

SECOND PETER CHAPTER 2

Lesson 28

EXAMPLES OF FALSE TEACHERS

[1] SATAN AND THE ANGELS THAT SINNED [VS. 4]

13 February, 2015

A look at the characteristics of Satan and the rebellious angels will enable us to quickly spot the false teachers who also exhibit those same traits.

Verse 10 gives us three characteristics of the angels that sinned:

1. Presumptuous: They presume they can get away with sin.
2. Self-willed: They do what they want to do, not what God commands.
3. Not afraid to speak evil of dignities: God is the highest dignity. These angels dared to presume that God was wrong; that God doesn't know everything; that He doesn't know what He's talking about.

ISAIAH 14:12-15

Satan put his will above the will of God and tried to put himself in the position of authority rather than acknowledging God's sovereign authority. This refusal to put God in the place of authority leads to all the other sins that we consider to be horrific.

False teachers follow this pattern by disregarding what God has said in His Holy Word and then proceeding to teach things contrary to sound doctrine; teaching their own philosophies and ignoring God's instructions and commands. "I know God said *this*, but I will teach *this*."

You must know God's Holy words. If you don't know the Word of God, you might accept this satanic substitute for the word of God.

GENESIS 3:1-4

The serpent was **SUBTLE**. That's his character. He's not easily detected as being a bad guy. In fact, you'll think he's a friend who's trying to help you.

Promoting rebellion: If anyone tells you that you shouldn't listen to God or that you should take control of your own life, they're just like the Devil. They are Satanic.

Exaggerating the complaint: Satan made it sound like God was withholding more than He really was ("every tree"). Eve exaggerated when she added "we may not touch it."

Promoting self-will: convincing you that you don't need God and you can run your own life ("Ye shall be as gods").

1 TIMOTHY 3:2

The qualifications for becoming a bishop includes (vs. 6) "not a novice" (not a new Christian). A new young Christian man is susceptible to being puffed up with pride like Satan (that's the condemnation of the devil).

A pastor who is full of pride is going to regard his own beliefs and teachings above the word of God. He'll often be found disregarding what the Bible says and making himself the authority instead.

Unwillingness to let God govern in your life is a clear and present danger that will hurt you in the end.

2 THESS. 2:3-4 The coming Antichrist (man of sin; son of perdition, vs. 3) is one who opposes the true and living God—and then makes himself God. That’s the same attitude that allows men and women today to habitually sin. They learn to justify their sins until they find themselves in deep trouble (marriage trouble, harmful addictions, financial trouble, etc). God would help them out of that trouble, but they don’t want God telling them what to do.

PROVERBS 3:5-6 God wants to direct you down the safe and righteous paths. You’ve got to trust Him to do so. If you don’t trust Him, you’ll think you know a “better way” and that way will lead you toward trouble.

LUKE 11:2 Jesus instructed His disciples to pray that His will be done on earth. That is not a reference to a future day. The Lord wants us to live according to His will today. That requires that we deny ourselves, trust in the Lord, and obey the Lord.

False teachers place doubts in your mind concerning the validity of the Bible and then encourage you to “find what works for you.”

LUKE 14:11 Satan exalted himself. He shall be abased. He shall be “brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit” (Isa. 14: 15).

Jesus humbled Himself. He was exalted (Acts 2:32-33). He is our example (1 Pet. 2:21).

LUKE 18:9 Jesus taught “certain which trusted in THEMSELVES” that a man cannot be justified by good works. That is a form of exalting yourself before God. It is the man who humbles himself and seeks God’s mercy who “shall be exalted” and justified.

CONCLUSION: People think the big problems in our lives are things like habits, vices, and addictions. Those are only byproducts. They’re not the root problem. The root problem of all those things is pride. We need to humble ourselves before God, repent of our sins, obey the word of God, and seek His help if we want victory over those byproducts of pride.

LUKE 22:42 Jesus gave us the example to follow “not my will, but thine, be done.”

Titus 1:7 A bishop must NOT be self-willed! He’ll be yielded to God’s control.

2 Peter 2:10 False teachers ARE self-willed! This is a man who has yielded to the Devil’s control.
