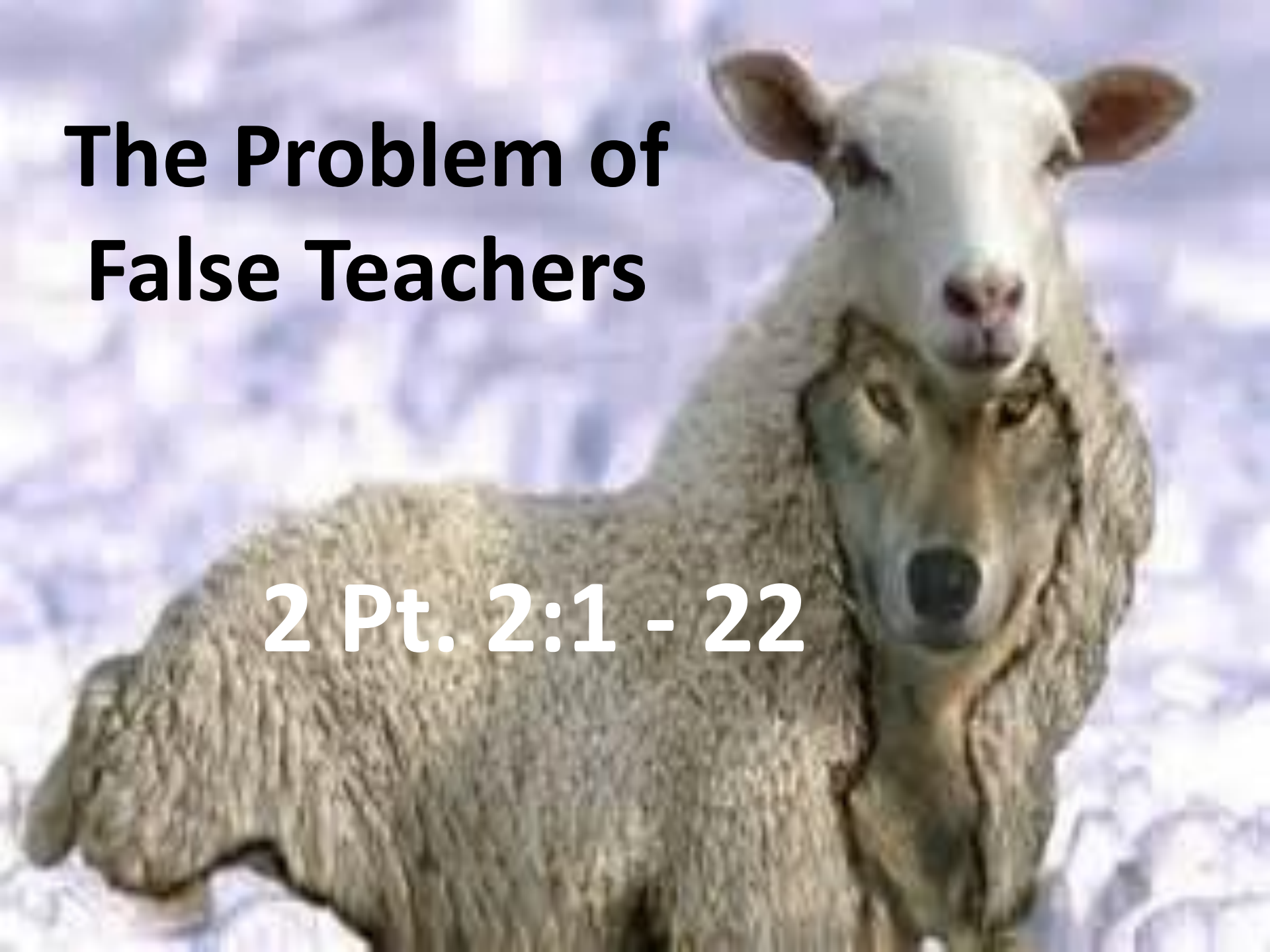


The Problem of False Teachers

2 Pt. 2:1 - 22



**The Divine attitude toward people
who would pervert the truth of
God has always been the same.**

Under the Law of Moses, it was decreed that false
prophets should be put to Death --- Deut. 18:20

Jesus said this of false teachers,

Mt. 23:15, “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel land and sea to win one proselyte, and when he is won, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves.”

Paul said, “if anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you have accepted, let him be eternally condemned.” Gals. 1:9

I. A Strong Warning about False Teachers

RECOGNIZING
FALSE TEACHERS

A person wearing a yellow robe is shown from the back, holding a large, dark, rounded bag. The background is a dark red wall with the text 'RECOGNIZING FALSE TEACHERS' written in a stylized font. The person appears to be walking away from the viewer.

BEWARE
OF FALSE
TEACHERS

A blurred background showing a person in a white coat, possibly a teacher or a doctor, standing in a room. The text 'BEWARE OF FALSE TEACHERS' is overlaid on the image in a bold, sans-serif font. 'BEWARE' is in red, 'OF' is in white, 'FALSE' is in red, and 'TEACHERS' is in black.

2 Pt. 2:1 – 3, “But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, *and* bring on themselves swift destruction.

² And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed. ³ By covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words; for a long time their judgment has not been idle, and their destruction does not slumber.”

II. The Certain Fate of the Unrighteous

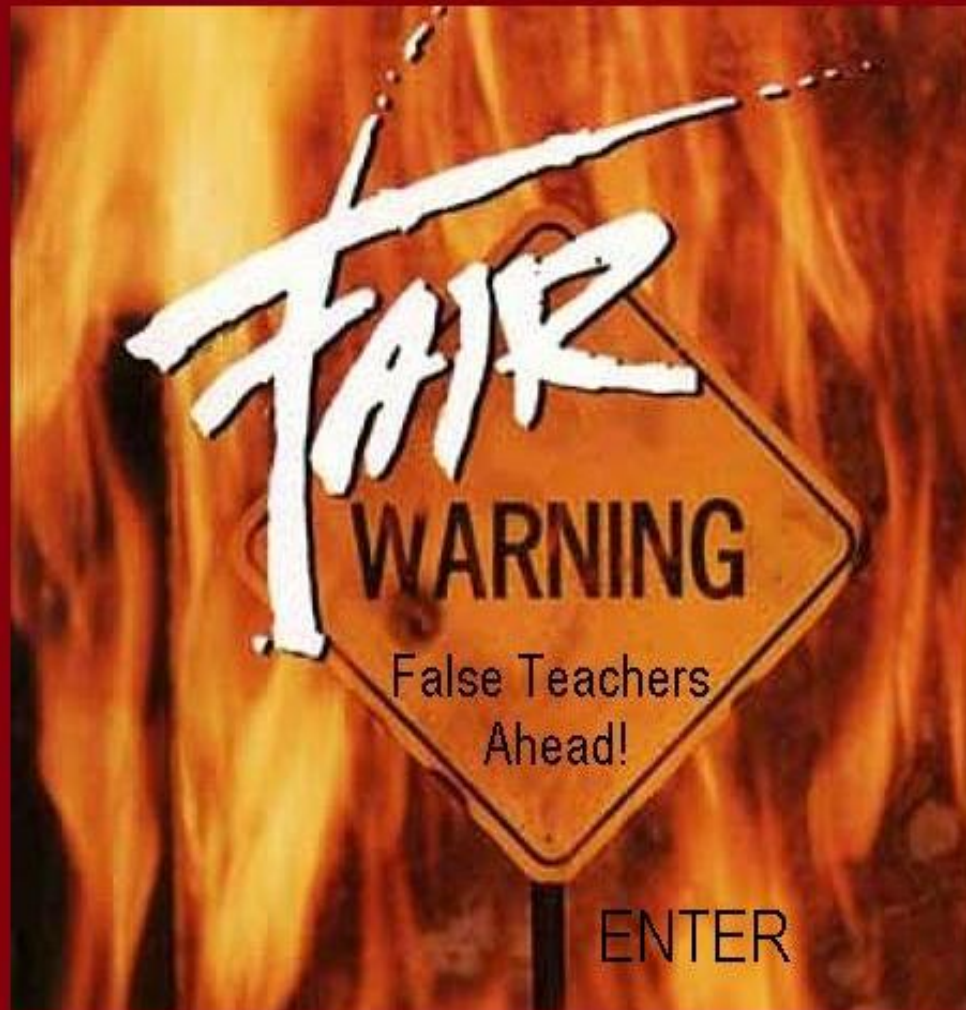


2 Pt. 2:4 – 9, “For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast *them* down to hell and delivered *them* into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment;
5 and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, *one of eight people*, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly;
6 and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned *them* to destruction, making *them* an example to those who afterward would live ungodly;

- **First**, God did not spare His angels when they sinned, but He sent them to Hell
- **Second**, God “did not spare the ancient world when they sinned, he brought a flood upon them and called them into Judgment.
 - This is a reference to the judgment of the wicked, who lived during the time of Noah.
- **Third**, Peter recalls how God “condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah by burning them to ashes” as another example of what is going to happen those who are False teachers.

⁷ and delivered righteous Lot, *who was* oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked ⁸ (for that righteous man, dwelling among them, tormented *his* righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing *their* lawless deeds) -- ⁹ *then* the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment,”

III. A Description of False Teachers



It is at this point that Peter goes into a detailed description of the nature of False Teachers.

They can have one or all of the following Characteristics

2 Pt. 2:10 – 12, “especially those who walk according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness & despise authority. *They are* presumptuous, self-willed. They are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries

¹² But these speak evil of the things they do not understand, & will utterly perish in their own corruption,

2 Pt. 2:13 – 14, “... & will receive the wages of unrighteousness, *as* those who count it pleasure to carouse in the daytime. *They are* spots & blemishes, carousing in their own deceptions while they feast with you, having eyes full of adultery and that cannot cease from sin, enticing unstable souls. *They have* a heart trained in covetous practices, *and are* accursed children.

2 Pt. 2:15 – 17, “They have forsaken the right way and gone astray, following the way of Balaam the *son* of Beor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness; but he was rebuked for his iniquity: a dumb donkey speaking with a man's voice restrained the madness of the prophet.” These are wells without water, clouds carried by a tempest, for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever.

2 Pt. 2:18 - 22, “For when they speak great swelling *words* of emptiness, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through lewdness, the ones who have actually escaped from those who live in error. While they promise them liberty, they themselves are slaves of corruption; for by whom a person is overcome, by him also he is brought into bondage.

²⁰ For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them & overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning. ²¹ For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known *it*, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them. ²² But it has happened to them according to the true proverb: "*A dog returns to his own vomit,*" & "a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire."

First, they are Sensual

- It is and was a common thing for worldly people to yield to their “sinful nature”
- This is what was happening in Peter’s day, and some were calling it Worship.

Second, they are Arrogant and Unwilling to Respect Authority

- They are Self-centered, self-confident, instead of being God-confident.

Third, they are Self-Indulgent in their Sinful Lifestyles

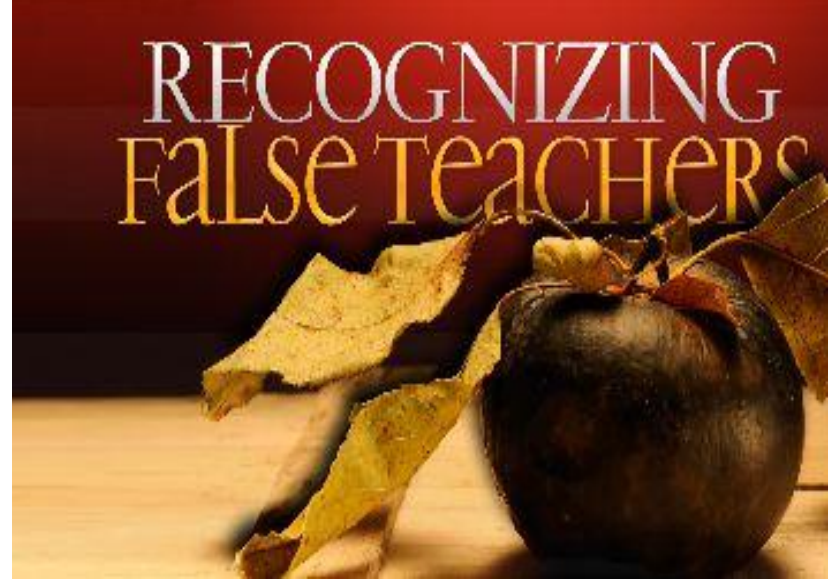
Fourth, they are Lustful and Debased within their Hearts

Fifth, they Coveted what Others had

Sixth, they Preyed upon New Converts & Weak Christians

IV. Christians must not Follow False Teachers

RECOGNIZING
FALSE TEACHERS



- It is possible for a saved person to become “entangled” deep enough into sin that they will be “over-come”.
- This fact that it is possible is supposed to be a warning against letting it happen.
- The people who do fall away from Christ, are told that it will be worse for them, then those who never knew Christ.

Some New Testament Passages that seem to imply Degrees of Punishment:

⁴⁵ But if that servant says in his heart, 'My master is delaying his coming,' and begins to beat the male and female servants, and to eat and drink and be drunk, ⁴⁶ the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for *him*, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in two and appoint *him* his portion with the unbelievers.

⁴⁷ And that servant who knew his master's will, and did not prepare *himself* or do according to his will, shall be beaten with many *stripes*. ⁴⁸ But he who did not know, yet committed things deserving of stripes, shall be beaten with few. For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required; and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more.”