



# The Corruption of False Teachers

Part One: "Their Identity"

2 Peter 2:4-10

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All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • Pew Bible Page Number is 1117-1118.

In the STUDY VERSE SECTION, God's Word is printed in regular faced text with Pastor Joe's commentary in the smaller faced text. Biblical words, underlined with dots, are explained in the brackets. • Pastor Joe's email is Joe@southreno.com.

## REVIEW FROM LAST WEEK

- "Counterfeit Christianity"** has, at its heart, false prophets and false christs.
- Their message is to deny the lordship of Jesus Christ.
- The reckless immorality is based on deceptive theology.
- The method is to compel you to give up your morals and your money.
- The test of a cult, false prophet and/or false teacher:
  - Does it ADD to the Word of God?
  - Does it SUBTRACT from the Person of Christ?
  - Does it MULTIPLY the salvation requirements (above faith)?
  - Does it DIVIDE the follower's loyalty?

## TODAY'S STUDY SECTION

### ***The Identity of False Teachers (from the Past):***

**STUDY VERSE SECTION - 2 Peter 2:3b-10, NASB95** - <sup>3b</sup>...*their judgment from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep.* <sup>4</sup> *For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell!* [most translations used the word "Tartaros", used only here in the NT; it describes the place where a special class of wicked angels have been sent because of a sin described in Jude 6:6ff; it is the deepest part of Hell] *and committed them to pits of darkness [lit., hopelessness], reserved for judgment [lit., torture];* <sup>5</sup> *and did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a preacher of righteousness, with seven others, when He brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly;* <sup>6</sup> *and if He condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to destruction by reducing them to ashes, having made them an example to those who would live ungodly lives thereafter;* <sup>7</sup> *and if He rescued righteous Lot, oppressed by*

*the sensual conduct of unprincipled men [cf., v. 2 "unrestrained ways"]* <sup>8</sup> *(for by what he saw and heard that righteous man, while living among them, felt his righteous soul tormented day after day by their lawless deeds),* <sup>9</sup> *then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from temptation, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment for the day of judgment,* <sup>10</sup> *and especially those who indulge the flesh in its corrupt desires and despise authority. Daring [ones who don't measure the consequences of their decisions], self-willed [lit., arrogant (stubborn)], *they do not tremble when they revile* [Gk: βλασφημέω (blas-pho-ME-o) lit., to blaspheme] angelic majesties, [better understood as "heavenly principals (glory)"]....*

**The False Prophets and Teachers** (vv. 1-2) The center of their ministry was themselves, not Holy God.

**The Fallen Angels** (v. 4) who sinned against God and were expelled from Heaven—Satan and the demons. They wanted what they wanted, not what God wanted.

**The pre-flood world** (v. 5) [Antediluvian] **Genesis 6:5, NLT** - <sup>5</sup> *The LORD observed the extent of human wickedness on the earth, and he saw that everything they thought or imagined was consistently and totally evil.*

**The cities Sodom and Gomorrah** (v. 6) Homosexual sex takes its name from this city, "Sodom"; Gomorrah points to forced bondage, rape, incest, sex-trafficking, etc. (the Hebrew word *'amar* means "to force" and implies a sexual connotation).

**The wicked prophet Balaam** (v. 15) **2 Peter 2:15, NLT** - *They have wandered off the right road and followed the footsteps of Balaam son of Beor, who loved to earn money by doing wrong.*

## LIFE APPLICATION SECTION

### ***"Does a Holy God really send Evil People to Hell?"***

The vague and tenuous hope that God is too kind to eternally punish the ungodly has become a deadly opiate for the consciences of millions. - A. W. Tozer (1897-1963)

#### **A. The Bible teaches that Hell is a real place.**

**Revelation 20:15, NIV84** - <sup>15</sup> *If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.*

#### **B. Jesus taught that Hell was a real place.**

**Matthew 25:46, NIV84** - <sup>46</sup> *Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."*

#### **C. The Bible describes Hell as a place of horrendous suffering.**

**Matthew 22:13, NIV84** - <sup>13</sup> *'...throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'*

**Hebrews 10:29, NLT** - <sup>29</sup> *Just think how much worse the punishment will be for those who have trampled on the Son of God, and have treated the blood of the covenant, which made us holy, as if it were common and unholy, and have insulted and disdained the Holy Spirit who brings God's mercy to us.*