

# FALSE TEACHERS



**Peter wants to warn us about the danger of false teachers within the Church, like Paul did when he met the elders of Ephesus (Acts 20:28-31).**



**➤ False teachers:**

- 1. Teaching and motivation.  
2 Peter 2:1-3.**
- 2. Examples from the Old Testament.  
2 Peter 2:4-17.**
- 3. Promises of freedom.  
2 Peter 2:18-19.**
- 4. Coming back to the world.  
2 Peter 2:20-22.**

**➤ Comparing 2 Peter to the epistle of Jude.**



# FALSE TEACHERS: THEIR TEACHINGS

**"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 Peter 2:1)**



**False teachers claim they can interpret the divine message, but they teach heresies instead (false teachings):**

- ⊗ They denied Christ (v. 1).**
- ⊗ They teach a licentious lifestyle (v. 10, 18).**
- ⊗ They rebel against authority (v. 10).**
- ⊗ They promise freedom (v. 11).**
- ⊗ They deny the holy commandments (v. 21).**

**Those heresies are dangerous because lead those who accept them to condemnation (v. 18).**

**In addition, they distort the doctrine and blaspheme against the truth (v. 2).**

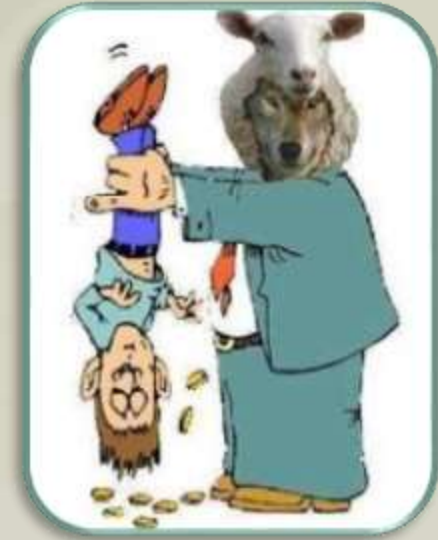


# FALSE TEACHERS: THEIR MOTIVATION

**“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.” (2 Peter 2:3)**

**The main motivation of those false teachers was greed. They wanted to benefit from their brothers and sisters.**

**They may be motivated by money (v. 3), lust (v. 18) or getting an important position within the Church (v. 19).**



**By acting like that, they “bring on themselves swift destruction” and they are “like natural brute beasts made to be caught and destroyed” that “will utterly perish in their own corruption.” (v. 1, 12).**





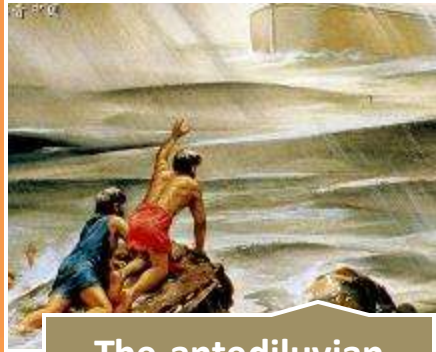
# EXAMPLES FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

“They have forsaken the right way and gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Beor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness.” (2 Peter 2:15)

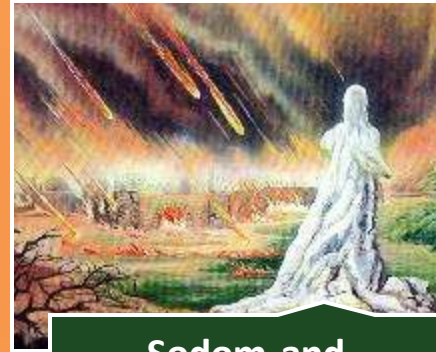
**Peter compared the teachings of the false teachers and their consequences to four examples from the Old Testament:**



**The angels that fell  
(v. 4).**



**The antediluvian  
world (v. 5).**



**Sodom and  
Gomorrah (v. 6).**



**Balaam (v. 15).**



**Peter emphasized the example of “Noah, a preacher of righteousness” and “righteous Lot.” Both Noah and Lot are an example for us as they remained faithful among apostasy and wickedness.**



**“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.” (2 Peter 2:19)**

# **PROMISES OF FREEDOM**



**Jesus promised He would free us from the slavery of sin to make us truly free in Him (John 8:34-36).**

**Nevertheless, those false teachers promise to free us from the slavery of Christ and to make us free to sin.**

**They exchange purity and holiness for lust and dissolution. They want to come back to the corruption Christ rescued them from.**

**Therefore, the “destruction does not slumber” (v. 3) for those teachers and their pupils.**





# COMING BACK TO THE WORLD



**"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)**



**According to Peter, "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." (v. 21).**

**Those who don't follow the way of truth consciously and stubbornly are living in great danger. "For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened... if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance." (Hebrews 6:4-6).**

**How can we avoid living the way we lived before believing in Jesus?**



**Jesus told the parable of the unclean spirit. The house where it lived was cleaned but left empty. When the spirit saw the empty house, it brought other spirits with him. That was bankruptcy for the house's owner (Matthew 12:43-45).**

**Therefore, it's important to replace the things we did before knowing Jesus with other activities that involve sharing the gospel and being active at Church.**



# 2 PETER AND JUDE

**“knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts.”  
(2 Peter 3:3)**

**“how they told you that there would be mockers in the last time who would walk according to their own ungodly lusts.”  
(Jude 1:18)**

The epistle of Jude and 2 Peter 2:1-3:7 are very similar. The same idea is repeated to stress the need for revival and reformation to resist the teachings of the false teachers.

- They bring destructive heresies.
- They despise authority.
- They are slaves of corruption.
- They pervert God’s grace with libertine immorality.
- They deny Jesus Christ as the only Sovereign and Lord.
- They contaminate their own bodies.
- They speak hollow words.
- They slander others.





**“In the very midst of us will arise false teachers, giving heed to seducing spirits whose doctrines are of satanic origin...**

**The only hope of our churches is to keep wide awake. Those who are well grounded in the truth of the Word, those who test everything by a ‘Thus saith the Lord’ are safe. The Holy Spirit will guide those who prize the wisdom of God.”**