

**Sermon Study Guide –
2 Peter 2:10-16
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Week of October 16, 2022**

Title: **“The Way of Balaam”**

Sermon Idea: False teachers are crooked in their mouths and eyes.

Key Points:

1. Mouth: False teachers despise and arrogantly slander authority. (vv.10-12)
2. Eyes: False teachers openly and insatiably pursue sensuality and greed. (vv.13-16)

What do I want people to know? I want people to know that God’s judgment on these false teachers is right because of their debased way of life and arrogant slander of others.

What do I want people to do? I want people to (1) strengthen their theology, (2) confess any unhealthy addictions, (3) evaluate your values in light of the ways of the world and the kingdom.

What need am I addressing? I am addressing the need for avoiding walking the way of false teaching.

Recommended Resources: *“Strange New World,”* Carl Trueman; *“Another Gospel,”* Alisa Childers

Intro: It is true that many Millennials have left the church. What do you think the church should do, or not do, to bring them back?

Dig:

Day 1: 2 Peter 2:10-16 graphically describes the false teacher’s sensuality and despising of authority. What examples are given?

Day 2: Skim Numbers 22. What was so “reckless” about Balaam’s way? Wasn’t he obeying the Lord? Didn’t he end up blessing Israel? What was so bad about Balaam’s way?

Day 3: Jude 1:8-11 is a parallel passage to ours. What additional information do we get here that helps us make sense of 2 Peter 2?

Day 4: Matthew 7:13-14 finds Jesus talking about two different ways. Compare them. Describe these two ways in your own words?

Day 5: John 14:1-6 presents Jesus’ exclusive claim as the Savior of the world. What does it mean that Jesus is the way? What about other religions?

Apply:

- Study the Bible deeply; study the theology of historic Christianity to solidify your faith.
- Confess any unhealthy addictions to anything that you can’t control.
- Evaluate where you are with each of these “Way comparison statements:”
 - **The measure of success in the world is fulfillment.**
 - **The measure of success in the kingdom is faithfulness.**

 - **The preferred state in the world is happiness in present circumstances.**
 - **The preferred state in the kingdom is joy in eternal security.**

 - **The highest goal in the world is finding one’s “authentic self.”**
 - **The highest goal in the kingdom is losing oneself in order to gain Christ.**

Pray: Lord Jesus, I choose You as my way. Help me to be faithful to You always. Amen.
