

GROWING ⁱⁿ GRACE GUARDED ^{by} TRUTH

Study in 2 Peter



Sermon Title: “The Presence, Practice, Popularity, and Pain of False Teachers”

Scripture Title: 2 Peter 2:1-3

Chris Fritz / Sunday, March 19, 2023

INTRODUCTION

2 Corinthians 11:2-4 -

2 Peter 1:20-21 -

I. FAITHFULLY FACING A CLEAR AND PRESENT DANGER

1) The False Teachers’ PRESENCE: They are present, so courageously walk in truth!

2 Peter 2:1a; Genesis 3; Deuteronomy 13, 18; Jeremiah 23:14-16; Acts 20:28-32 -

2) The False Teachers’ PRACTICE: They are deceptive and deceived, they are doctrinally destructive and disrupt unity, they are self-governed and reject the Lordship of Christ, and they lead and teach from a position of immorality and greed.

“...they are deceptive and deceived...” (2 Peter 2:1)

“...they are doctrinally destructive and disrupt unity...” (2 Peter 2:1)

Important Reminder: Not everyone who disagrees with you is a false teacher. There are lots of secondary issues on which Christians can and do disagree. The false teachers that Peter is addressing are those who knowingly, willingly, and passionately deny or grossly distort an essential doctrine of the faith and of the Gospel!

“...they are self-governed and reject the Lordship of Christ...” (2 Peter 2:3, 12, 14)

John 14:15, 23-24 -

“...they lead and teach from a position of immorality and greed...” (2 Peter 2:2-3a)

3) The False Teachers’ POPULARITY: Sadly, many will buy into false teaching because it appeals to our pride and to our sinful desires.

2 Peter 2:2 -

1 John 2:16-17 -

4) The False Teachers’ PAIN: How does it all end for the false teacher? HORRIBLY.

2 Peter 2:1-3 -

***“Little children, you are from God and have overcome them,
for HE who is in you IS GREATER than he who is in the world.” (1 John 4:4)***

Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application...

1. Why does Peter make a comparison in verse 1 between God’s people in the Old Testament and God’s people in the New Testament? What’s the point he’s making?
2. According to Peter, how do false teachers operate? How do they act? What motivates them?
3. Why are false teachers, at times, hard to recognize and identify?
4. Why do so many follow false teachers? Why is false teaching attractive?
5. Is everyone who disagrees with you about a spiritual issue a false teacher?
6. What does Peter say about the ultimate end and destination of false teachers?
7. What can believers do to properly prepare for and respond to false teaching?