II Peter 2:12-22

Review...

- KNOWLEDGE of Christ...
 - o We have been GIVEN Grace and Peace by multiplied...
 - o We have been GIVEN all things that pertain to life and godliness...
 - o We have been GIVEN GREATEST promises making us partakers of the divine nature...
 - o GIVEN to us through the WORD like a LIGHT that shines in a DARK place...
 - o Important because there will be FALSE teachers!
- Defining FALSE teachers...
 - o False teachers will come in secretly they are cunning II Corinthians 11:14
 - o They teach destructive heresies and MANY will follow blaspheming the way of Truth!
 - o Their motive is greed and their DESTRUCTION is certain!
- The CERTAINTY of judgement...
 - o Angels reserved in hell for judgment the ancient world wiped out except for Noah and family...
 - o Sodom and Gomorrah where nothing remains to this day...
 - o God knows how to deliver the Godly out of trials RIGHTEOUS Lot...
 - o But God WILL reserve the unjust for the day of JUDGEMENT!

DEFINING FALSE TEACHERS...

- 1ST They CORRUPT... vs. 12-17
 - o FALSE teachers...
 - You might think having likened FALSE teachers to FALLEN angels Sodom and Gomorrah...
 - Peter had exhausted his FURY against FALSE teachers but he was just getting started...
 - He continues giving EIGHT examples of how they CORRUPT THREE examples of their LIES!
 - o 1st BRUTE beasts... vs. 12
 - [FALSE teachers are] like natural brute beasts born to be captured and destroyed!
 - NATURAL [φυσικός] 3x in NT someone RULED by their body [not SPIRIT]
 - BRUTE [ἄλογος] beasts 2x in NT defining a mindless animal **Jude 1:10**
 - The picture is of COW meant only for the slaughterhouse…
 - FALSE teachers are NATURAL no more capable of grasping SPIRITUAL truths than a COW!
 - And like a mindless COW their inevitable fate is DESTRUCTION!
 - o 2nd Speak EVIL... vs. 12
 - [FALSE teachers] speak evil of the things they do not understand!
 - Speak EVIL [βλασφημέω] their words are BLASPHEMOUS because they do NOT...
 - UNDERSTAND [ἀγνοέω] where we get the word AGNOSTIC…
 - They CHOSE [active] to not KNOW [present] God so they BLASPHEME the truth!
 - [As a RESULT they] will utterly perish in their own corruption!
 - As a result they will utterly perish in their own corruption...
 - Utterly PERISH [καταφθείρω] 2x NT to have a CORRUPT mind...
 - Through [passive] their CORRUPTION blasphemous ignorance they are CORRUPTED!
 - II Timothy 3:8 "As Jannes and Jambres resisted Moses so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt [καταφθείρω] minds..."
 - When Moses brought the TEN plagues on Egypt Exodus 7-8
 - Jannes and Jambres could duplicate SOME of the miracles staff to snake water to blood...

- But when Aaron struck his rod on the dust all the dust became lice...
- The magicians tried to copy it and they could NOT [or any that would follow]
- They called it the FINGER OF GOD fingerprint proof God was behind the plagues!
- Their MOTIVE in duplicating Moses was to KEEP Pharaoh from LISTENING to God...
- And it WORKED because of them Pharaoh HARDENED his heart!
- If we do not LISTEN to the TRUTH LISTEN to the WORD...
- Instead we will LISTEN to corrupt men and end up with a HARD heart towards Jesus!
- o 3rd Wages of UNRIGHTEOUSNESS... vs. 13
 - FALSE teachers look for a REWARD [wage] in PLEASURE...
 - As those who count it pleasure to carouse in the daytime!
 - PLEASURE $[\dot{\eta}\delta ov\dot{\eta}]$ 5x in NT the pursuit of happiness from this life...
 - But because they want PLEASURE they have no FRUIT!
 - **Luke 8:14** "The [seed] that fell among thorns are those who when they have heard go out and are choked with cares riches and PLEASURES [ἡδονή] of life and bring NO fruit..."
 - FALSE teachers look for a REWARD [wage] in CAROUSING…
 - CAROUSING [τρυφή] 2x NT a word that describes luxurious living...
 - Luke 7:25 "Those who... live in LUXURY [τρυφή] are in kings courts..."
 - Those who choose to live for PLEASURE and LUXURY...
 - WASTE all their TIME striving for things that will NEVER fulfill them!
 - [FALSE teachers] will receive the wages of unrighteousness!
 - What FALSE teacher GET is the REWARD of UNRIGHTEOUSNESS...
 - They will be both UNSATISFIED by ANYTHING they get in this life...
 - And they will end up being JUDGED at the end of their life **Romans 6:23**
 - **John 4:13** "Whoever drinks of this water [from the world] will thirst again..."
 - How many times have we said if I could only have THIS I would be happy...
 - And when we get what we wanted we are happy for a moment then we want more...
 - No matter how many times we drink from the water of the world thirsty again!
 - **John 4:14** "Whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst."
 - We were not CREATED by God to be FULFILLED by the things of this world...
 - We were CREATED by God to KNOW Him WORSHIP Him John 17:3
 - And only when we use our life for the purpose God intended for it are we SATISFIED!
- o 4th Spots and blemishes... vs. 13
 - They are spots and blemishes carousing in their own deceptions while they feast with you!
 - SPOTS $[\sigma\pi i\lambda o\varsigma] 3x$ NT to have a moral fault spiritual stain...
 - BLEMISH $[\mu \tilde{\omega} \mu o \varsigma]$ on here NT a blot or disgrace...
 - ullet FALSE teachers are SPOTS BLEMISHES because they CAROUSE [τρυφή] live in luxury...
 - They go to DINNER with the believers trying to blend in…
 - But they are DECEIVING themselves they are an EMBARRASSING mark on the church!
 - One of the more embarrassing things that can happen...
 - Is walking into a room with a STAIN on your clothes and NOT knowing it!
 - God has a plan to wash away the spots...
 - **Ephesians 5:27** "He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word... present her to Himself a glorious church not having spot $[\sigma\pi i\lambda o\varsigma]$ or wrinkle or any such thing but she should be holy and without blemish $[\check{\alpha}\mu\omega\mu\sigma\varsigma]$."
 - How can we CLEAN the SPOTS and BLEMISHES that are in our churches...
 - We go back to the Word of God the Word is the water that cleanses the SPOTS...
 - The moment we look to the Bible false teachers have nowhere to hide!
- o 5th Full of ADULTERY... vs. 14

- [FALSE teachers] have eyes full of adultery and that cannot cease from sin!
 - The EYE speaks of what they are FOCUSED on ADULTERY [μοιχαλίς]
 - Referring to spiritual ADULTERY they are FOCUSED on cheating on God!
 - The result being they CANNOT stop sinning they are a SLAVE to their sin!
 - Matthew 6:23 "If your eye is bad your whole body will be full of darkness..."
 - We must be careful what we allow our EYES to see what we spend our time watching...
 - We CHOOSE daily what we fill our MINDS with by choosing what we watch...
 - What do we fill our HEADS and HEARTS with this WORLD or with the WORD!
- Enticing unstable souls!
 - ENTICE [δελεάζω] 3x NT to bait or lure someone away from God...
 - But NOTE they are ONLY able to ENTICE those who are UNSTABLE...
 - UNSTABLE [ἀστήρικτος] someone who is not established has no foundation!
 - How do we keep ourselves SAFE from being ENTICED be ESTABLISHED in Jesus!
 - Romans 16:25 "Now to Him who is able to establish [στηρίζω] you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ..."
- o 6th Trained in COVETOUSNESS... vs. 14
 - [FALSE teachers] have a heart trained in covetous practices and are accursed children!
 - COVETOUSNESS [πλεονεξία] 10x NT to be GREEDY want more stuff...
 - They EXERCISE [γυμνάζω] their heart to CONSTANTLY [present] want more...
 - As a result they have become CURSED [κατάρα] children!
 - We do not CHOOSE to be BLESSED or CURSED that we be an easy choice...
 - We choose to OBEY or to DISOBEY the Word of God a choice we make every day...
 - If we OBEY we are BLESSED if we CHOOSE to go our own way CURSED!
 - Joshua 24:15 "Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve..."
- o 7th Like Balaam... vs. 15-16
 - [FALSE teachers] have forsaken the right way and gone astray!
 - They LEFT behind [κ αταλείπω] the STRAIGHT [right] way and have gone astray...
 - Gone ASTRAY $[\pi\lambda\alpha\nu\dot{\alpha}\omega]$ speaking of going the way of the world [planet]
 - They did not CHOOSE to go astray [passive] their CHOICES led them that way!
 - Following the way of Balaam the son of Beor!
 - Balaam was one of only a handful of non-Jewish prophets in the Old Testament...
 - There is no doubt Balaam KNEW the Lord and that the Lord SPOKE to him...
 - Balaam referred to God by his true name [יְהוָה] **Numbers 22:8**
 - Who loved the wages of unrighteousness but he was rebuked for his iniquity!
 - King Balak of Moab sent to Balaam and asked him to CURSE the people of Israel...
 - When Balaam asked the LORD if he could go the LORD told him NO TWO times...
 - But he pleaded with the LORD [he was offered a LOT of money] and God let him go...
 - Because Balaam LOVED [ἀγαπάω] the wages of unrighteousness!
 - A dumb donkey speaking with a mans voice restrained the madness of the prophet!
 - God to send an angel to KILL Balaam but his DONKEY kept avoiding the angel...
 - The THIRD time it happened Balaam beat his DONKEY and the DONKEY spoke...
 - What is AMAZING is not that a DONKEY talked it is that Balaam ARGUED back...
 - Then Balaam saw the angel and the LORD told Balaam to ONLY speak what God said!
 - What was OBVIOUS to a dumb DONKEY was HIDDEN from Balaam…
 - Because GREED will BLIND us to the DANGER right in front of us!
 - Balaam DISOBEYED the LORD...
 - He wanted to earn the REWARD King Balak had for him...

- He did not care what effect his actions would have he ONLY thought of the MONEY...
- He was more concerned with RICHES in this life than ETERNAL life...
- If he could not CURSE Israel he knew how to get them to CURSE themselves...
- Balaam gave king Balak the idea to TEMPT the men of Israel with the women of Moab!
- **Numbers 31:16** "These women caused the children of Israel through the counsel of Balaam to [sin] against the LORD..."
- Balaam DIED for his MONEY...
 - God commanded Israel to attack the allies of Moab **Numbers 25:16-18**
 - When Israel defeated them Balaam also died in the battle Numbers 31:8
 - SADLY many people are DETERMINED to miss out on HEAVEN...
 - They are confident MONEY will make them happy they will SACRIFICE anything to get it!
 - The problem is people make MONEY their god instead of Jesus...
 - We cannot dedicate our lives to MONEY and possessions and to the LORD...
 - We waste our life on possessions that do not last rather than on eternal rewards...
 - If we desire more MONEY we are missing the greatest riches of all Jesus!
 - **I Timothy 6:10** "The love of money is a root of all kinds of evil for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness and pierced themselves through with many sorrows."
- o 8th Wells without water... vs. 17
 - [FALSE teachers] are wells without water clouds carried by a tempest!
 - The idea being they APPEAR to be something that would be REFRESHING...
 - A COLD drink of water from a WELL on a hot day or the COOLING of a CLOUD overhead...
 - But instead of being a BLESSING FALSE teachers turn out to be FALSE advertising!
 - **Jude 1:12** "They are clouds without water carried about by the winds. Late autumn trees without fruit twice dead pulled up by the roots..."
 - Those who teach us to look to the world for PROMISES...
 - The PROMISE if we MARRY the right person we will find HAPPINESS...
 - The PROMISE if we have enough MONEY we will have no WORRIES...
 - These PROMISES look good but they are EMPTY promises....
 - What they do not tell us ONLY in Jesus are PROMISES Yes and Amen!
 - For whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever!
 - A phrase used 2x NT to describe everlasting punishment the Lake of Fire Jude 1:13
 - The bottom line the destiny of these teachers is sealed their doom certain!
 - All the more reason why we want to make sure to avoid them and not share their fate!
- 2ND They are LIARS... vs. 18-22
 - o 1st EMPTY words... vs. 18
 - When they speak great swelling words of emptiness!
 - They say things that sound PROFOUND great swelling words...
 - But what comes is EMPTINESS it has no TRUTH its only PURPOSE is to ALLURE...
 - ALLURE [δελεάζω] 3x NT to bait or deceive someone in TWO ways...
 - 1- LUST of the flesh to long for and crave what is FORBIDDEN...
 - 2 LEWDNESS [ἀσέλγεια] unbridled LUST shameless desires...
 - They APPEAL to the SINFUL nature of men to TRAP them in SIN again!
 - [Trapping] the ones who have actually escaped from those who live in error!
 - ESCAPED [ἀποφεύγω] to FLEE or run away from...
 - These false teachers pull BELIEVERS back into a life of sin that God had saved them from!
 - II Peter 1:4 "[Who] have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises that through these you... escaped $[\dot{\alpha}\pi\sigma\phi\epsilon\dot{\nu}\omega]$ the corruption that is in the world through lust."

- If you took a plane from the Philippines to Hawaii and your compass was off one degree...
- You would miss the ISLAND by over 144 KILOMETERS run out of fuel and crash!
- We may be right on with the LORD today but that does NOT make us safe…
- COMPROMISE is a constant danger it only takes a LITTLE to get us in a LOT of trouble...
- This is a heavy and humbling truth there are men who are seeking to DESTROY us...
- They do so by giving us a message that appeals to our SINFUL nature...
- We must be on constant GUARD knowing that our eternity is what is at stake!
- **I Timothy 1:19** "[Have] faith and a good conscience which some having rejected concerning the faith have suffered shipwreck..."
- o 2nd FALSE promises... vs. 19
 - While they promise them liberty they themselves are slaves of corruption!
 - PROMISE [ἐπαγγέλλομαι] 15x in NT from the word ANGEL [ἄγγελος] MESSENGER
 - Claiming to be a MESSENGER of LIBERTY they are the SLAVES [δοῦλος] of SIN...
 - Someone who is in BONDAGE to SIN can NEVER set anyone else FREE…
 - Instead they bring others into SLAVERY with them!
 - We either choose to be a SLAVE to Jesus or we choose to be a SLAVE to SIN...
 - We CHOOSE who we will be a slave to by where we put our TIME...
 - Whatever we INVEST in that is where we will also find our LOYALTY!
 - Galatians 5:16 "Walk in the Spirit and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh."
 - By whom a person is overcome by him also he is brought into bondage!
 - OVERCOME [ἡττάομαι] to be CONQUERED [passive]
 - Sin is like the most addictive kind of drug if we are not careful it will CONQUER us...
 - Sin can seem to be enjoyable but it sucks us in and we are TRAPPED...
 - In the end we find we are in BONDAGE to sin morally and spiritually bankrupt...
 - The man who CHOOSES to sin gives up his freedom to CHOOSE!
 - **John 8:34** "I say unto you he that commits sin is the slave of sin..."
- o 3rd Worse than the beginning... vs. 20-22
 - For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the KNOWLEDGE...
 - Of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ they are again entangled in them and overcome!
 - Having ESCAPED [ἀποφεύγω] the corruption [μίασμα] of the WORLD...
 - Through the KNOWLEDGE of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ II Peter 1:4
 - If they are CAUGHT again by the world by these FALSE Teachers...
 - And they are CONQUERED [ἡττάομαι] and brought back into BONDAGE to sin!
 - The latter end is worse for them than the beginning.
 - It would have been better for them NOT to have KNOWN the way of righteousness...
 - Than having KNOWN it to TURN from the holy commandment delivered to them!
 - TURN [ἐπιστρέφω] often used to describe REPENTANCE Acts 3:19
 - But here used to describe TURNING from the LORD back to the WORLD...
 - It would be BETTER to have not KNOWN because then there would still be HOPE...
 - But if someone has rejected the ONLY way of salvation what hope is left for them!
 - According to the true proverb...
 - It has happened to them according to the true proverb:
 - A dog returns to his own vomit and a pig having washed to her wallowing in the dung!
 - HAPPENED [συμβαίνω] to WALK in the FOOTSTEPS of the PROVERB Proverbs 26:11
 - A DOG will VOMIT something NOT good for it but then eat it again...
 - A PIG can be washed of the DUNG the body expels but then go back and BATH in it!
 - The WISDOM of this WORLD is NOT healthy we should spit it out…
 - The FILTH of SIN is something we should REJECT not bath in…

- How sad for the believer who end up back in a pile of their own dung!
- KNOW there are FALSE teachers...
 - By DEFINING what FALSE teachers look like the HOPE is we will AVOID them...
 - Not being CORRUPTED by their GREEDY example...
 - Not listening to their LIES and EMPTY promises...
 - Instead HOLDING fast to the KNOWLEDGE of CHRIST!