

13 - THE REALITY OF FALSE TEACHERS – PART 1 (2 PETER 2:1-9)

I. The Existence of False Teachers (2 Peter 2:1-3a)

A. Their Presence (2 Peter 2:1a)

- Just as there were false prophets among Israel, there are false teachers among the church.
- These false teachers will arise from within the church.

Scripture: Acts 20:30 (ESV)

and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them.

B. Their Work (2 Peter 2:1b)

- They secretly bring teachings that will ultimately lead people away from Jesus Christ.

C. Their Following (2 Peter 2:2)

- People will listen to their teaching and follow their ways.

Scripture: 2 Timothy 4:3-4 (ESV)

³ For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, ⁴ and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.

D. Their Method (2 Peter 2:3a)

- They exploited people for their own personal benefit with deceptive words.
- The word “exploit” means to commercialize or make a profit from.

II. Their Coming Judgment (2 Peter 2:3b-9)

A. The Surety of Their Judgment (2 Peter 2:3b)

- While it seems that they are not accountable, their judgment is sure.

B. The Examples of God’s Judgment (2 Peter 2:4-6)

1. The Fallen Angels (2 Peter 2:4)

- God did not spare angels who had sinned.

Biblical Note: Angels who did not keep their proper domain

Jude refers to fallen angels who rebelled against God. There are two views concerning the nature of their rebellion against God. (1) Some scholars feel that Jude is referring to the angels that

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rebelled with Satan (Ezekiel 28:15). (2) Some scholars believe that these angels committed the sin of the "Sons of God" in Genesis 6:1-4 by having sexual relationships with women.
See: 2 Peter 2:4; Jude 9

Biblical Note: The Bottomless Pit (The Abyss) (Chains under Darkness)

The bottomless pit or the Abyss refers to the prison of disobedient or fallen angels. It is full of smoke and fire. The demons have a great dread of being sent to the Abyss.
See: Luke 8:31; 2 Peter 2:4; Jude 6; Revelation 9:11; 11:7; 17:8; 20:1-3.

2. The Time of Noah (2 Peter 2:5)

- God judged Noah's world with a flood because of their sin.

3. The Cities of Sodom & Gomorrah (2 Peter 2:6)

- God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah as an example of his judgment on sin.

Biblical Note: Sodom & Gomorrah

The kingdoms of Sodom and Gomorrah were allied with the cities of Admah, Zeboiim and Zoar. These five cities, also known as the "cities of the plain," were situated on the Jordan River plain in the southern region of the land of Canaan. The plain, which corresponds to the area just north of the modern-day Dead Sea was compared to the garden of Eden as being well-watered and green, suitable for grazing livestock. Divine judgment by God was passed upon Sodom and Gomorrah and two neighboring cities, which were completely consumed by fire and brimstone. Neighboring Zoar was the only city to be spared. Sodom and Gomorrah have become synonymous with unrepentant sin, and their fall with a manifestation of divine retribution.

See: Genesis 10:19; 13:10-13; 14:2,8,10-12,17, 21-22; 18:16,20,22,26; 19:1,4,24,28; Deuteronomy 29:23; 32:32; Isaiah 1:9,10; 3:9; 13:19; Jeremiah 23:14; 49:18; 50:40; Lamentations 4:6; Ezekiel 16:46,48,49,53,55,56; Amos 4:11; Zephaniah 2:9; Matthew 10:15; 11:23,24; Mark 6:11; Luke 10:12; Romans 9:29; 2 Peter 2:6; Jude 7; Revelation 11:8.

C. The Deliverance of God's People (2 Peter 2:7-9)

1. The Deliverance of Lot (2 Peter 2:7-8)

- God spared righteous Lot from the destruction.

Biblical Note: Lot

Lot was the son of Haran and the nephew of Abraham (Genesis 11:31; 12:5). Lot followed Abraham from Haran to Canaan. After a period of unity and fellowship, a dispute arose between Lot's servants and Abraham's servants. Given the choice of land by Abraham, Lot chose the land near Sodom. Later, Lot and his family reside in Sodom. When the angels visit Sodom to rescue Lot and his family, Lot's family is hesitant to leave the city. The angels forcibly take Lot, his wife and two daughters out of the city. Lot's family is told to flee the city to Zoar. His wife is judged and made a pillar of salt for looking back at Sodom. Lot and his daughters flee to Zoar, but because of fear, they fled to a cave. The daughters get their father drunk and have sexual relationships with him. The daughters give birth to sons that would later

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become the people of Moab and Ammon.

See: Genesis 11:27,31; 12:4,5; 13:1-14; 14:12,16; 19:1-36; Deuteronomy 2:9,19; Psalm 83:8; Luke 17:28,29; 2 Peter 2:7.

- Lot was oppressed and tormented daily by the filthy conduct of the lost.

2. The Deliverance of the Godly (2 Peter 2:9)

- God knows how to deliver the godly from temptation.
- God reserves judgment for the unjustified.