

2 Peter Chapter 2

1. **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.**

A. **But there were also false prophets among the people,**

1. **false prophets-** Gr. **psuedoprophetes**

a. In the OT, the Messiah had not come and had not brought in the New Covenant with all its blessings. The main ministry of the OT was of the prophet which prophesied to Israel of its imminent judgment but also the restoration under the Messiah. Since the main ministry in the OT was that of the prophet, that is why the enemy sent in false prophets among the people of Israel.

b. These were wolves among sheep.

2. **people-** Gr. **laos- covenant people**

a. This refers to Israel in the OT.

B. **even as there will be false teachers among you,**

1. **false teachers-** Gr. **pseudodidaskalos**

a. Christ has come and established a new covenant. This new covenant is quite vast in its nature and provisions. There needs to be a lot of teaching and teachers to mine out the riches of the new covenant for the church. Teaching is the main ministry of the NT. That is why the enemy brings in false teachers.

b. These are unbelievers who pretend to be believers. They are wolves in sheep clothing. [Acts 20:29](#)

C. **who will secretly bring in destructive heresies,**

1. **secretly bring in-** Gr. **pareisago-** *to bring in alongside*

a. The enemy never just brings in error. He likes to bring error in alongside of the truth. The devil is never so satanic as when he is carrying a bible!

b. The best way to kill a dog is to feed him steak with poison put in it.

c. Many Christians can't tell the difference between good steak and steak with poison put in it so to speak.

d. Most Christians just open their mouth like a baby bird and swallow what is fed to them.

e. It is most important to study the Word of God for yourself and not

just believe everything you hear. This is noble! [Acts 17:11](#)

f. In Galatians false brethren were brought in secretly. Here false teachings are brought in secretly.

2. **destructive**- Gr. **apoleia**- *destroying, perishing, ruin, utter destruction*

a. Error destroys. Error is from the enemy who comes to steal, kill, and to destroy. [John 10:10](#) The end game of error is destruction. The enemy delights in destruction.

b. The result of truth is life and that more abundantly. [John 10:10](#)

3. **heresies**- Gr. **haireisis**- *strictly, a choice or option; hence, a religious sect, faction; by implication, discord, contention*

a. A destructive heresy being taught in our day is universalism. These false teachers teach that because Jesus died for everyone that everyone is automatically reconciled to God and save irrespective of faith in Jesus.

b. Heretics are to be admonished twice and then rejected if they don't repent of their false doctrine. [Titus 3:10](#)

D. **even denying the Lord who bought them,**

1. **denying**- Gr. **arneomai**- *to deny, not to accept, to reject, to refuse something offered, disclaim, disown, to renounce, contradict*

a. Any teaching that denies the divinity of Christ is a heresy.

b. Any teaching that denies the need to believe on or confess Jesus as Lord is a heresy. [Rom. 10:9-10](#)

2. **bought**- Gr. **agorazo**- *to buy out of the market*

a. We were bought and redeemed from the slave-market of sin. [Act 20:28](#); [1Co 6:20](#), [1Co 7:23](#); [Gal 3:13](#); [Eph 1:7](#); [Heb 10:29](#); [1Pe 1:8](#); [Rev 5:9](#)

E. **and bring on themselves swift destruction.**

1. **bring on**- Gr. **epago**

a. Those who **bring in** heresies **bring on** themselves destruction.

2. **swift**- Gr. **tachinos**

a. What is swift to the Lord is not always in our understanding or experience. Jesus said behold I come quickly! [Rev. 22:20](#) We are still waiting! So quickly to the Lord is not the same as our quickly. Thank you Jesus! This gives perspective to when the Lord says that He is slow to get angry, that His slow is really slow! Praise God!

3. **destruction**- Gr. **apoleia**

a. Those who bring in **destructive** heresies will bring on themselves **destruction**.

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

A. And many will follow their destructive ways,

1. many

- a. Broad is the way unto destruction and many are there that go in thereby. [Matt. 7:13](#)
- b. Error will always have more disciples than the truth. The many will always try to pressure the few into their way of thinking. We are called to stand out like a healed thumb and shine the light of truth in the darkness.

2. follow- Gr. **exkoloutheo-** *to trace out one's steps*

- a. We are not to be blind followers, but with clear vision be followers of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

[Heb. 6:12](#)

3. destructive ways- Gr. **poleia-** *destroying, perishing, ruin, utter destruction*

- a. Destructive heresies always lead to destructive ways.

B. because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed.

1. way- Gr. **hodos**

- a. Error has many ways, but truth only has one- JESUS! [John 14:6](#)
- b. Many think they need to examine and learn about all the ways of error. This is error! All you need to do is to become very familiar with the truth and you will be able to pick out anything that is error. The specialists in the fraud department for the government spend no time learning what forgeries are out there. They spend all their time examining and learning every detail about the real currency so they can spot a fake when it comes!

2. truth- Gr. **aletheia**

- a. Here we see why many went down paths of destruction, because they never knew **THE WAY** of truth. We learn the way of truth by careful, diligent, and sustained study of the Word of God. [John 8:31-32](#)

3. blasphemed- Gr. **blasphemeo**

- a. Authentic Christianity produces the life of Christ in the lives of

Christians. We are called by God to be conformed to the image of Christ in our lives. [Rom. 8:29](#)

- b. False doctrine lead to ungodly living. The world knows that believers should be living godly. When we don't they see us as hypocrites. This provides a stumbling stone to them seeing and knowing God for themselves.

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.

A. By covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words,

1. **covetousness-** Gr. **pleonexia-** *greedy desire to have more, covetousness, avarice*

2. **exploit-** Gr. **emporeuomai-** *make gain of, overreach, cheat*

- a. False teaching almost always has exploitation of finances connected to it.
- b. False teaching will require money to receive the blessings, favors, or benefits from God. True teaching reveals that these are already provided by grace through faith in the finished work of Christ.
- c. Those in Jesus day made God's house into a house of merchandise.

[John 2:16](#)

3. **deceptive-** Gr. **plastos-** *molded, formed, as from clay, wax, or stone*

- a. We get our English word "plastic" from this Greek word.
- b. False teachers exploit the body of Christ with plastic words. They stretch and twist the true meaning of the Word of God for their own gain.
- c. Instead of promoting the growth of true fruit, they offer plastic fruit hoping no one will notice.

4. **words-** Gr. **logos**

B. for a long time their judgment has not been idle,

1. **long time-** Gr. **ekpalai-** *from old*

- a. God has decreed judgment on heretics from old. This judgment has not been idle from the time he decreed it.

2. **judgment-** Gr. **krima**

3. **idle-** Gr. **argeo-** *to be idle, inactive, to linger, delay*

C. and their destruction does not slumber

1. **destruction-** Gr. **apoleia**

2. **slumber-** Gr. **nustazo**

4. **For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast *them* down to hell and delivered *them* into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment;**

A. **For if God did not spare the angels who sinned,**

1. **spare-** Gr. **pheidomai-** *to spare in respect of hard dealing*

2. **angels-** Gr. **aggelos**

- a. These are the fallen angels that rebelled with Lucifer. A third of the angels did this.
- b. The first person who had his worship leader run off with a third of his congregation was God!
- c. There is no redemption for angels. Jesus saved humanity because we were a race. We all come out of one man and woman. We are connected together. Jesus was born of a woman so he was connected to all of humanity. He took all our sins and became sin and died to all that was in Adam because we are all connected to each other. He could not do this for angels because they are individual creations not connected to each other. He would have had to die for each separately.

3. **sinned-** Gr. **hamartia**

- a. This could be the original sin of rebellion with Lucifer.
- b. This could be the sin of cohabiting with women during and after the flood producing the giants. [Gen. 6:1-2](#)

B. **but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness,**

1. **cast down to hell-** Gr. **tartaroo-** *to pit them*

- a. The word hell is a bad translation here. It should be translated the Abyss or Pit. This is a verb here and could be translated that God “pitted” them!
- b. Tartarus is the Greek word for the Abyss or the Pit. Tartarus should be translated Abyss or Pit, not hell. This is the place of the fallen angels. It is one of three compartments under the earth.
- c. Before Jesus died there were three compartments under the earth. The first was Hades, the place of torment for unbelievers. The second was Abraham's bosom or Paradise. This is where OT believers went when they died. It was a place of comfort. We see these two compartments in the story of the rich man and Lazarus. [Luke 16:20-31](#) The third compartment was Tartarus or the Abyss. This is where the fallen angels are incarcerated. After Jesus rose from the dead He

emptied Abraham's bosom and took them to heaven. [Eph. 4:8](#) Now Paradise is in the third heaven. [2 Cor. 12:4](#)

2. **delivered**- Gr. **paradidomi**- *to give over*

3. **chains**- Gr. **seira**- *a cord, rope, band; in NT a chain*

a. The fallen angels were put into chains. [2 Peter 2:4](#), [Jude 1:6](#)

b. Nowhere does it say that men or women who die in their sin and unbelief are in chains in hell. They are in hell but no mention is made of them being in chains.

c. Jesus went to the spirits in prison and preached to them. [1 Pet. 3:19](#) Prison is a place where prisoners are bound in chains. Many think Jesus went and preached the gospel to those men and women who died before the flood. This is not the case. You have to believe upon the Lord while you live. You don't get another chance after you die. Jesus did not preach to dead men and women the gospel. He went to these fallen angels chained in prison in Tartarus and proclaimed a message to them. The word preached is not the word used for preaching the gospel which is **euagglizo**. It is the Greek word **kerusso**, which means to herald a message. I believe Jesus went to these fallen angels and proclaimed a message of doom and judgment upon them and their leader Satan.

4. **darkness**- Gr. **zophos**- *gloom, thick darkness*

C. **to be reserved for judgment**

1. **reserved**- Gr. **tereo**- *to guard*

2. **judgment**- Gr. **krisis**

a. Which Jesus proclaimed to them before He rose from the dead.

5. **and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, *one of eight people*, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly;**

A. **and did not spare the ancient world,**

1. **spare**- Gr. **pheidomai**- *to spare in respect of hard dealing*

2. **ancient**- Gr. **archaios**- *that has been from the beginning, original, primal, old ancient*

a. We get our English word archaic from this word.

b. This is speaking of the world that was in the beginning up until the flood of Noah.

3. **world**- Gr. **kosmos**

B. **but saved Noah,**

1. **saved**- Gr. **phulasso**- *guarded or protected*

- a. It is important to note that Noah and his family had to believe God and make the choice to enter the Ark. God did not take them and put them in the Ark. Salvation is by grace through faith. Each must choose to be saved. Universalism is a terrible error.
- b. Noah and his family were in the Ark seven days before the rain came. [Gen. 7:9-10](#) Noah could have been tempted to doubt God and come back off the Ark. During those seven days I am sure they looked out of the window and saw nothing but sunshine. If Noah would have given up his faith and left the Ark, he would have perished with the ungodly. There will be times in our lives where our faith in the Lord will seem to be misplaced and nothing happens from it. However, stick with it and it will pay off big time!

2. **Noah**- *means rest*

C. **one of eight people,**

1. **eight people**- Gr. **ogdoos**

D. **a preacher of righteousness,**

1. **preacher**- Gr. **kerux**

- a. God gave man 120 years to repent before the flood came. [Gen. 6:3](#) 120 years is how long it took for Noah to build the Ark, not a promise of how long we will live.
- b. I am sure it became an annual tradition for families to come visit the Ark and mock Noah. Noah would preach to them.
- c. After 120 years of preaching Noah had no converts except his own family. It is better to win your family and lose the whole world than win the whole world and lose your family.
- d. If you are discouraged because of a lack of results from your ministry, then just look at Noah. Noah was in the perfect will of God and with the right message. It is not up to you for the results. It is up to you to faithfully preach the message God gives you. Leave the results to God!

2. **righteousness**- Gr. **dikaiosune**

E. **bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly**

1. **bringing in**- Gr. **epago**- *to bring upon*

2. **flood**- Gr. **kataklysmos**

- a. We get our English word cataclysm from this word.

3. **world**- Gr. **kosmos**

4. **ungodly**- Gr. **asebes**- *without reverence*

- a. The thoughts of the pre-flood people were evil continually. [Gen. 6:5](#)

6. **and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned *them* to destruction, making *them* an example to those who afterward would live ungodly;**

A. **and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes,**

1. **turning into ashes**- Gr. **tephroo**- *to incinerate*

2. **cities**- Gr. **polis**

3. **Sodom**- *means either "their secret" or "burning"*.

- a. Homosexuality used to be a secret sin, but now it is out and the open and is proudly promoted.
- b. Homosexuals burn in their lust for one another. [Rom. 1:27](#)
- c. Homosexuals have put so much pressure on society to accept their lifestyle that society as a whole have sided with them. Unfortunately, many carnal Christians are siding with the society and persecuting Christians who are standing for the biblical truth. These Christians do not use the Word of God as the standard for truth and morality, but use their own thoughts, feelings, and how society feels at any particular time. This is sad!

4. **Gomorrah**- *means "rebellious" or "submersion"*

- a. At the root of homosexuality is rebellion against God and His ways.

B. **condemned them to destruction,**

1. **condemned**- Gr. **katakrino**

- a. The fallen angels, the ancient world before the flood, and Sodom and Gomorrah were not spared, but condemned. We who have accepted Christ have been spared from God's wrath and there is no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus! [Rom. 8:1](#)

2. **destruction**- Gr. **katastrophe**- *catastrophe*

- a. We get the English "catastrophe" from this Greek word.

C. **making them an example to those who afterward would live ungodly**

1. **making them**- Gr. **tithemi**- *placing them*

2. **an example**- Gr. **hupodeigma**- *to be under exhibit, for a warning, of a thing to be shunned.*

- a. God has given us examples in the OT to learn from. [1 Cor. 10:11](#)

3. **live ungodly**- Gr. **asebeo**- *to live without reverence*

- a. Living in homosexuality is living ungodly.
- b. Peter uses the examples of the angels, the ancient world before the flood, and Sodom and Gomorrah of God judging wickedness. The false teachers that Peter talks about in this chapter will also be judged.
- c. You have a choice to have your wickedness judged in the person of Jesus or you can reject Jesus and suffer for your own wickedness in hell.

7. and delivered righteous Lot, *who was* oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked

A. and delivered righteous Lot,

1. **delivered-** Gr. *rhuomai-* *to draw out of*

2. **righteous-** Gr. *dikaio-* *one who is as they ought to be*

- a. Lot was not righteous by his good deeds, but by his faith in the Lord.
- b. Lot was a weak, wavering, and uncommitted follower of the Lord. The angels sent to Sodom to rescue Lot had to pretty much pull him out of the city. [Gen. 19:16](#) When he tried to warn the citizens of Sodom about the Lord and His judgment, they all laughed at him. He had no testimony before them up until that time. He never stood up for the Lord before then. After Lot fled Sodom he eventually was involved in some unnatural sex with his daughters. We are not righteous because of our right conduct but because of our faith in the Lord. Our faith in the Lord should produce good and right conduct. The people around us should not be shocked to hear that we are Christians!

3. **Lot-** *means veil or covering*

- a. Lot was a believer who covered his light [testimony] under a bushel. [Luke 11:33](#) He tried hide his faith in the Lord to fit in with the world and that never works out well.
- b. When Lot separated from Abraham, it says he pitched his towards Sodom. [Gen. 13:12](#) The next time we see him he is sitting in the city gates of Sodom trying to fit in! [Gen. 19:1](#)
- c. Once you pitch your tent [your heart and mind] towards sin you will eventually be sitting in its gates!

B. who was oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked.

1. **oppressed**- Gr. **kataponeo**- *to tire down, to afflict or oppress with evils, to wear out, oppress*

a. Lot was vexed by the ungodliness around him, but whose fault was it? **IT WAS HIS OWN!!!** Lot was the one who chose to move into the city of Sodom. He could have moved out of the town at any time. However, there must have been some allure to staying. It probably involved financial gain. How often do Christians lower their standards for financial gain!

b. Many Christian complain about the ungodliness on TV but they are the one choosing to watch it. No one is forcing them to watch! They can switch the channel or stop watching TV altogether.

c. How often do we part a play in being vexed and oppressed by ungodliness that is in the world? I think a lot!

2. **filthy conduct**- Gr. **en aselgeia anastrophe**- *irreverent behavior*

3. **wicked**- Gr. **athesmos**- *those who violate the law of nature and conscience, one who breaks through the restraint of these laws and gratifies their lusts*

a. Homosexuality is a violation of the laws of nature and conscience.

[Rom. 1:26-27](#)

8. **(for that righteous man, dwelling among them, tormented *his* righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing *their* lawless deeds)—**

A. **for that righteous man,**

1. **righteous man**- Gr. **dikaiois**

a. Again, he was not righteous because of his deeds, personal holiness, or performance but because of his faith in the Lord.

Everyone in the bible became righteous the same way we do. It is by faith in the Lord. [Gen. 15:6](#)

B. **dwelling among them,**

1. **dwelling**- Gr. **egkatoikeo**- *to settle down in a place*

a. It was Lot's decision to settle down in that place. It was not God's leading or will that he even be there.

C. **tormented his righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing their lawless deeds**

1. **tormented**- Gr. **basanizo**- *tortured, to be afflicted, tormented, pained*

a. This was self-inflicted torture! Lot should have not even been in this city. Seeking financial gain instead of the Lord's will leads to the

torture of your soul.

2. **righteous**- Gr. **dikaios**

a. Lot is called righteous three times. Three is the number of redemption and the finished work of Christ. Lot was made righteous by faith in the Lord not his works.

3. **soul**- Gr. **psuche**

a. This Greek word can mean our mind, will, and emotions or can be used as a term for a person in general. In his first epistle Peter says concerning the flood that eight souls were saved. He means by this that eight persons were saved.

4. **seeing**- Gr. **blemma**

5. **hearing**- Gr. **akoe**

a. We need to protect these two gates [eyes and ears] that give entrance into our mind and heart. Why expose them unnecessarily to things that would bring defilement in?

6. **lawless deeds**- Gr. **anomos**- *without law*

a. The laws of nature and conscience.

9. **then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment,**

A. **Lord**- Gr. **kurios**- *master, owner*

1. When we try to control our own lives we are attempting to be lord. When we put our trust in God then He can move and act as Lord over us and our circumstances.

B. **knows**- Gr. **eido**- *to know by perception, to see*

1. There is always the way of escape the Lord provides with every temptation. [1 Cor. 10:13](#)
2. God has the power, love, and wisdom to bring you out of every tribulation!

C. **deliver**- Gr. **rhuomai**- *to pluck or draw out of*

D. **godly**- Gr. **eusebes**- *those who are reverent*

1. We are reverent to God when we trust Him. God delivers those who put their trust in Him!

E. **temptations**- Gr. **peirasmos**- *test in order to approve and use*

1. There are two words for test and tempt in the NT. The first is **peirazo** which means to test in order to find the breaking point. The other is **dokimazo** which means to test in order to approve. The Lord does test

his people but he never tests us in order to break us or see us fail. The word **peirazo** never is used in connection with the Lord. However, the Lord does test in order to approve you and promote and use you in a greater way. The word **dokimazo** is used in connection to the Lord and testing his people. [1 Thess. 2:4](#)

F. reserve- Gr. **tereo**

1. Those who will be sentenced to the lake of fire on the day of judgment are held in reserve in Hades now.
2. Some have wondered why people go into hell and torment before the day of judgment arrives. It is much like a person who is denied bail is in jail until he is tried and formally sentenced and is put into prison, so it is with unbelievers. They await the Great White Throne judgment in Hades and then will be put into the Lake of Fire afterwards.

G. unjust- Gr. **adikos**

1. People are made righteous in God's sight because of their faith in the Lord. People are unjust before the Lord because of their unbelief.

H. punishment- Gr. **kolazo**

1. Eternal punishment in the Lake of Fire. Universalists say there is no punishment awaiting any human being because Jesus died for all. I guess Peter did not know that! No, we must believe upon the Lord and receive salvation to escape eternal punishment.

I. day of judgment- Gr. **hemera krisis**

1. For the unbeliever the day of judgment will be at the Great White Throne judgment after the Millennium. [Rev. 20](#)

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,

A. and especially those who walk according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and despise authority,

1. **walk-** Gr. **poreuomai-** *to travel in order to make gain*
 - a. Some traveling speakers would fall into this category.
2. **according to-** Gr. **kata-** *to be dominated by*
3. **flesh-** Gr. **sarx**
4. **lust-** Gr. **epithumia**
5. **uncleanness-** Gr. **akatharsia**
 - a. We are not to walk in the lusts of the flesh. We are to count ourselves

dead to them and put them off like clothing that belonged to a person who is deceased. These lusts belonged to our old identity in Adam. We are to put on Christ and His attributes. These belong to our new identity in Christ.

6. **despise**- Gr. **kataphroneo**- *to think down upon, to dis-esteem*

7. **authority**- Gr. **exousia**

a. To despise authority is to be rebellious and proud. We are seeing this today with the killing of our police officers in our streets. This is a sign of the end times.

B. **They are presumptuous,**

1. **presumptuous**- Gr. **tolmetes**- *one who is bold in a bad sense, daring, a presumptuous, audacious person*

C. **self-willed**- Gr. **authades**- *self-pleasing, self-willed, arrogant, stubborn*

D. **They are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries**

1. **afraid**- Gr. **tremo**- *to tremble*

2. **speak evil**- Gr. **blasphemeo**- *to blaspheme*

3. **dignitaries**- Gr. **doxa**- *glories*

a. Jude brings out that these dignitaries are the Fallen angels including Satan. [Jude 1:8-9](#) Both Jude and Peter seems to be addressing the same group of false teachers. It appears Peter is talking about speaking evil of the fallen angels. It could be talking about the rulers of the earth.

b. Could it be that our deriding language towards and about the devil be out of place even though he is a fallen defeated being?

c. Could it be that our deriding language towards and about our current president be out of place even though we disagree with much he stands for?

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

A. **whereas angels,**

1. **angels**- Gr. **aggelos**- *messengers*

B. **who are greater in power and might,**

1. **greater**- Gr. **meizon**

a. The good angels are greater in might and power than the fallen angels.

b. The good angels are greater in might and power than natural

rulers on the earth.

c. The church is in a greater position of authority than the good angels! [Eph. 1:22, 2:6](#)

2. **power**- Gr. **ischus**- *might, strength*

3. **might**- Gr. **dunamis**- *power*

a. This should be translated might and power not power and might.

C. do not bring a reviling accusation against them before the Lord

1. **bring**- Gr. **phero**

2. **reviling accusation against**- Gr. **blasphemos krisis kata**

3. **before the Lord**

a. Everything we say and do is 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 will utterly perish in their own corruption,

A. But these,

1. false teachers

B. like natural brute beasts made to be caught and destroyed,

1. **natural**- Gr. **phusikos**- *that which belongs to nature*

2. **brute**- Gr. **alogos**- *unreasoning*

a. Animals do not reason like a human does.

3. **beasts**- Gr. **zoon**- *living animals*

4. **made**- Gr. **gennao**- *born or bred*

5. **caught**- Gr. **eis halosis**- *to capture*

a. Don't read over this! It says that animals are born or bred to be captured and destroyed [eaten]! So much for the liberal vegetarians out there who call killing and eating animals barbaric and murder! Vegetarian is an old Indian word meaning, "lousy hunter". God intended us to catch, kill, and eat animals for food! It is perfectly fine. It is his idea and design! Enjoy that steak my friend!

6. **destroyed**- Gr. **phthora**- *corruption, killing, slaughtered*

C. speak evil of the things they do not understand,

1. **speak evil**- Gr. **blasphemeo**

2. **understand**- Gr. **agnoeo**

a. Peter says that the false teachers are just carnal creatures. They are void of any spiritual understanding, like animals have no

understanding of the spirit realm.

D. and will utterly perish in their corruption

1. **utterly perish**- Gr. **kataphtheiro**

2. **corruption**- Gr. **phthora**

a. Same word used for natural animals being caught and killed. The same end will be for the false teachers. They are no better than animals!

b. He who sows to the flesh will reap corruption. [Gal. 6:8](#)

13. **and will receive the wages of unrighteousness, as those who count it pleasure to carouse in the daytime. They are spots and blemishes, carousing in their own deceptions while they feast with you,**

A. and will receive the wages of unrighteousness,

1. **receive**- Gr. **kolumbao**- *to receive what was previously one's own, to get back, receive back, recover*

2. **wages**- Gr. **misthos**

a. Some false teachers work real hard at their deceptions.

b. Balaam earned the wages of unrighteousness. He ministered for money. He ended up a false teacher. [Num. 31:16](#)

3. **unrighteousness**- Gr. **adikia**

a. We get our English word "addiction" from this word. Addictions are rooted in unrighteousness or a mindset that is not established in the righteousness of Christ.

B. as those who count it pleasure to carouse in the daytime,

1. **count**- Gr. **hegeomai**

2. **pleasure**- Gr. **hedone**- *sensual pleasure*

3. **carouse**- Gr. **truphe**- *indulgent living*

a. False teachers are in the "ministry" for what they can get out of it, not how they can serve God and others.

4. **daytime**- Gr. **hemera**

a. Even the world waits until dark to have their wild parties! These false teachers do it in the broad daylight!

C. They are spots and blemishes,

1. **spots**- Gr. **spiloo**- *to spot, soil; to contaminate, defile*

2. **blemishes**- Gr. **momos**- *blemish, blot, disgrace, blame, ridicule; a disgrace to society, a stain*

D. carousing in their own deceptions while they feast with you

1. **carousing**- Gr. **entrophao**- *to live indulgently*
2. **deceptions**- Gr. **apate**- *delusion*
 - a. The ironic thing about deceivers is that they are deceived! [2 Tim. 3:13](#)
3. **feast**- Gr. **suneuchoeo**- *to feast sumptuously with*

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.

A. having eyes full of adultery and that cannot cease from sin,

1. **eyes**- Gr. **ophthalmos**
2. **full**- Gr. **mestos**- Gr. *mestos*
3. **adultery**- Gr. **moichalis**- *adulteress*
 - a. There are two things that almost always accompany false teaching and false teachers- The first is lust for and shady practices to gain money. The second is sexual sin.
 - b. This should be translated that they have eyes full of an adulteress. False teachers will find those who are open to adultery.
4. **cease**- Gr. **akatapaustos**
 - a. This means they are addicted to sexual perversion and adultery.
5. **sin**- Gr. **harmartia**

B. enticing unstable souls

1. **enticing**- Gr. **dealazo**- *to entrap, take or catch with a bait; met. allure, entice*
2. **unstable**- Gr. **asteriktos**- *not made firm; unsettled, unstable, unsteady*
3. **souls**- Gr. **psuche**

- a. An unstable soul is one that has not been grounded in the Word of God, especially the New Covenant.

C. They have a heart trained in covetous practices,

1. **heart**- Gr. **kardia**
2. **trained**-Gr. **gumnazo**- *to exercise*
 - a. We get the English word gymnasium from this Greek word.
 - b. These false teachers are so trained in covetousness that they are like a trained gymnast that is flawless in their routine from start to end. These false teachers are so slick and smooth they are flawless in their money making routine from start to end!
3. **covetous practices**- Gr. **pleonexia**- *covetousness*

D. and are accursed children

1. **accursed**- Gr. **katara**- *a doomed one, one on whom condemnation falls*

2. **children**- Gr. **teknon**

a. These false teachers were imitating Christians. They told everyone they were children of God. Instead they are accursed children- children of the devil.

b. Let me here dispel a common error. Many think that all humans are the children of God. This is not so. The NT teaches that only those who have received Jesus and believed upon him have been given the power to be called the children of God. [John 1:12](#)

b. No true child of God is accursed, because Jesus was accursed for them.

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;

A. They have forsaken the right way and gone astray,

1. **forsaken**- Gr. **kataleipo**- *to leave behind*

a. False teachers will say that the Word of God is too simple and their spiritual revelation is superior to the Word of God. Ironically, to defend this they usually use the Bible to try to do it! This is happening today in the grace movement. Some teachers are leaving the Word of God behind to teach their higher revelations. To defend this practice, they use scripture! How dumb can you get and not die!

2. **right way**- Gr. **euthus hodos**- *the straight road*

a. The right way is the Word of God and what it teaches in context.

b. After Saul of Tarsus met Jesus on the road to Damascus he entered into the city and stayed on the street called Straight. [Acts 9:11](#)
When we get saved we are placed on the straight road or path.

3. **gone astray**- Gr. **planao**- *to wander*

a. We get the word "planet" from this word. Early astronomers thought the planets were wandering stars because they did not stay in fixed positions. False teachers do not stay in any fixed place. They stick around until they and their practices are confronted and then they move on and stray to greener pastures.

B. following the way of Balaam the son of Beor,

1. **following**- Gr. **exakoloutheo**- *to trace out steps*

2. **way**- Gr. **hodos**

3. **Balaam**- *means not of the people, foreigner*

a. Balaam had a gift from God but he was not a covenant person of Israel.

b. Likewise these false teachers were gifted by God but were not covenant people of God. They were not saved.

4. **son of Beor**- *means a torch*

C. **who loved the wages of unrighteousness**

1. **loved**- Gr. **agapao**

2. **wages**- Gr. **misthos**

a. They were in the "ministry" for the money.

3. **unrighteousness**- Gr. **adikia**

16. **but he was rebuked for his iniquity: a dumb donkey speaking with a man's voice restrained the madness of the prophet.**

A. **but he was rebuked for his iniquity,**

1. **rebuked**- Gr. **echo elegxis**- *had a reproof, rebuke*

2. **iniquity**- Gr. **paranomia**- *breach of law, transgression, wickedness*

B. **a dumb donkey speaking with a man's voice restrained the madness of the prophet.**

1. **dumb**- Gr. **aphonos**- *voiceless, not able to speak*

2. **donkey**- Gr. **hupozugion**- *animal under the yoke*

3. **speaking**- Gr. **phtheggomai**- *to give out a sound, noise or cry*

a. This is an oxymoron. The voiceless donkey spoke!

b. In the story of Balaam what is so amazing is not that the donkey spoke, but Balaam talked back to it! [Num. 22:29](#) He was so out of his mind he did not stop to think how this animal was talking to him in rational [more than him] speech.

4. **man's**- Gr. **anthropos**

a. The donkey did not even "bray" out his words like a donkey, it spoke clearly in a man's voice. This did not stop Balaam from arguing with the donkey!

5. **voice**- Gr. **phone**

6. **restrained**- Gr. **koluo**- *to hinder, prevent, forbid*

7. **madness**- Gr. **paraphronia**- *insanity, craziness*

a. At this point the prophet was out of his mind in anger at the donkey not moving forward and pinning him against the wall.

[Num. 22:25](#) He was insane and crazy. You lose all rationality when

you are angry.

b. Likewise, the false teachers were insane and crazy!

c. Often when we are in a rush to do something we want to do; God will allow roadblocks to be set in our way to stop us. What we usually do at this point is get real mad. This is a sign you are moving out of the will and peace of God.

8. prophet- Gr. prophetes

a. In the OT people were not born again. Three classes of people were anointed in the OT- kings, priests, and prophets. The anointing on someone in the OT did not insure their salvation or if they were a believer. Many were anointed as kings but were evil and were against God.

17. These are wells without water, clouds carried by a tempest, for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever.

A. These are wells without water,

1. **wells-** Gr. **pege-** *fountain or spring*

2. **without water-** Gr. **anudros**

a. Peter's description of these false teachers is very similar to Jude's description of them in his book.

b. To someone that is very thirsty to see a well bring a lot of anticipation, but this hope is dashed when they find the well is empty. These false teachers promise great gain [especially financially] but they and their promises are empty.

B. clouds carried by a tempest,

1. **clouds-** Gr. **nephele**

a. These clouds promise rain but just blow by without sending down anything refreshing.

2. **carried-** Gr. **elauno**

3. **tempest-** Gr. **lailaps**

C. for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever

1. **reserved-** Gr. **tereo**

2. **blackness-** Gr. **zophos**

3. **darkness-** Gr. **skotos**

4. **forever-** Gr. **eis aion**

a. This is a description of hell. We know that hell has fire but in hell the fire will not put off any light. It will be completely dark. Jesus talked

about hell being outer darkness but also a place of fire. [Matt. 8:12](#),
[Matt. 13:42](#)

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.**

A. **For when they speak great swelling words of emptiness,**

1. **speak-** Gr. **phtheggomai-** *to give out a sound, noise or cry*

a. The normal Greek word for speak is **laleo**. It is hard to see the word play Peter is using here in the English translation. But here we see the word **phtheggomai** again. Here Peter uses the same Greek word for speaking as he did for Balaam's donkey talking a few verses ago! Peter is likening the false teachers to mere animals but also have the ability to talk!

2. **great swelling-** Gr. **huperogkos-** *bulging over*

3. **words of emptiness-** Gr. **matiotēs-** *vanity, emptiness, what is devoid of truth and appropriateness; perverseness, depravity, frailty, want of vigor*

B. **they allure through the lusts of the flesh,**

1. **allure-** Gr. **deleazo-** *to bait, lure*

2. **lusts-** Gr. **epithumia-** *strong desire*

3. **flesh-** Gr. **sarx**

C. **through lewdness,**

1. **lewdness-** Gr. **aselgeia-** *unrestraint, unbridled lust, excess, licentiousness, lasciviousness, wantonness, outrageousness, shamelessness, insolence*

D. **the ones who have actually escaped from those who live in error.**

1. **escaped-** Gr. **apopheugo ontos-** *clearly, really, or cleanly escaped from*

a. The truth will set you free, but error will bind you.

2. **live-** Gr. **zao**

3. **error-** Gr. **plane-** *wander from the truth*

a. There are some false teachers in the body of Christ touting and teaching that homosexuality is ok and condoned by God. They tempt those who have escaped the lifestyle to go right back into it because it entices the lusts of their flesh.

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.**

A. **While they promise them liberty,**

1. **promise-** Gr. **epaggello**

2. **liberty-** Gr. **eleutheria-** *freedom*

- a. Jude speaks of these false teachers and said they turn the grace of God into lasciviousness. [Jude 1:4](#)
- b. The grace of God does not free you to sin, but empowers you to live free from it! Some are living in sin and saying they are under grace. They are deceived! Paul said when you are under grace sin will not have dominion over you! [Rom. 6:14](#)
- c. These false teachers said that the grace of God freed them from any constraints or moral responsibility. They taught that it was ok to sin because it caused grace to abound. Paul said God forbid to this line of thinking! [Rom. 6:1](#)
- d. Paul said that we are not to use the freedom grace provides as a cloak for our flesh to operate. [Gal. 5:13](#) Peter likewise said in his first letter not to use our freedom as a cloak for evil. [1 Pet. 2:16](#)
- e. Paul said all things are lawful, but not all things are helpful or edify. [1 Cor. 10:23](#) He also said all things are lawful, but he would not be enslaved by anything. [1 Cor. 6:12](#) Yielding to the flesh will enslave you to the habits of the flesh. Some things we do will enslave us to the lusts of the flesh and we will not be a good testimony to those around us.

B. they themselves are slaves of corruption,

1. **slaves-** Gr. **doulos-** *those bound to do the will of another*

- a. Paul said we are slaves of the ones we obey. [Rom. 6:16](#)

2. **corruption-** Gr. **phthora-** *destruction*

C. for by whom a person is overcome,

1. **overcome-** Gr. **hettao-** *to overcome, worsted, to be conquered by one, forced to yield to one*

D. by him also he is brought in bondage

1. **brought in bondage-** Gr. **doulouo-** *to be brought into slavery*

- a. We are to serve the Lord, not the lusts and pleasures of the flesh. [Titus 3:3](#)

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.**

A. For if,

B. after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,

1. escaped- Gr. **apopheugo-** *to flee or escape from*

a. We have escaped sin and our old identity in Adam by being crucified with Christ. We are born again free. We have been translated out of darkness into the God's marvelous light. The light is God's grace. When you don't understand or walk in grace you will be controlled by darkness. Grace brings light and freedom!

2. pollutions- Gr. **miasma-** *defilement; vices the foulness of which contaminates*

3. world- Gr. **kosmos**

4. knowledge- Gr. **epignosis-** *higher knowledge, revelation knowledge*

a. It is revelation knowledge of the Word that lifts you up out of the bondage to the flesh. Revelation of your new identity in Christ will cause you to walk free from sin. [Rom. 6:6, 11](#)

5. Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

a. Revelation knowledge of Jesus and what He has done will set you free from sin and legalism.

C. they are again entangled in them and overcome,

1. entangled- Gr. **empleko**

a. This Greek word was used of a soldier getting wrapped up in his own cloak and tripped up. When you use grace as a cloak for sin it will trip you up and cause you to fall!

2. overcome- Gr. **hettao**

a. We need to stand on the promise that in Christ we have overcome through our faith in Him! [1 John 5:5](#)

D. the latter end is worse for them than the beginning.

1. latter end- Gr. **eschatos**

2. worse- Gr. **cheiron**

a. Jesus taught that when a devil leaves someone it will try to return. If it can get back in it will bring seven others with it and the state of that person will be worse in the end than in the beginning.

[Matt. 12:43-45](#)

b. If you get out of a sinful lifestyle and later return often your state will be worse than when you were in it before.

3. beginning- Gr. **protos**

21. **For 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.**

A. **For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness,**

1. **better-** Gr. *kreitton*

2. **known-** Gr. *epiginosko-* *to know by revelation*

a. This is to become acquainted with by revelation

3. **way-** Gr. *hodos-* *path*

4. **righteousness-** Gr. *dikaiosune-* *the state of being as you ought to be*

a. This is not by works but by faith.

B. **than having known it,**

1. **known-** Gr. *epiginosko-* *to know by revelation*

C. **to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them.**

1. **turn-** Gr. *epistrepho*

2. **holy-** Gr. *hagios*

3. **commandment-** Gr. *entole*

a. This would be the commandment to believe upon Christ. [1 John 3:21](#), [Acts 16:31](#)

4. **delivered-** Gr. *paradidomi*

a. This verse seems to indicate that these are believers who turn from their faith in Christ. However, the next verse points to the fact that these were never saved to start with.

22. **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."**

A. **But it has happened to them according to the true proverb,**

1. **happened to them**

a. The proverb is speaking of those bring discussed above.

2. **true-** Gr. *alethes*

3. **proverb-** Gr. *paroimia-* *a current or trite saying, a proverb, any dark saying which shadows forth some didactic truth*

B. **A dog returns to his own vomit,**

1. **dog-** Gr. *kuon*

a. A dog according to the OT was an unclean animal.

2. **vomit**- Gr. **exerama**

C. **and a sow,**

1. **sow**- Gr. **us**

- a. A pig according to the OT was an unclean animal.
- b. Believers are likened to a clean animal- **sheep**
- c. Those spoken of in this context are likened to unclean animals that never changed their nature. The dog was still a dog after it left its vomit and when it returned to it. The pig was still a pig after it washed and when it came back and wallowed in the mire. These people spoken of here never were born again. Apparently they just were religious and then turned from the teachings of Christ altogether.
- d. A Christian becomes a new creation in Christ. [2 Cor. 5:17](#) They are a brand new species that never has been before!

D. **having washed**- Gr. **louo**

E. **to her wallowing in the mire.**

1. **wallowing**- Gr. **kulisma**- *to roll about*

2. **mire**- Gr. **borboros**- *mud mixed with dung*

- a. Believers have been washed, sanctified, and justified in the name of the Lord and by the Spirit of God. [1 Cor. 6:11](#)