

14 - THE REALITY OF FALSE TEACHERS – PART 2 (2 PETER 2:10-22)

I. The Description of False Teachers (2 Peter 2:10-16)

A. Their Attitude (2 Peter 2:10a)

- They are motivated by corrupt desires.
- They despise true authority.

B. Their Demeanor (2 Peter 2:10b-13a)

1. Arrogance (2 Peter 2:10b)

- They are bold and arrogant.

2. Slanderers (2 Peter 2:10c-11)

a. Their Slander (2 Peter 2:10c)

- They speak evil of things that they do not fully comprehend such as angels.

b. Contrasted with Angels (2 Peter 2:11)

- Not even angels, who are more powerful, would speak in such a way.

3. Animals (2 Peter 2:12)

- Like animals, they operate only by their instincts and without understanding.
- They are only fit for destruction.

4. Unashamed (2 Peter 2:13a)

- They openly engaged their sinful pleasures in broad daylight.

C. Their Deeds (2 Peter 2:13b-16)

1. Hypocrisy (2 Peter 2:13b)

- They openly mocked the Lord's Table with their unrestrained behavior.

2. Adultery (2 Peter 2:14a)

- They think only of adultery.
- They view every woman as a possible sexual conquest.

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- They seduce unstable souls for their sexual pleasure.
- 3. Greed (2 Peter 2:14b)
 - They are consumed with an extreme desire for personal gain.
 - They are deserving of God's wrath.
- 4. Willfully Disobedient (2 Peter 2:15-16)
 - a. Rejection of What is Right (2 Peter 2:15a)
 - They willfully reject what is right in order to pursue their own desires.
 - b. Following the Example of Balaam (2 Peter 2:15b-16)
 - They are like Balaam who loved money more than obedience.

Historical Note: Balaam

Balaam was Gentile diviner. He was the son Beor from the city of Pethor on the Euphrates River. He was hired by Balak, king of Moab, to curse Israel. However, he pronounced three blessings on Israel as he was commanded to do by the Lord. Balaam was guilty of counseling King Balak to cause Israel to sin through idolatry and intermarriage with Balak's people. Balak will killed when Israel defeated the Midianites.
See: Numbers 22:5-41; 23:1-30; 24:25; 31:8,16; Deuteronomy 23:4-5; Joshua 13:22; 24:9-10; Nehemiah 13:2; Micah 6:5; 2 Peter 2:15; Jude 11; Revelation 2:14.

- Balaam was rebuked by God through his donkey.

II. The Nature of False Teachers (2 Peter 2:17-22)

A. Their Nature (2 Peter 2:17)

- Despite their appearance, they present only emptiness.

B. Their Empty Words (2 Peter 2:18a)

- They present their empty doctrine in grand words of eloquence.

C. Their Prey (2 Peter 2:18b)

- They deceive believers by appealing to their sinful desires.

D. Their Empty Promises (2 Peter 2:19)

- They promise freedom while they are slaves to their depravity.

E. Their Renouncement (2 Peter 2:20-22)

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- They have renounced the truth of Jesus Christ and returned to darkness.
- It would have been far better for them had they never heard the truth.