

November 28, 2021

2 Peter 2:15-22

***Peter's Last Words to the Churches:
What are false teachers like? - Part 2***

Five more characteristics of false teachers.

1. They follow Balaam's way 2:15-16

Numbers 22-24

Micah 3:11

Balaam preferred wealth and popularity over faithfulness and obedience to God.

2. They are destitute of life 2:17

Idea # 1-They are **springs without water** 2:17a

Idea # 2-They are **mists driven by a storm 2:17b**

Idea # 3-The **blackest darkness is reserved for them 2:17c**

3. They are seductive in speech and heartless 2:18

By appealing to the lustful desires of the flesh

They entice people who are just escaping from those who live in error

4. They are deceptive 2:19

They promise freedom

While they themselves are slaves of depravity

5. They never experienced any change 2:20-22

They are worse off at the end than they were at the beginning 2:20

It would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness 2:21

The proverb about a dog 2:22a

Cf. Proverbs 26:11

The proverb about a sow 2:22b

Questions for Discussion

1. The false teachers would do anything for money (they followed Balaam's way). How does this relate to what Jesus said in Matthew 6:24? Relate this also to Proverbs 18:10-11 and Matthew 6:19-20.
2. How does religion without a personal relationship with Jesus Christ relate to what Peter says in 2:17?
3. The false teachers appealed to the lustful desires of the flesh (2:18). How does modern advertisement use this same appeal?
4. What have you learned from our study about false teachers that will help you in your Christian life?