

Home Group Helps

II Peter 2:1-3 (ESV)

Flee What Is False

Vs. 1 – “But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction.”

Vs. 2 – “And many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of truth will be blasphemed.”

Vs. 3 – “And in their greed they will exploit you with false words. Their condemnation from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep.”

1. Launching Question(s):

- The Bible is replete with passages warning God's people about the dangers of false teachers. Do any come to your mind? Why do you think this is such a prevalent theme? (See Deuteronomy 13:1-5; Jeremiah 23; Ezekiel 22:23-31; Matthew 7:15-23; & II Timothy 4:1-5 for help if needed)
- How have you experienced or witnessed false teaching or false teachers in your own life?

2. Observation Question(s):

- Read the entirety of II Peter chapter 1. How does Peter's argument build up to this point?
- Read through all of II Peter chapter 2. How does a look at the larger context help us grasp what Peter is trying to teach us?

3. Interpretation Question(s):

- Each of these verses teaches something about who these false teachers are, what they do, and what the results of their actions will be.
- Walk through each verse and find/examine the details discussed above.
- How do Peter's words on false teachers contradict the culture's understanding of “false teaching”? Do Peter's words challenge your own conceptions regarding the dangers of false teachers?

4. Reflection Question(s):

- This is a difficult passage in Scripture to walk through, yet truths of Christ may be found here.
- How is Jesus, our good shepherd, the opposite of all these negative traits we see in this passage? (See Psalm 23 & John 10:1-30 for help)

5. Application Question(s):

- Peter wants us to stay awake and be vigilant! How might you personally guard yourself from the spiritual falsehoods in this world?
- Armed with the Gospel and the Word of God, how might we as a church better be on our guard against false teaching in this world?