

## 2 Peter 2:1-22 **Destructive Doctrines – False Prophets – False Teachers**

### Destructive Doctrines

<sup>1</sup> But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction. <sup>2</sup> And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed. <sup>3</sup> By covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words; for a long time their judgment has not been idle, and their destruction does not slumber.

### Doom of False Teachers – Like Angels who Sinned (Genesis 6:1-4, Jude 1:6) – Example of History

<sup>4</sup> For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment; <sup>5</sup> and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly; <sup>6</sup> and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them to destruction, making them an example to those who afterward would live ungodly; <sup>7</sup> and delivered righteous Lot, who was oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked <sup>8</sup> (for that righteous man, dwelling among them, tormented his righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing their lawless deeds) —

<sup>9</sup> then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment, <sup>10</sup> and especially those who walk according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and despise authority. They are presumptuous, self-willed. They are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries, <sup>11</sup> whereas angels, who are greater in power and might, do not bring a reviling accusation against them before the Lord.

### Depravity of False Teachers

<sup>12</sup> But these, like natural brute beasts made to be caught and destroyed, speak evil of the things they do not understand, and will utterly perish in their own corruption, <sup>13</sup> and will receive the wages of unrighteousness, as those who count it pleasure to carouse in the daytime. They are spots and blemishes, carousing in their own deceptions while they feast with you, <sup>14</sup> having eyes full of adultery and that cannot cease from sin, enticing unstable souls. They have a heart trained in covetous practices, and are accursed children.

<sup>15</sup> They have forsaken the right way and gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Beor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness; <sup>16</sup> but he was rebuked for his iniquity: a dumb donkey speaking with a man's voice restrained the madness of the prophet.

<sup>17</sup> These are wells without water, clouds carried by a tempest, for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever.

### Deceptions of False Teachers – End is destruction

<sup>18</sup> For when they speak great swelling words of emptiness, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through lewdness, the ones who have actually escaped from those who live in error.

<sup>19</sup> While they promise them liberty, they themselves are slaves of corruption; for by whom a person is overcome, by him also he is brought into bondage.

20 For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning.

21 For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them.

22 But it has happened to them according to the true proverb: "A dog returns to his own vomit," and, "a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire."

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Facts Revealed:

### Destructive Doctrines – Have they lost their Salvation and lured others to do the same?

- ✚ There were false prophets among the Children of Israel in their history. [Jeremiah 14:14, 23:32, Lamentations 2:14, Ezekiel 13:3-7, 22:23-28, Zechariah 10:2]
- ✚ There will be false christ, false prophets and false teachers in the Church to the very end. [2 Peter 2:1, Matthew 7:15, 24:4-5, 11, 24, Mark 13:5-6, 21-22, Luke 21:8, Acts 13:6, Romans 16:17-18, 2 Corinthians 11:13-15, Ephesians 5:6, Colossians 2:4, 2 Thessalonians 2:3, 1 Timothy 4:1-2, 2 Timothy 3:13, Titus 1:10-11, 1 John 2:26, Revelation 13:11-14]
  - ✧ Many will be deceived by their destructive heresies. [2 Peter 2:2, Matthew 24:5, 11, Mark 13:6, 1 Timothy 4:1, 2 Timothy 3:13]
  - ✧ They will even deny the Lord Who bought them. [2 Peter 2:1]
  - ✧ Their end will be destruction. [2 Peter 2:1-3, Matthew 13:40-44, 2 Corinthians 11:15, Philippians 3:18-19, Hebrews 6:4-8, 1 Peter 4:17-18]
  - ✧ Because of the error of False Teachers promoting false doctrine, the way of Truth will be blasphemed. [2 Peter 2:2]
  - ✧ Motivated by covetousness, the False Teachers will exploit (manipulate) you with deceptive words. [2 Peter 2:3]
  - ✧ God has a record of their works and their destruction is set for the appointed time.

### Doom of False Teachers – Like Angels who Sinned – Examples of History [2 Peter 2:4-11]

- ✚ End of False Teachers is established as certainty and their end is demonstrated by previous examples of those whom God has reserved for Judgment.
  - ✧ **Angels who sinned**, God has cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment. [2 Peter 2:4, Genesis 6:1-4, Jude 1:6]
  - ✧ God did not spare the **ancient world**, but saved Noah, one of eight people, **a preacher of righteousness**, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly. [2 Peter 2:5, Genesis 6:8 through 9:1, Ezekiel 14:14, 20, Hebrews 11:7, 1 Peter 3:20]
  - ✧ Here we learn that Noah was a **preacher of righteousness** until the time of the Flood.
  - ✧ Turning the cities of **Sodom and Gomorrah** into ashes, God condemned them to destruction, **making them an example to those who afterward would live ungodly**. [2 Peter 2:6, Genesis 19:1-29, Luke 17:28-30]
  - ✧ At the same time God delivered Lot, who was oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked (for that righteous man, dwelling among them, tormented his righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing their lawless deeds. [2 Peter 2:7-8, Genesis 19:1-29]

### Saving the Righteous while Judging the Wicked proves that God is able [2 Peter 2:9]

- ✚ Delivering the righteous out of destruction while bringing destruction on others, proves that **the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment**. [2 Peter 2:4-9]

False Teachers described [2 Peter 2:10-17]

✠ During the time of the Church, this warning applies especially to **those who walk according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and despise authority.** [2 Peter 2:10]

✠ False Teachers are described as:

✧ **Those who** are presumptuous, self-willed. Presumptuous sin has no covering. [2 Peter 2:10, Numbers 15:30, Deuteronomy 17:12-13, Hebrews 10:26-27]

✧ **Those who** are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries. [2 Peter 2:10]

✧ **Angels**, who are greater in power and might, do not bring a reviling accusation against them before the Lord. [2 Peter 2:11, Jude 1:9, Zechariah 3:2]

✧ **False Teachers** are likened to natural brute beasts made to be caught and destroyed. [2 Peter 2:12]

✧ **False Teachers** speak evil of the things they do not understand, this is true of all blasphemy. [2 Peter 2:12]

✧ **False Teachers** will utterly perish in their own corruption, and will receive the wages of unrighteousness. [2 Peter 2:12-13]

✧ Those who count it pleasure to carouse in the daytime will share the same fate. [2 Peter 2:13]

✧ Deceiving false teachers are spots and blemishes, carousing in their own deceptions while they feast with you. [2 Peter 2:13]

✧ Having eyes full of adultery and that cannot cease from sin, they are enticing unstable souls. [2 Peter 2:14]

✧ They have a heart trained in covetous practices, and are accursed children. [2 Peter 2:14]

✧ They have **forsaken** the right way and gone astray. [2 Peter 2:15]

✧ Apparently they once knew the right way before they chose to turn astray and forsake it.

✧ Motivated by covetousness, the False Teachers follow the way of Balaam the son of Beor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness. [2 Peter 2:15-16, Numbers 22:1 through 24:25, 31:16, Jude 1:11, Revelation 2:14]

✧ Balaam was rebuked for his iniquity: a dumb donkey speaking with a man's voice restrained the madness of the prophet. [2 Peter 2:16, Numbers 22:22-30]

✧ Speaking of the False Teachers, Peter said: "These are wells without water, clouds carried by a tempest, for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever." [2 Peter 2:17]

**Effectiveness of False Teachers in their Deception of the Unwary – End is destruction** [2 Peter 2:18-22]

✠ When they speak great swelling words of emptiness, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through lewdness, the ones who have actually escaped from those who live in error. [2 Peter 2:18]

✧ False Teachers are eloquent orators, charismatic public speakers who appeal to the sensual debased nature of the audience. [2 Peter 2:18]

✧ They lure the gullible who have actually escaped from those who live in sin by accepting the Gospel message. [2 Peter 2:18]

✧ Promising liberty, they bring the gullible under the same bondage of corruption as themselves. [2 Peter 2:19, Matthew 23:15]

✧ For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning. [2 Peter 2:20]

✧ These are people who were saved and escaped the pollutions of the world.

✧ They were saved through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

✧ They were drawn away by persuasive doctrine of the false teachers who led them into error by their crafty appeal to the sensual side.

✧ Their end will be destruction just like the unbeliever, because they turned away from the truth and fell into unbelief. [Romans 11:19-22, Hebrews 3:12, 4:11]

- ✧ For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to **turn from the holy commandment** delivered to them. [[2 Peter 2:21](#)]
- ✧ Either way the end is one of being lost, the difference in the degree of punishment is because they at first were sinners bound for an eternity with the wicked. The other is those who have known the way of Salvation and have turned away to please the flesh.
- ✧ But it has happened to them according to the true proverb: "A dog returns to his own vomit," and, "a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire." [[2 Peter 2:22](#)]
- ✧ Scripture has warned many, many times that many will be deceived and fall into destruction.
- ✧ It is human nature to lose sight of the eternal goal with God by being distracted by the lusts and cares of this world as well as by the enemy and problems faced. [[Matthew 13:19-22](#), [1 Timothy 5:13](#)]