

SECOND PETER CHAPTER 2
Lesson 26
THE NATURE OF FALSE TEACHERS

30 January, 2015

Chapter 1: we have the written Scriptures, which are more sure than any man's eye-witness account.

Chapter 2: "But..." false teachers will try to lead believers AWAY from the Scriptures as our final authority—and teach them to seek something else to guide and direct them in their Christian life.

Christians are being taught that it's okay to NOT TAKE HEED to the Holy Scriptures; telling you that you don't HAVE to live a holy and righteous life if you're saved. Preachers are not preaching against unlawful deeds (vs. 8) or against filthy conversation (vs. 7).

If people don't heed the preaching of **righteousness** today, they are in as much danger as the people of Sodom, the people of Noah's day, and the angels that fell with Satan.

2 TIMOTHY 4:1-3 Preach the word while you can. The time will come when they will not ENDURE sound doctrine. Christians endure (tolerate) preaching today, even though they've lost their heart for it and no longer embrace it. Soon they will not tolerate any preaching on **righteousness**—even though they still believe the fundamental principles of the Christian faith (virgin birth, trinity, deity of Christ, salvation by faith in Christ, etc.). The preaching of **righteousness** will become offensive to those who simply "endure" it for now.

In verse 3, they still want teachers, but they don't want preachers of righteousness. They'll gladly listen to a teacher who tells them that everything they do is okay. That way they don't have to correct anything in their life. The false teacher scratches their itching ears just right.

The teachers also have itching ears; loving to hear how wonderful and nice they are.

JEREMIAH 5:30-31 The prophets prophesied falsely—and the people LOVED it. And the false teachers of our day are just like those false prophets of Jeremiah's day. People prefer to sit under a liberal teacher rather than to hear a preacher of righteousness.

"What will ye do in the end thereof?" Many people who used to go to church are now living terribly wicked lives—because they could no longer endure sound doctrine. So they either left the church, went to a liberal church, or the preacher submitted to their wishes and became a liberal preacher who no longer preached sound doctrine.

ACTS 20:27-30

The Apostle Paul taught the believers at Ephesus “**all the counsel of God.**” But he warned them that somebody would rise up within their church “**speaking perverse things**” and try to get people to follow “**them**” instead of the word of God.

During times of persecution, people will listen to a liberal teacher who tries to help them avoid persecution—by not doing the work of the LORD and avoiding confrontational (negative) teaching.

Righteousness is important to God. Avoid anybody who tries to tell you God doesn't care how you live!
