

THE SECOND EPISTLE OF PETER

TO THE CHURCH OF THE DIASPORA OR DISPERSION THROUGHOUT
THE FIRST CENTURY ROMAN WORLD

2-PETER CHAPTER 2:10-22

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SMX1010

Sunday, June 21, 2020

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“What You Really Need To Know - About Who’s Out There” – Part 6

The Priority and Ministry of The Word of God to All Those Engaged in an Active and Militant Faith

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

False Doctrine, False Salvation, False Christianity, False Disciples

2 Peter 2:10-22

:10 And especially those who walk according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and despise authority. They are presumptuous, self-willed. They are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries 11 whereas angels, who are greater in power and might, do not bring a reviling accusation against them before the Lord. :12 But these, like natural brute beasts made to be caught and destroyed, speak evil of the things they do not understand, and (they) will utterly perish in their own corruption. 13 and will receive the wages of unrighteousness, as those who count it a pleasure to carouse in the daytime (in broad daylight). 14 Having eyes full of adultery and that cannot cease from sin, enticing unstable souls. They have a heart trained in covetous practices, and are accursed children. 15 They have forsaken the right way and gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Beor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness; 16 but he was rebuked for his iniquity: a dumb donkey speaking with a man’s voice restrained the madness of the prophet. :17 These are wells without water, clouds carried by a tempest, for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever. :18 For when they speak great swelling words of emptiness, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through lewdness, the ones who have actually escaped from those who live in error. 19 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. 20 For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning. 21 For (because) 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. 22 But it has happened to them according to the true proverb: “A dog returns to his own vomit,” and, “a sow, having been washed, to her wallowing in the mire.” (implied: again and again)

Welcome back to **2nd Peter** – It is his final letter to the church and it is obviously Peter’s passionate, emotional, and hard-hitting exhortation to all believers.

Combat Faith

(and for us it couldn’t come at a better time here in the 21st century)
This last will and testament, as it were, as now he is the aged battle-hardened weathered saint of God. This is no longer Peter the confused and bumbling disciple – this is Peter, a man who has walked now for decades with Jesus Christ, and he is imparting that practical wisdom to the churches of what we would call today the regions of Eastern Europe.

By way of Review, Chapter 1 instructed us that
(Verses 3-21) (1) we are to have a growing faith as it develops toward maturity. (2) That we are to have a faith that is to be grounded and (3) That our faith is a logical faith, a useful faith, and a public faith!

By way of Review, Chapter 2 instructed us that
(Verses 1-9) (1) there are false prophets and false teachers who propagated false doctrine to present a false Christ – a man-made Christ and the Christ of the Cults! (2) We learned of their condemnation and their coming end. That their judgment is coming and it will be final...

And Now in the Conclusion of Chapter 2

We learn that the false prophets and false teachers produce a godless lifestyle. In fact, this shouldn’t come as a surprise to us when all of us understand the truth and the reality of sowing and reaping. You can call it association. As an example - finish the statement; **“birds of a feather _____”** or **“If you can’t beat them _____”** and equally true is **“you will reap what you _____”**

In the words of John Adams, graduate of Harvard Law, Attorney, Patriot and founding father of the United States of America (P.S. – a man who never owned a slave) said in so few words a most profound truth - - it was Adams who said:

“Facts are stubborn things; and whatever may be our wishes, our inclinations, or the dictates of our passion, they cannot alter the state of facts and evidence.”

The Bible throughout warns and admonishes us to be aware of deception and deceptive agendas that are rooted in the spirit realm.

One of the most passionate topics of the Lord Jesus Christ was that false prophets and false teachers lead the human soul and mind away from the truth.

Truth will never fall victim to lies and falsehood – however - truth has from time to time gotten a blackeye from those who reject it – and to reject it is to refuse that which is knowable, practical, experiential or even the implied or observable knowledge of the truth.

Colossians 2:4-8

Now this I say lest anyone should deceive you with persuasive words. 5 For though I am absent in the flesh, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good order and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ. :6 As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him. 7 rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving. :8 Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ.

In his book **“There Is a God:
How the World’s Most Notorious Atheist Changed His Mind**
An’tony Flew – by his conversion of logic - “shocked” his atheistic brothers:

Oxford philosopher and outspoken atheist An’tony Flew shocked the world when he announced that he had reversed his views about God’s non-existence. In his autobiographical work *There is a God*, which he humorously describes as a last will and testament of sorts, Flew describes his upbringing, intellectual development, and some of the arguments that ultimately led him to embrace theism. Flew was raised by a Methodist minister, but still walked away from the faith. Arguing against theism, Flew stumbled into philosophy rather than intentionally pursuing it from the outset. Flew’s reversal did not happen all at once, but was a gradual shift over two decades. The fine-tuning of the universe became increasingly difficult for Flew to ignore. The innate sense of purpose in life forms suggested to Flew a Divine Source. The Big Bang theory raised new questions for Flew about the origins of the universe. Flew lets his readers draw conclusions about his mental state, arguing that he’s just following evidence like he always has.

What You Really Need To Know About Who’s Out There!

1.) There are those who are proud

vs. 10-14

Personal conduct (lifestyle) **is a direct result of a person’s Theology** (what they think about God). (By the way – the inverse is true as well) **One’s Personal Theology will directly effect a person’s Conduct.**

What You Really Need To Know About Who's Out There!

There are those who are proud

1a.) They are authoritarian

vs. 10

:10 And especially those who walk according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and despise authority. They are presumptuous, self-willed. They are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries.

uncleanness grk: defilement, filth, decay, rot, the stench of an open pit.

Authority grk: the governments or divinely established powers – the powers of the spiritual realm. These hate spiritual realities.

Presumptuous grk: they are reckless with their body, self-abusing, endangering themselves and others with no regard for the value of life. (the “fear factor” rush)

Their lifestyle (conduct) is thus,

“They are worse than animals, having been created in the Image of God they have taken themselves out of the domain of human and have become vicious, vile and violent.”

J. Vernon McGee

Romans 3:10-18

As it is written: “There is none righteous, no, not one; 11 There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God. 12 They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one.” 13 “Their throat is an open tomb; With their tongues they have practiced deceit”; “The poison of asps is under their lips”; 14 “Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness.” 15 “Their feet are swift to shed blood; 16 Destruction and misery are in their path; (in the wake of Seattle, Minneapolis, and Detroit – who suffers but the local citizen?) 17 And the way of peace they have not known.” 18 “There is no fear of God before their eyes.”

What You Really Need To Know About Who's Out There!

There are those who are proud

1b.) They are without feeling

vs. 11-12

11 whereas angels, who are greater in power and might, do not bring a reviling accusation against them before the Lord.

1 Timothy 4:1-2

Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, 2 speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron,

Their lifestyle (lived) results in thus,

An incoherent way of living life.

Verse 12

:12 But these, like natural brute beasts made to be caught and destroyed, speak evil of the things they do not understand, and (they) will utterly perish in their own corruption

Notice what the Bible says:

will utterly perish in their own corruption

The corruption that destroys them is based upon the choices they make in life.

To them it was a priority to satisfy themselves at the expense of others and at the expense of God.

Everything we think say and do carries with it a positive or negative value.

We're watching this play out in a real world today.

We're watching the fall of Seattle, Minneapolis, Detroit, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and last but not least - New York City. (20 for 20)

Look what God says about them.

It says that God is hunting them down like you would a wild animal. He says of them that they are like... like natural brute beasts made to be caught and destroyed,

Proverbs 1:11

If they say, "Come with us, Let us lie in wait to shed blood; Let us lurk secretly for the innocent without cause;

I find it absolutely spectacular

That you and I are living in a day when under the guise of public safety we are told:

"You can't go outside but maniacs are free to roam."

"You can't go to church but you can go outside and riot."

"You can't go to a gathering of 100 people but 1,000's can loot a store."

Our elected officials tell us to obey them, while they obey the anarchists.

Our elected officials swear to uphold the Constitution while they wage war against it.

The police are called to “stand down” while the guilty attack the innocent. Our elected officials condemn a church service but encourage the rioters to exercise their First Amendment rights.

They mocked and ridiculed pastors for doing what God has called them to do while they glorify the madness of a mob as a “merry caravan”...

Isaiah 5:15-30

Humanity will be destroyed, and people brought down; even the arrogant will lower their eyes in humiliation. 16 But the LORD of Heaven’s Armies will be exalted by his justice. The holiness of God will be displayed by his righteousness. 17 In that day lambs will find good pastures, and fattened sheep and young goats will feed among the ruins. :18 What sorrow for those who drag their sins behind them with ropes made of lies, who drag wickedness behind them like a cart. 19 They even mock God and say, “Hurry up and do something! We want to see what you can do. Let the Holy One of Israel carry out his plan, for we want to know what it is.” :20 What sorrow for those who say that evil is good and good is evil, that dark is light and light is dark, that bitter is sweet and sweet is bitter. 21 What sorrow for those who are wise in their own eyes and think themselves so clever. 22 What sorrow for those who are heroes at drinking wine and boast about all the alcohol they can hold. 23 They take bribes to let the wicked go free, and they punish the innocent. :24 Therefore, just as fire licks up stubble and dry grass shrivels in the flame, so their roots will rot and their flowers wither. For they have rejected the law of the LORD of Heaven’s Armies; they have despised the word of the Holy One of Israel. 25 That is why the LORD’s anger burns against his people, and why he has raised his fist to crush them. The mountains tremble, and the corpses of his people litter the streets like garbage. But even then the LORD’s anger is not satisfied. His fist is still poised to strike! :26 He will send a signal to distant nations far away and whistle to those at the ends of the earth. They will come racing toward Jerusalem. 27 They will not get tired or stumble. They will not stop for rest or sleep. Not a belt will be loose, not a sandal strap broken. 28 Their arrows will be sharp and their bows ready for battle. Sparks will fly from their horses’ hooves, and the wheels of their chariots will spin like a whirlwind. 29 They will roar like lions, like the strongest of lions. Growling, they will pounce on their victims and carry them off, and no one will be there to rescue them. 30 They will roar over their victims on that day of destruction like the roaring of the sea. If someone looks across the land, only darkness and distress will be seen; even the light will be darkened by clouds.

What You Really Need To Know About Who's Out There!

There are those who are proud

1c.) They are given over

vs. 13-14

13 and will receive the wages of unrighteousness, as those who count it a pleasure to carouse in the daytime (in broad daylight).

These are not only people who do evil and are corrupt – reprobate – but they are so blatant and callous that they do it under the sun in full view of all to see.

This word 'daytime' here means to flaunt or to be an exhibitionist regarding some immoral conduct.

What is implied here is NOT that this way of godless living is not to be tolerated or put up with, NO – the word implies that this way of godless living IS to be celebrated, embraced and promoted.

Ephesians 5:11 NLT

Take no part in the worthless deeds of evil and darkness; instead, expose them. 12 It is shameful even to talk about the things that ungodly people do in secret.

Jude 8-13

Likewise also these dreamers defile the flesh, reject authority, and speak evil of dignitaries. 9 Yet Michael the archangel, in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Moses, dared not bring against him a reviling accusation, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!" 10 But these speak evil of whatever they do not know; and whatever they know naturally, like brute beasts, in these things they corrupt themselves. 11 Woe to them! For they have gone in the way of Cain, have run greedily in the error of Balaam for profit, and perished in the rebellion of Korah. 12 These are spots in your love feasts, while they feast with you without fear, serving only themselves. They are clouds without water, carried about by the winds; late autumn trees without fruit, twice dead, pulled up by the roots; 13 raging waves of the sea, foaming up their own shame; wandering stars for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever.

Verse 13b-14

13b While they feast with you, 14 Having eyes full of adultery and that cannot cease from sin, enticing unstable souls. They have a heart trained in covetous practices, and are accursed children

To deceive is to violate a law either of man or of God with the intent to mislead another person for personal benefit.

How does this apply in your life and in mine?

Is there anything that we are listening to or watching that's not only celebrated publicly under the sun, but something that's being done in the dark or on the screen or behind the curtains that is being announced, viewed, or listened to publicly?

Here, Peter begins to expose their personal sins and their true conduct or lifestyle.

Their lifestyle (exposed) results in this:

A coming judgement

13 will receive the wages of unrighteousness

pleasure to carouse

They are spots and blemishes,

carousing in their own deceptions while they feast with you,

14 eyes full of adultery

and that cannot cease from sin, enticing unstable souls.

They have a heart trained in covetous practices, and are accursed children.

End of Study

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