

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

Recording Number SMX-1011 June 28, 2020

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

**“WHAT YOU REALLY NEED TO KNOW -
ABOUT WHO’S OUT THERE” – PART 6B**

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 day light). 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)

Jesus said that, among the many global events

that would begin to increase on earth Before the Wrath of God comes
Is mankind being abandoned by God in a Christ rejecting age – signaling an age of
deception - in the 1st Degree!

Matthew 7:13-16a

“Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. **14** Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it. **:15** “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. **16** You will know them by their fruits.

Then Jesus delivers to us - critical Intel as to “Who’s Out There.”

Matthew 7:21-23

“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. **22** Many will say to Me in that day, “Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ **23** And then I will declare to them, “I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!”

St. Paul Echoed the Same

2 Thessalonians 2:9-10

The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, **10** and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish,

Jesus Said:

Matthew 24:23-25

“Then if anyone says to you, “Look, here is the Christ!’ or ‘There!’ do not believe it. **24** For false Christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. **25** See, I have told you beforehand.

From 30,000 feet we can see where Peter is taking us...

1.) There are those who are **proud** vs. 10-14

1a.) They are **authoritarian** vs. 10a

1b.) They are **without feeling** vs. 10b

1c.) They are **given over** vs. 11-14

And Where We Are At Today

2.) There are those who are **forsaken** vs. 15-16

2a.) They are **deceived** vs. 15a

2b.) They are **compromised** vs. 15b

2c.) They are **judged** vs. 16

But Wait There's More

3.) There are those who are **destructive** vs. 17-19

3a.) They are **incapable of refreshment** vs. 17

3b.) They are **skilled in temptations** vs. 18

3c.) They are **masters of slavery** vs. 19

4.) There are those who are **damned** vs. 20-22

4a.) They've **drifted from truth** vs. 20

4b.) They've **refused the only way** vs. 21

4c.) They've **become themselves again** vs. 22

WHAT YOU REALLY NEED TO KNOW ABOUT WHO'S OUT THERE!

2.) There are those who are **forsaken** vs. 15-16

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.

2a.) They are **deceived** vs. 15a

They have forsaken the right way and gone astray,

"They Have"

These two words tell us of an accounting, of a human responsibility that is inseparably linked to the sovereignty of man.

What I mean by that is ***the Bible is consistent when it tells us that every human being is responsible for their actions*** and that God will not accept excuses or blame being placed on another.

John 3:15-21

Whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. 16 For God so loved **the world** that He gave His only begotten Son, that **whoever** believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 For God did not send His Son into the **world** to condemn the **world**, but that the **world** through Him might be saved. :18 “**He who believes** in Him is not condemned; but **he who** does not **believe** is condemned already, because **he** has not **believed** in the name of the only begotten Son of God. 19 And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and **men** loved darkness rather than light, because **their** deeds were evil. 20 For **everyone** practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest **his** deeds should be exposed. 21 But **he** who does the truth comes to the light, that **his** deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God.”

believe(s) or believe(d)

pisteuo; *to believe, then to entrust, then to rest – to have faith in.*

John 6:28-29

Then they said to Him, “What shall we do, that we may work the works of God?” :29 Jesus answered and said to them, “This is the work of God, that you **believe** in Him whom He (God the Father) sent.”

2 Peter 2:1-3

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.

The structure here is powerful. This statement means that they knew the truth, they could recite the truth, they had taught the truth - - but they began to loosen their grip on the truth.

The truth **“Slipped”** right through their hands

By a **declining** in, a **slowing** down, a **weakening** of, a **series of surrenders**. until you wake up – in a spiritual coma, dead to God.

Verse 15a

They have forsaken **the right way**

“Pastor Jack - I don’t wanna end up like these kinds of people”

Hebrews 4:1-2

Therefore, since a promise remains of entering His rest, let us fear lest any of you seem to have come short of it. **2** For indeed the gospel was preached to us as well as to them; but the word which they heard did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in those who heard it.

Hebrews 6:4-6 NLT

For it is impossible to bring back to repentance those who were once enlightened—those who have experienced the good things of heaven and shared in the Holy Spirit, **5** who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the power of the age to come - **6** and who then turn away from God. It is impossible to bring such people back to repentance; by rejecting the Son of God, they themselves are nailing him to the cross once again and holding him up to public shame.

“fortify” (borders) yourself against apostacy, by always being in the right place at the right time. (how do we do that?)

Luke 18:7-8

Shall God not avenge (execute justice) His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them? **8** I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. ***Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?”***

Step 1/5

2 Peter 1:2-8

Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, **3** as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, **4** by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. **5** But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, **6** to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, **7** to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. **8** For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Step 2/5

Jude 1:21

Keep yourselves in the love of God,

keep grk: **te'reo**; to set a watch or watchmen at the post, to order a guard or a guardsman to stand guard at the door and/or in the tower.

Step 3/5

Philippians 4:8

Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.

Step 4/5

Colossians 3:1-3

If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. 2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. 3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

Step 5/5

Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

WHAT YOU REALLY NEED TO KNOW ABOUT WHO'S OUT THERE!

2b.) They are **compromised**.

vs 15b

Verse 15b

(They) following the way of Balaam the son of Beor,
who loved the wages of unrighteousness;

Numbers Chapters 22-24

Is the account of this sickening sellout by a prophet of God.

The name Balaam in Hebrew means to **gape** or to swallow up or to gulp down. to consume, devour, to have an open mouth >>>>>> (implying an appetite that can never satisfy) <<<<<<

Isaiah 5:14 NLT

The grave is licking its lips in anticipation, opening (gaping) its mouth wide.

(Balaam) who loved the wages of unrighteousness;

Sin is always willing to give for free the first hit or the first touch or the first drink. Sin might be so generous so as to give you a few nights – but you can bank on this, the expense of sin is impossible to pay. No man or woman has ever been able to get out of sins-debt apart from running to Jesus Christ.

Theologian J.B. Phillips Translates it This Way;

“These are the men who delight in daylight self-indulgence; they are foul spots and blots, playing their tricks at your very dinner-table. Their eyes cannot look at a woman without lust, they captivate the unstable ones, and their techniques of getting what they want is, through long practice, highly developed.

1 Timothy 6:3-5

If anyone teaches otherwise and does not agree to the sound instruction of our Lord Jesus Christ and to godly teaching, **4** they are conceited and understand nothing. They have an unhealthy interest in controversies and quarrels about words that result in envy, strife, malicious talk, evil suspicions **5** and constant friction between people of corrupt mind, who have been robbed of the truth and who think that godliness is a means to financial gain.

“The pleasures of the body are demonstrably subject to the law of diminishing returns. In themselves they lose their thrill, so that as time goes on it takes more and more of them to satisfy. The luxury must become even more luxurious; the wine must flow ever more freely; everything must be done to make the thrill sharper and more intense. Eventually a man becomes less and less able to enjoy the pleasures. He has given himself to a life that has no future and to pleasure which ends in pain.”

- William Barclay

I forget now exactly when – maybe about 5 years ago

I received an offer from the board of a very large church in the Chicago area. (full of benefits, a great income a huge church)

But not one question about –the will of God, the calling of God, the word of God.

(Pastor Jack, All we need you to do is just show up on Sunday and teach.)

Heck – let’s add some popcorn to that, some junior mints and coke and bam!

Philippians 3:18-19

For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: **19** whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame—who set their mind on earthly things.

The Bible Says;

1 Timothy 6:6-10

Now godliness with contentment is great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. 8 And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content. 9 But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition. 10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil,

Jesus warned us about our own hearts & desires;

Matthew 6:19-21

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; 20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Ministry Application Here

Acts 20:26-28

Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all men. 27 For I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God. 28 Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.

WHAT YOU REALLY NEED TO KNOW ABOUT WHO'S OUT THERE!

There are those who are forsaken

2c.) They are **judged**

vs. 16

but he was rebuked for his iniquity:

(a parenthetical insert here) a dumb donkey speaking with a man's voice restrained the madness of the prophet.

“he was rebuked for his iniquity”

What a prophetic word this is to every human being that has ever lived.

Apart from Jesus, you will be rebuked for your iniquity.

Paul's Tearful Farewell & Stern Warning to The Pastors

Acts 20:17-32

From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called for the **elders** of the church. 18 And when they had come to him, he said to them: “You know, from the first day that I came to Asia, in what manner **I always lived among you**, 19 serving the Lord with all humility, with many tears and trials which happened to me by the plotting of the Jews; 20 how **I kept back nothing that was helpful**, but **proclaimed** it to you, and **taught** you publicly and from house to house, 21 **testifying** to Jews, and also to Greeks, repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. 22 And behold, now I go bound in the spirit to Jerusalem, not knowing the things that will happen to me there, 23 except that the Holy Spirit testifies in every city, saying that **chains and tribulations await me**. 24 But **none of these things move me**; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. :25 “And indeed, now I know that you all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, will see my face no more. 26 Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all men. 27 For I have not shunned to declare to you **the whole counsel of God**. 28 Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which **the Holy Spirit has made you overseers**, to **shepherd the church of God** which He purchased with His own blood. 29 For I know this, that after my departure **savage wolves will come in among you**, not sparing the flock. 30 Also **from among yourselves men will rise up**, speaking perverse things, (?) to draw away disciples after themselves. 31 Therefore **watch**, and remember **that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone** night and day with tears. :32 “So now, brethren, **I commend you to God** and to **the Word** of His grace, which is able to build you up!

WHAT YOU REALLY NEED TO KNOW ABOUT WHO'S OUT THERE!

There are those who are forsaken

I was speaking with someone this week regarding
Palliative Care, or End-of-Life Care.

There are professionals, and I thank God for them, as they help someone prepare for that final moment when death comes – when life ends in this world.

The Call to Christ. The Call Forward.

_____ **End of Study** _____