

SECOND PETER CHAPTER 2

Lesson 34

SPOTS AND BLEMISHES

27 March, 2015

THE SURE JUDGMENT OF FALSE TEACHERS AND DECEIVERS

Verse 3: “**judgment**” and “**damnation.**”

Verse 12: “**shall utterly perish in their own corruption.**”

Verse 17: “**to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever.**”

Verse 9: the unjust have a reservation “**unto the day of judgment.**”

God is certainly and evidently displeased with those who deceive others. They shall be judged sorely.

The fact that their judgment is “reserved” for later (vs. 9) confuses some believers. They don’t understand why God delays their judgment and allows the deception to continue.

At the same time, when the unbeliever sees that God does not smite the unjust, they become more confident in their stand against faith in God or “religion.”

WHY DOES GOD DELAY JUDGMENT?

1. The Lord is longsuffering. He is “**not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance**” (2 Peter 3:9). God is very merciful. He gives every man a chance to repent and escape judgment.
2. The Lord allows the ungodly to operate against believers to find out who really loves Him. Those who obey Him in all things and in every situation are the ones who love Him (John 14:21).
3. If God instantly destroyed all those who did wrong, there would be no need of the New Testament warnings concerning those who would harm the flock of God. They’d all be dead.
4. Many people are doing wrong out of ignorance. They don’t know what is right. God gives them time to find the truth.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THOSE WHO ARE UNJUST

1. **They walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness** (vs. 10). They are controlled by whatever their flesh lusts after. They either do not have the Holy Spirit to restrain them, or they do, but they ignore Him.
 - a. Christians are warned about false teachers who will try to convince you that it’s okay to obey the impulses of the lusts of the flesh and disobey God’s commands.
2. **They despise government** (those who make the rules). Whether it be God, the school principal, the law enforcement officers, or parents. They make the rule-enforcers seem like the bad guys when they decide they don’t like the rules.
3. **They are Presumptuous.** They imagine that sin is not really sin. They presume that commandments or rules are really just suggestions.
4. **They are selfwilled and not afraid to speak evil of dignities.** Because they say “I will do this,” they’ve got to speak evil against whoever stands in their way and tries to make them do right. If you love the Lord, you won’t speak evil against the Bible, your church, your pastor, or Bible preaching. It’s when you let the lusts of your flesh control you that you turn against the righteous.
5. **They are like natural brute beasts** (vs. 12). The warning is to beware of false teachers who try to convince you that there’s no difference between a man and an animal.
6. **They speak evil of things they don’t understand** (vs. 12). They criticize the Bible having never read it.
7. **They are spots and blemishes in the church** (vs. 13). Dirty people blemish churches. False doctrine spots churches. They want the preacher to tolerate more spots and forget about purity in the church.

8. **They count it pleasure to riot in the daytime** (vs. 13). They're out of control. There's no shame in their riotous behavior. They practice violence and crime openly.
9. **They sport themselves with their own deceiving** (vs. 13). They spend a lot of time focused on things that are just a waste of time. Meanwhile the important things are neglected.
10. **They feast with you** (vs. 13). They're in the church trying to get you to experiment with things outside the church.
11. **They have eyes full of adultery** (vs. 14). They've been so saturated with pictures of men and women in immodest dress or very little dress that they accept it as normal. It used to be dirty. Now it's okay in their eyes. The church ought to be one place where you can escape that dirtiness.
12. **They cannot cease from sin** (vs. 14). Once you experiment with sin, it will become a snare that you will not be able to get out of. It's dangerous to even consider compromise with sin. It will captivate you and you won't be able to stop it until it destroys your life and your family. The eye affects the heart (Lam. 3:51). Guard your eyes with all diligence! Don't get caught by the worldwide WEB and the inter-NET! It's all designed to feed the lust of the eyes (1 John 2:16).
 - a. When you yield to the Lord, "**ye shall never fall**" (2 Peter 1:10).
 - b. When you yield to the lust of the flesh, you "**cannot cease from sin**" (2 Peter 2:14).
13. **Their heart is exercised with covetous practices** (vs. 14). What kind of exercise do you give your heart? What do you read? What do you listen to? Who do you talk to? Who do you fellowship with? What motivates you?
14. **Their children are doomed to follow their evil ways; cursed children** (vs. 14). See Exodus 20:5, 34:7, Numbers 14:18, Deuteronomy 5:9. Your children learn how to live by watching you. Their children will learn from them one day. Be careful what you teach them by your example.
15. **They are wells without water** (vs. 17). They promise you happiness and good times and satisfaction and meaning in life, but in the end, they can't deliver. They're void of anything real and refreshing.

MAJOR HERESIES PRESENT AT THE TIME OF THE APOSTLES:

1. **SIMONISM:** Incorrect doctrine of the trinity. The three persons of the Trinity were only three revelations of the same person. Simon Magus was a false Christ.
2. **DOCETISM:** or the doctrines of Docetae ("to appear")—denied the reality of the human body of Christ; Jesus only appeared to have a body; He was not really incarnate; He wasn't crucified.
3. **NICOLAITANS:** elevated the clergy, encouraged licentious (immoral) living under grace.
4. **EBIONITES:** denied the deity of Christ and maintained that Jesus was a mere man from Joseph and Mary, though they regarded Him as the Messiah.
5. **CERENTHIANS:** separated Jesus from the Christ. Cerenthus taught that the Christ came to Jesus at baptism, guided him in his ministry, but left him at the crucifixion. He also taught that Jesus would establish a thousand-year reign of sensuous pleasure after the Second Coming.
6. **GNOSTICS:** distinguished the Creator of the world from the God who reveals Himself by His SON—and thus made TWO gods—denying that CHRIST was—the TRUE God—but He was the REVELATION of the true God—and that no one could rightly know—the true God.

ACTS 20:28-32

The Apostle Paul gives instruction to Titus as he turns the church at Ephesus over to him. He tells him to feed the flock and protect them from the wolves who would enter in.

The pastor must ALSO watch out for protect the flock from men who arise from WITHIN the congregation and try to contradict the preaching and lure them away to themselves.

Paul warned them for 3 years with tears. It broke his heart to know that wolves would try and harm the sheep.

EPHESIANS 5:25-28

Jesus Christ wants His church to be without spot or blemish because He loves you!