

Sermon Study Guide –

2 Peter 2:1-3

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Title: **“False Teachers”**

Sermon Idea: As opposed to the trustworthy apostles and Scripture, false teachers promote deception, sensuality and greed.

Key Points:

False teachers...

1. Pollute the truth. v.1
2. Practice and promote sensuality. v.2
3. Profit from the unsuspecting. v.3

What do I want people to know? I want people to know that not every “Christian” teacher is reliable. Avoid those who give license to sensuality and who financially exploit the unsuspecting.

What do I want people to do? I want people to (1) carefully evaluate any “new” teaching they hear, (2) sharpen your theological convictions, (3) remember believers carry Christ’s reputation.

What need am I addressing? I am addressing the need for maintaining solid teaching in an age of compromise.

Recommended Resources: *“Strange New World,”* Carl Trueman; *“Churches That Abuse,”* Ronald Enroth

Intro: Have you ever run across someone you thought was a false teacher? What did they say or do? What made you think they weren’t trustworthy?

Dig:

Day 1: 2 Peter 2:1-3 begins Peter’s denunciation of false teachers. List the various characteristics that he mentions.

Day 2: Ezekiel 13:1-23 is a condemnation of false prophets by the Lord. What angers God so much about them? Why is he so hard on them?

Day 3: Matthew 7:13-23 is part of Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount. What warnings does Jesus give here? How can we protect against being led astray by people like this?

Day 4: 2 Timothy 4:1-5 are part of Paul’s last words to his protégé Timothy. What does Paul warn Timothy about? What can Timothy do about it? What are some false teachings that “itch people’s ears?”

Day 5: Revelation 21:1-8 is a picture of the end of time. What will God do in the end? How can this encourage us in the face of false teaching here and now?

Apply:

- Investigate the credentials of someone you’re listening to. Who are they associated with? Are they “independent?” Are they accountable to anyone?
- Check online resources like netbible.org and biblestudytools.com for help with interpreting the scriptures.
- Pray for God to guide you with discernment before reading or listening to any teaching.

Pray: Dear Father God, thank You for giving us a trustworthy message in Your Word. Help me to be discerning as I hear and watch people preach in Your Name. Show me what to hold on to and what to throw away. Holy Spirit, guide me into all truth. Amen.
