

McCoy Memorial Baptist Church

Date: July 12, 2020

Summer Quarter: Zealous for the Truth

Today's Lesson: "Danger Ahead: Counterfeit Communicators" (Part 2)

THEIR APPEARANCE (2:1a)

"There were false prophets" (OT) & "there will be false teachers among you."

QUESTION: Are these false teachers genuine believers, or only nominal believers? Perhaps vv. 20-22 helps us here. Peter uses both "dogs" & "pigs" to describe people who knew the truth & turned away from it.

THEIR CHARACTER

"Don't touch the gold; don't touch the girls; & don't touch the glory" (D. Marvin)

THEIR TEACHING

1. They _____ the sovereign Lord who bought them (vs. 1b)
2. Their teaching is " _____ " (lit. "against law")
3. They _____ the second coming of Christ and the Biblical teaching of a coming Day of the Lord (cp. 3:3-10).

THEIR TECHNIQUE

1. They _____ the Scriptures (see 3:14-16; cp. 1:16; 2:3)
2. They _____ stories (lit. "with plastic words"; 1:16)
3. They target the _____, _____, _____ (see 2:14; 2:18-19). In other words, the vulnerable.
4. Their approach is _____ infiltration: "they will secretly introduce destructive heresies."

THEIR _____:

1. "Many will follow their shameful ways" (2a; cp. Jude 4)
Refers to debased, sexually immoral practices; reckless, hard immorality
2. They "bring the way of truth into disrepute" (2b)
"the way of truth will be blasphemed because of them" (*blasphemeo*)

3. They create divisions, factions, sects = "Destructive heresies"
αἵρεσις *haíresis* = holding a divergent opinion but still be part of a whole.
4. They cause _____ (1b)
It results in moral & spiritual ruin (cp. 2:18-22; Heb. 6:4-6; 10:26-31).

THEIR _____:

In vs. 4-9, Peter provides three illustrations to demonstrate both the Lord's judgment of the ungodly and his deliverance of godly people.

1. Examples of Judging the Ungodly
 - A. Sinning _____ (v. 4)
 - B. Ungodly _____ (vv. 5-6)
2. Examples of _____ the Righteous
 - A. _____ (v. 5b)
 - B. _____ (vv. 7-8)

These are not nice people!

Jesus: "Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are **ferocious** wolves" (Mt. 7:15; in Acts 20:29 Paul called them "**savage** wolves").

Paul: "Such are false apostles, deceitful workmen, masquerading as apostles of Christ. And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. It's not surprising, then, if his servants masquerade as servants of righteousness" (2 Cor. 11:13-15).

MAKING IT PERSONAL

How can we avoid (escape) being duped by counterfeit communicators, Satan's workers of deceit? Here are four practical tips/steps:

- 1) _____! Be good Bereans (cp. Acts 17:11).
- 2) _____! What do you know about the main spokesperson?
- 3) _____! Listen carefully to what's said and not said.
- 4) _____! (2 Pet. 1:3-11 and 3:17-18)