

**SECOND PETER CHAPTER 2**  
**Lesson 24**  
**THE DANGER OF FALSE TEACHERS**

16 January, 2015

**“There shall be false teachers among you...by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of”** (vss. 1-2).

**Chapter 1:** prepares you to live a godly life in the sight of our Savior.

**Chapter 2:** gives us God’s view of false teachers, which hinder our efforts to live a godly Christian life.

**2 Peter 2:1-10**

God lists 3 events as examples of things that provoked His wrath to illustrate how wicked and harmful false teachers are in the church. God’s wrath is kindled against false teachers to the same degree as:

1. The angels that sinned, which God cast down to hell (vs. 4).
2. The people of Noah’s day who were drowned in the flood waters (vs.5).
3. The wicked people of Sodom and Gomorrha destroyed by hail fire (vs.6).

God expects the truth to be taught in His church because false doctrine destroys the souls of men, destroys the fabric of churches, and destroys the foundation of entire nations.

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**Vocabulary used in the passage:**

**“Damnable heresies”** (vs. 1): deserving punishment.

**“Swift destruction”** (vs. 1): early death if saved. Hell if unsaved.

**“Pernicious ways”** (vs. 2): very destructive or injurious.

**“Truth...evil spoken of”** (vs. 3): false teachers are responsible for people not trusting the Bible.

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**PERNICIOUS WAYS** (vs. 2)

False teachers are a danger because **“many shall follow their pernicious (destructive) ways.”** Sincere seekers of truth expect the expert behind the pulpit to be someone they can trust who will teach them the truth. If you don’t know the Bible, you may be misled by a false teacher.

Their **“pernicious ways”** cause the truth to be **“evil spoken of.”** This world expects Christians to live holy lives and tell the truth. When we don’t live up to that standard, nobody wants to listen to us; we are the reason people won’t get saved.

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**COVETOUSNESS** (vs. 3)

**“And through COVETOUSNESS shall they with feigned (artificial, insincere) words make merchandise of you.”**

TV preachers are often guilty of this; preying upon people who believe them to be God’s honest servant. They will send them money thinking they’re serving God, but the money all goes toward making the preacher rich. When people find out about the preacher’s rich lifestyle, they reject the gospel that they preach.

God is not tolerant of such thievery in the pulpit. Such men (or women) are worthy of **“judgment”** and **“damnation”** (vs. 3).

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**THINGS THAT OFFEND GOD**

Lying! --False teaching! --Spiritism! --Witchcraft! --Attacking the Bible while pretending you believe it! --  
Making a business out of religion!

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God said **“there shall be false teachers among you.”** That is a fact. You can’t change that, but you are responsible to warn others about the false teachers.

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We must continue to preach the truth and expose the lies and the liars— because it hurts families, it hurts societies, and it hurts nations when its preachers don’t preach the truth.

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