



## 2 Pe 2:12–24, False Teachers

November 24

REVIEW: [2 Peter](#)

**CONTEXT:** Peter is in prison. Tradition tells us he was executed by Nero in AD 65. With his imminent death, Peter writes, possibly to the same group of exiles noted in 1 Peter, to challenge them in their Christian living and also to confront false teachers.

**FIRST, A.M. SERMON RECAP** (Pastor Peter, Pulpit Swap)

- Share your thoughts on the value of pulpit swaps? What other ways can we foster deeper meaningful connections with other likeminded congregations?
- Pastor Peter took his sermon title from a line in the passage, “Life and Godliness.” What other helpful turns of phrase do we find in this passage?
- How has God given the believer life?
- If He has given the believer life through faith, what is the expectation?
- Do we value growing in godliness today; is godliness a virtue?

**READ:** 2 Pe 2:12–22

**QUESTIONS:**

vv. 15–18

1. *In the preceding verses, it has been established that the false teachers were denying the final judgement (or day of reckoning). As such, people were ignoring Jesus’ call to live holy lives, instead becoming greedy and sleeping around. Peter then sites Old Testament examples where rebellion met with judgement; even as God delivered His people (e.g. Lot). He now begins to examine their rebellious character, beginning with boldness...*
2. **What threats are raised today against the Gospel? Is a denial of coming judgment embraced by any Christians today; if so what does it lead to?**

3. *V. 12- “But these”- Peter introduces the rebellious nature of these false teachers: From vv. 12–14, what characteristics do they have (and why) and how are these shown?*  
Characteristics                      Manifestations of These

4. How are they like animals?
5. Why do they “entice unsteady souls”? What then is the best prevention to withstand them?
6. *In vv. 15–16 Peter cites Nu 22–24 as it is a story rooted in greed and lust. Like the false teachers Balaam was supposed to be spiritually insightful, however, God had to restrain him with a donkey! (What interesting, even humourous ways, does God do this today?).*
7. **V. 17a- What do these analogies speak about the false teachers?**
8. V. 17b (and v. 12)- What has God ordained as their fate (and why should we not participate with them)?
9. Who do you think Peter is referring to in v. 18b, “barely escaping from those who live in error”?
10. **V. 19- What is the true Christian message of liberty and how was this being perverted by these teachers? (think licentiousness and antinomianism!).**
11. *Rather than teaching the loss of salvation, the referenced Proverb (e.g. Prov 26:11) and example of a pig speak to false teachers true character never having changed— they professed to be visible Christians but returned to their true essence.*
12. **How are we to recognize false teachers?**
13. **How can we guard ourselves against false teachers?**

**NEXT TIME:** December 1, 1 Jn 2:15–27, Warnings about the love of the world and anti-Christ