

Intro: Nothing more offensive to God than the perversion of His word - Rev 22:18-19

VI. Portrait of False Teachers

A. Their Sphere - vs 1a

1. But

a. context - **2 Pet 1:19-21**

b. marks a contrasting transition

2. there were also false prophets among the people

a. throughout history, a spiritual war has been going on

i. false teachers have been a plague to God's people

ii. The people - Israel

iii. 1 Kgs 22:1-28; Jer 5:30-31; 6:13-15; 23:14-16, 21, 25-27; 28:1-17; Ezek 13:1-7, 15-19

b. even in Jesus' time, **Mt 7:15-20**

i. the entire religious establishment was corrupt - **Lk 11:39-52**

ii. father of lies - Jo 8:44

3. even as there will be false teachers among you,

a. even as

i. knowing the warfare was continuing,

ii. they were there for Israel, they would be there for the church

b. Jesus predicted that that in the last days, the church would endure a variety of false teachers - Mt 24:4-5

c. Paul warned Timothy about people following false teachers - **2 Tim 4:2-4**

d. there will be -

i. God sent false teachers in the OT to test the people - **De 13:1-3**

ii. False teachers arise when the church begins to embrace worldly culture - 2 Tim 4:3-4; Rev 3:14-21

B. Their Secrecy - vs 1b

1. who will secretly

a. Jd 4 crept in unnoticed - *pareisduno* - to settle in alongside, lodge stealthily:--creep in unawares.

b. *pareisago* - to lead in aside, introduce surreptitiously:--privily bring in.

c. They appear as angels of light - **2 Co 11:13-15**

2. bring in destructive heresies,

a. destructive - *apoleia* - ruin or loss (physical, spiritual or eternal):--damnable(-nation), destruction, die, perdition, pernicious ways, waste.

b. heresies - *hairesis* - a choice, a party, disunion:--heresy, sect.

i. denotes an opinion, esp a self-willed opinion

ii. Substituted for submission to truth, leads to division and the formation of sects

iii. By using this term, Peter was indicating that the false teachers had exchanged God's truth for their own self-styled opinion

iv. Here refers to the worst kind of deviation and deception

C. Their Sacrilege - vs 1c

1. even denying the Lord who bought them,

a. even - emp the magnitude of their arrogance

b. *arneomai* - to contradict, disavow, reject, abnegate:--deny, refuse. - **Heb 11:24**

c. *despotes* - an absolute ruler ("despot"):--Lord, master.

- i. used 9 times
- ii. 4 times used of master of an estate; 5 times used of Christ or God
- d. who bought them
 - i. speaks of a master of a house buying slaves / giving them household tasks
 - ii. **agorazo** - to go to market, to purchase; to redeem, buy, redeem. - 1Co 6:20; 7:23; Re 5:9
 - iii. **1Jo 2:1-2**

2. and bring on themselves swift destruction.

a. **tachinos** - curt, impending:--shortly, swift.

b. **apoleia** - ruin or loss (physical, spiritual or eternal):--damnable(-nation), destruction, die, perdition, perish, pernicious ways, waste. - **1 Th 1:7-10**

D. Their Success - vs 2a

1. And many will follow - **Mt 7:13c** - there are many who go in by it.

2. Mt 7:13-14 "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. "Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.

3. Mt 7:21 "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.

E. Their Sensuality - vs 2b

1. sensuality - refers to habitual sexual immorality and unrestrained, debauched conduct

2. their destructive ways, NKJV - **apoleia** - NASB - **aselgeiais** - lascivious, lewd practices - **2 Pet 2:7,10, 13-14, 18-19, 22**

F. Their Stigma - vs 2c

1. because of whom - the false teachers

2. the way of truth

a. refers to right doctrine and accurate proclamation of the gospel

b. people of the Way - Ac 9:2; 19:9,23; 22:4; 24:14,22

3. will be blasphemed.

a. **blasphemeo** - to vilify; to speak impiously:--(speak) blaspheme(-er, -mously, -my), defame, rail on, revile, speak evil.

b. in contrast to 1 Pet 3:15 - living in such a way that people ask

G. Their Sustaining Method - vs 3a

1. By covetousness

a. false teachers are not motivated by their false doctrine

b. **pleonexia** - avarice, fraudulency, extortion:--covetous(-ness) practices, greediness.

i. connotes an uncontrolled covetous for wealth and money

ii. 2Pe 2:14b a heart trained in covetous practices,

2. they will exploit you with deceptive words;

a. **emporeuomai** - to travel in (a country as a pedlar), to trade:--buy and sell, make merchandise.

b. they used false words to enrich themselves - Ro 16:18; 2Co 12:17-18; 1Ti 6:5; Tit 1:11; Jd 1:4,15

i. **plastos** - moulded, artificial, fictitious (false):--feigned.

ii. Connotes something not completely authentic

Application: Ac 20 28-32