

The Epistle of 2 Peter

- ▶ This letter is written to teach Christians that we must grow in order to make our calling and election sure. This will guard against false teaching that is so prevalent.

Review Questions

- ▶ “For so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.” But aren’t Christians in the kingdom today?
- ▶ Reminders serve to _____ us _____.
- ▶ When did Peter and two other apostles hear the voice from heaven, “This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased”?
- ▶ The apostles of Jesus were e _____ w _____.
- ▶ In addition to eyewitness testimony, what do we have that is made more sure?
- ▶ Is Scripture of private interpretation?
- ▶ Scripture came not by the will of _____, but prophets of God were moved by the _____ and spoke from _____.

2:1-3 There will be false teachers among you

“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.

{2} And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed.

{3} 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.”

- ▶ Where will these false teachers be?
 - ▶ “among you”
- ▶ What is their mode of operation?
 - ▶ “secretly bring in”
- ▶ What will they bring in?
 - ▶ “destructive heresies”

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▶ Heresy

- ▶ Opinion, dogma; opinion opposed to the revelation in the gospel
 - ▶ Contrast to prophets in chapter 1 who “spoke from God”

▶ How far will they go?

- ▶ “even denying the Lord who bought them”

▶ How can we deny the Lord who bought us?

- ▶ Deny – contradict what the Lord said

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- ▶ What will these false teachers reap?
 - ▶ “swift destruction”
- ▶ Will anyone listen to and follow them?
 - ▶ Yes, “many”
- ▶ What’s the result when saints follow the false teachers?
 - ▶ “the way of truth is blasphemed”

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- ▶ What is the motive of these false teachers?
 - ▶ “covetousness”
- ▶ Are their words plainly error?
 - ▶ “deceptive words”
- ▶ What are they doing with saints?
 - ▶ “exploit” – make merchandise of
- ▶ Will they get their just reward?
 - ▶ Yes, “for a long time their judgment has not been idle, and their destruction does not slumber”

2:4-10a Examples prove God's judgment and God's deliverance

"For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to pits of darkness, held for judgment; {5} and did not spare the ancient world, but protected Noah, a preacher of righteousness, with seven others, when He brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly; {6} and if He condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to destruction by reducing them to ashes, having made them an example of what is coming for the ungodly; {7} and if He rescued righteous Lot, who was oppressed by the perverted conduct of unscrupulous people {8} (for by what he saw and heard that righteous man, while living among them, felt his righteous soul tormented day after day by their lawless deeds), {10} and especially those who indulge the flesh in its corrupt passion, and despise authority."

2:10b-13 The false teachers are arrogant and ungodly

“Reckless, self-centered, they speak abusively of angelic majesties without trembling,

{11} whereas angels who are greater in might and power do not bring a demeaning judgment against them before the Lord.

{12} But these, like unreasoning animals, born as creatures of instinct to be captured and killed, using abusive speech where they have no knowledge, will in the destruction of those creatures also be destroyed,

{13} suffering wrong as the wages of doing wrong. They count it a pleasure to revel in the daytime. They are stains and blemishes, reveling in their deceptions as they feast with you, “