11:13-15 says he is transformed into an angel of light

The nation Israel was constantly being led astray by false prophets. Elijah had to contend with the prophets of Baal, but they promoted a pagan religion. It was the Jewish false prophets who did the most damage, for they claimed to speak for Jehovah God.

Both Jeremiah and Ezekiel exposed this counterfeit ministry, but the people followed the pseudo-prophets just the same. Why? Because the religion of the false prophets was easy, comfortable, and popular. The fact that the false prophets preached a false peace did not worry the people (Jer. 6:14).

That was the message they wanted to hear!

Peter’s Description of the False Teachers

- 2 Peter 2:1 “There used to be false prophets among God’s people, just as you will have some false teachers in your group. They will secretly teach things that are wrong—teachings that will cause people to be lost. They will even refuse to accept the Master, Jesus, who bought their freedom. So they will bring quick ruin on themselves.
- 2 Many will follow their evil ways and say evil things about the way of truth.
- 3 Those false teachers only want your money, so they will use you by telling you lies. Their judgment spoken against them long ago is still coming, and their ruin is certain.
- 4 When angels sinned, God did not let them go free without punishment. He sent them to hell and put them in caves of darkness where they are being held for judgment.
- 5 And God punished the world long ago when he brought a flood to the world that was full of people who were against him. But God saved Noah, who preached about being right with God, and seven other people with him.
- 6 And God also destroyed the evil cities of Sodom and Gomorrah by burning them until they were ashes. He made those cities an example of what will happen to those who are against God.

7 But he saved Lot from those cities. Lot, a good man, was troubled because of the filthy lives of evil people.

8 (Lot was a good man, but because he lived with evil people every day, his good heart was hurt by the evil things he saw and heard.)

9 So the Lord knows how to save those who serve him when troubles come. He will hold evil people and punish them, while waiting for the Judgment Day.

10 That punishment is especially for those who live by doing the evil things their sinful selves want and who hate authority. These false teachers are bold and do anything they want. They are not afraid to insult the Lord's glory."

Their deception

"Destructive heresies" – meant a sect or a side, a divisive spirit

Had a false message, and false methods (did it secretly, pretending to believe truth, but later throwing it out)

Vs. 3 used "feigned" works, insincere or "plastic" – words that can be "twisted" to mean anything you want them to mean.

Use same 3 methods as Satan in garden of Eden - Gen. 3:1- 5

1. Questioned God – said to Eve, "did God really say you can't eat of every tree In the garden?" he added the word "every" to what God said

2. Denied God's truth – vs. 4 said God was lying – you will not die!

3. Substituted his own lie – vs. 5 said they would be "like God" – the same sin that got Lucifer kicked out of heaven. Isaiah 14:12 - 14

and he has been hard at work ever since. He has false Christians (Matt. 13:38; John 8:44), a false gospel (Gal. 1:6-9), and even a false righteousness (Rom. 9:30-10:4). One day, he will present to the world a false Christ (2 Thes. 2).

Their denial of absolute Truth

They deny the inspiration of the Bible, the sinfulness of man, the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ on the cross, salvation by faith alone, and even the reality of eternal judgment

They especially deny the deity of Jesus Christ, for they know that if they can do away with His deity they can destroy the entire body of Christian truth. Christianity is Christ, and if He is not what He claims to be, there is no Christian faith.

Unsaved, compared to pigs & dogs, not sheep – vs. 22

2 Peter 2:22 These proverbs have come true for them: “A dog goes back to its vomit,” and “A sow that has been washed goes back to roll around in the mud.”

Jude 19 says they "have not the Spirit."

If a person does not have the Spirit of God within, he is not a child of God (Rom. 8:9).

How were they “bought” by the Lord? when it comes to efficacy, His death is sufficient for the whole world. (John 3:16; 1 John 2:2). However, it doesn't one any good unless it is believed and acted upon.

He purchased even those who reject Him and deny Him! This makes their condemnation even greater.

He is the Son of God and God the Son. He is the only Savior. To deny this is to condemn your own soul.

Apostasy – “the falling away”