

“False Teachers”

2 Pet. 2:1-3

Introduction

- I. The danger of false teachers is real.
- II. Peter warned first century Christians about the dangers of false teachers (2 Pet. 2:1-3).
- III. We need to continue to sound the alarm about false teachers and their doctrines.

Discussion

- I. Peter contrasted some faithful teachers with false teachers (2 Pet. 1:19-2:1).
 - A. God wanted Israel to understand the just how serious false teachers were (Deut. 13:1-5).
 - B. Today, Christians will have to identify false teachers when they infiltrate the flock (Matt. 7:15; 1 John 4:1).
- II. What are the motives of false teachers?
 - A. Some may be ignorant of their false teachings, but that does not excuse them.
 - B. Peter made it clear that some false teachers are in it for what they can gain (2 Pet. 2:3, 14-15; cf. 1 Tim. 6:5 and Titus 1:10-11).
 - C. Peter also explained that some false teachers teach error to rebel (2 Pet. 2:10-12).
- III. False teachers often hide their true identities (2 Pet. 2:1-3, 13-14).
 - A. Jude likewise explained that some false teachers hide their true identities (Jude 4).
 - B. Peter also described how some false teachers hide themselves (2 Pet. 1:16).
 - C. False teachers offer things that they cannot give (2 Pet. 2:17).
- IV. False teachers bring much damage and destruction.
 - A. Denial of the Lord (2 Pet. 2:1).
 - B. Rejection of the Word of God (2 Pet. 2:2).
 - C. Ultimately they, along with their followers, will be lost (2 Pet. 2:1, 3-6, 9, 12, 20; cf. 2 Thess. 2:10-12).
- V. How to prepare for false teachers.
 - A. Obtain knowledge of the Word of God (2 Pet. 2:20; 1 Pet. 2:1-2; Acts 17:11; 2 Tim. 3:16-17).
 - B. Follow the examples of faithful brethren of the past (2 Pet. 2:7-8).
 - C. Concentrate on the reward that awaits the faithful (Rev. 2:10; 2 Pet. 1:11; 3:13).

Conclusion

- I. We need to know about false teachers, their teachings and their ways.
- II. We should remember the words of the Psalmist (Psm .119:104, 128).