

“Warnings From God”
2 Peter 2:1-11
7/10/22
Message 3

Introduction

- Title of the Message is: “Warnings From God”

- **First: Illustration – Raising Kids**

- **A very Important to Part to RAISING Kids is teaching them to Eat**
 - **NO NOT HOW to eat...**
 - They figure out pretty quickly How to eat
 - A New born baby does not need to be shown to many times where food comes from!!!
 - As a matter of FACT they PUT everything in their mouths
 - *That is way we LOCK up the POISON*
 - **NOT How - BUT WHAT to Eat**
 - If they are going to BE HEALTHY
 - They need to eat the RIGHT foods
 - Learn to Reject or use Moderation on certain foods
 - **Bad Parents**
 - IT would be a BAD parent who just let their kids eat...
 - Junk Food
 - Ice Cream

- Cake
- Candy
- (Exception to this is GRANDPARENTS)
- NOW these KIDS “Might” not see the PROBLEM
 - They might even think they are the Happiest kids on the Planet –
 - But they wouldn’t be Healthy
 - BUT Such a diet – Stunt Growth
 - Leave them frail & weak
 - Over time would create physical problems
- So most of us would definitely wonder about parents who fed their kids that way
- Now with that picture in your mind of parents & kids –

• **Second: NOW - I want us to turn now to the Church**

- **1st When it comes to the Church today – False Teachers**
 - **There are False Teachers who FEED their flocks**
 - What Amounts to Spiritual...
 - Junk Food, Ice Cream, Cake & Candy!
 - Their goal is to make people FEEL HAPPY
 - To help them feel good about themselves
 - So... They FEED them

- Feel Good Sermons
 - Sermons where people are never
 - CONVICTED, CONFRONTED or CHALLENGED
 - They are NOT interested in MAKING DISCIPLES but keeping the seats full
- NOW - Although the Congregation may think they're Happy
 - They ARE NOT Healthy
- **SADLY - There are other “Spiritual Leaders or Movements”**
 - Who feed them what amounts to Poison!
 - Causing their Congregations to never come to life - remaining dead in their Sins
- **2nd Sadly- Resistance in from People in The Church**
 - **The SAD Reality – Some People in the church DON'T want to hear that**
 - SOME People in the Church don't like the Pastors Warning them about False Teachings or Teachers
 - They See it as...
 - Negative
 - Harsh
 - Unloving

- These same people would have no problem SPEAKING to a parent that only feed their kids junk food
- BUT don't want to hear a pastor warn about evil in the church
- But it is necessary to do so
- **3rd False TEACHERS are REAL**
 - False Teaching and Teachers are REAL and they are in the CHURCH
 - Illustration - Cuckoo Bird
 - Did you know the female Cuckoo Bird lays her eggs in the nests of smaller birds of different species.
 - Which then raise the young cuckoos
 - Sadly at the expense of their own young
 - Because the baby Cuckoo birds are (Brood - Being larger, they get most of the food)
 - Satan is the "Mother Cuckoo"
 - Laying his young cuckoos (false teachers) in different church nests.
 - And if undetected by the church leadership...
 - It will be at the expense of many of the churches young!
- **4th A True Under-SHEPHERD WARNS the Church**
 - Peter (GOD) does well in WARNING us

- Peter was a true Under - Shepherd
- HE was Commissioned by the Lord to **Feed the Flock & to Tend** the Flock
- He was faithful to the Call –
- Chapter 1 - He is FEEDING
 - Reminding his readers of the importance of the Sure word of Prophecy – Endures
 - Be STRONG in the WORD
 - So that you can STAND against the False Teaching
- Chapter 2 – He is TENDING
 - Part of tending is to Warn
 - Warning about False Teachers

▪ **Paul was a TRUE Under-Shepherd**

Colossians 1:28 (NKJV)

28 Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.

Acts 20:29–32 (NKJV)

29 For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock.

30 Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves.

31 Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears.

32 “So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

- **The Job of a Pastor is to FEED & TEND to the Flock**

- **FEED**

- Exhort, Comfort, Encourage

- **TEND**

- Warn, Protect from the Wolves in sheep clothing

- A Pastor who only Feeds & doesn't Warn is fattening them up for the kill

- Illustration

- Patient has CANCER

- Doctor only wants to encourage

- Doctor DOES not give you the LIFE saving Advice because that's not his ministry...

- You see the POINT

- At time a TRUE Under- Shepherd must do the hard job and WARN

- **Balance**

- Feed yet Warn but all WARING and NO Feeding is not good too!!!

- There are SPECIAL ministries that focus on False Teachers

- **The Berean Call**

- www.thebereancall.org

- **Light House Trials Research**

• **Now This Morning Peter gives us 4 Warnings FROM God About False Teachers**

- The **Message** They Teach v. 1
- The **Multitudes** That Will Follow v. 2
- The **Methods** They Use v. 3a
- Their **Manipulation** Brings God Wrath vs. 3b-11

The Message They Teach v. 1

• **First: The presence and work of false teachers v. 1a**

2 Peter 2:1 (NKJV)

1 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.

- **1st False Prophets & False Teachers**
 - Peter stated this as a **FACT** and not as a possibility
 - He said they were among you, not only on the outside of the church
 - In Peters DAY the - Many believe Gnosticism
 - Was a strange mish-mash of...
 - Greek philosophy
 - Eastern mysticism
 - Jewish cosmology
 - Christian terminology
 - The Gnostics taught that salvation lay in knowledge
 - That ignorance was the root of all evil.

- They considered all physical matter to be inherently evil
- While the realm of the spirit was only good
- So it did not matter what you did in the flesh
- Salvation was found in being taught - Deeper, secret truths
 - That was only imparted to those who had proven themselves worthy of such knowledge by acts of extreme devotion and paying a fee.
- **2nd Today's Examples**
 - **Jehovah's Witnesses –**
 - Don't Believe in The Deity of Christ
 - **Mormonism –**
 - Don't Believe in The Deity of Christ
 - **Universalism**
 - ALL SAVED
 - **Bethel in Redding**
 - New Apostolic Reformation
 - Grave Sucking
 - Angel Dust
 - **Emergent / WOKE / Consumerism**
 - Partial Truth but leave OUT LOT of TRUTH

- Avoid talking about sin, blood, etc...
- All about FEELING good
- Emotional Experience

- **Show Picture – Worldly Church**

- **Churches that No Longer want Sound Doctrine**

- A Poll taken a few years back
- A poll of Protestant Pastors was conducted by sociologist Jeffrey Hayden.
- He surveyed 10,000 Pastors of whom 7,441 replied.
- 1st Question: Do you accept Jesus' physical resurrection as a fact?
 - 51% of Methodists said no
 - 35% of United Presbyterian said no.
 - 30% of Episcopalians said no.
 - 33% of American Baptist said no.
 - 13% of American Lutheran said no.
- 2nd Question: Do you Believe that the Scriptures are the inspired and inerrant Word of God.
 - 87% of Methodists said no.
 - 95% of Episcopalians said no
 - 82% of Presbyterians said no.
 - 67% of American Baptists said no

- 77% of American Lutherans said no

- **Second: Who will secretly bring in destructive heresies v. 1b**

2 Peter 2:1 (NKJV)

*1 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.*

- **1st Destructive Heresies:**

- **Destruction – Greek: Apoleia**

- Meaning: Destroying, utter destruction; a perishing, ruin, destruction

- **Heresies – Greek: Hairesis**

- Meaning: Act of taking, capture: e.g. storming a city; choosing, choice; that which is chosen; a body of men following their own tenets (sect or party); dissensions arising from diversity of opinions and aims

- *Wiersbe; “The word heresy originally meant simply “to make a choice,” but then it came to mean “a sect, a party.” Promoting a party spirit in a church is one of the works of the flesh (Gal. 5:20). Whenever a church member says to another member, “Are you on my side or the pastor’s side?” he is promoting a party spirit and causing division. A false teacher forces you to make a choice between his doctrines and the doctrines of the true Christian faith”*

- **False teachers bring in destructive heresies**

- 1st False teachers work secretly
 - They come and act just like us

- Pretend to believe as we do
- Word Secret is Subtle – a subtle deception –
- They use the right terminology BUT is used but in the wrong way
- Terminology is RIGHT – but the way it is used is wrong
- Then slowly they start to pull people to their side
 - They work on the fringe of the church – those that aren't plugged in
- 2nd By these Heresies people are hurt and destroyed.
 - Heresy isn't harmless.
 - That destroy by telling lies about Jesus Christ and His work for us and in us.

• **Third: Even denying the Lord who bought them v. 1c**

2 Peter 2:1 (NKJV)

*1 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.*

- **1st False teachers deny the Lord who bought them.**
 - 2 Different Schools of Thought
 - 1st They Appear to be saved.
 - Otherwise Peter would never say that the Lord bought them
 - At the same time, they are false, destructive teachers.

- 2nd Even the ungodly were bought by His “Precious Blood.”
 - For God SO LOVED the WORLD
 - Yet they Refused His Gift
 - *Matthew Henry; “They reject and refuse to hear and learn of the great teacher sent from God, though he is the only Saviour and Redeemer of men, who paid a price sufficient to redeem as many worlds of sinners as there are sinners in the world”*
 - *Unknown; “Even a person who has what appears to be a godly walk and relationship with Jesus Christ can still bring in destructive heresies. Often times good men who teach lies do the worst damage. Their lies are accepted far more easily because of the good character of these men.”*

• **Fourth: Bring on themselves swift destruction v. 1d**

2 Peter 2:1 (NKJV)

*1 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.***

- **1st False teachers are PROMISED swift destruction**
 - Even though they aren’t judged fast enough in the opinion of many
 - Judgment is COMING

• **Fifth: Lesson - How do we avoid subtle Deceptions – 3 important rules to Follow**

- 1st Be Grounded in God’s Word (2 Peter 1)

- 2nd Heed God's Warning (2 Peter 2)
- 2nd Be a Berean (Acts 17:11)
 - Just because it is taught by a Church doesn't mean that is true
 - Just because something is Popular doesn't mean it is Right
 - Just because it brings in people doesn't mean that it pleases God

The Multitudes That Will Follow v. 2

• First: The popularity of false teachers v. 2

2 Peter 2:2 (NKJV)

2 And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed.

- 1st Many will follow their destructive ways
 - This reminds us that false teachers may be popular.
 - Just because something succeeds in attracting a crowd of followers, it doesn't mean that it is of God.
 - We know that God's work will always bear fruit, but the devil's work can also increase.
 - *Guzik; "The most distressing aspect of the work of false teachers is not that they are among you (2 Peter 2:1). False teachers always have been and always will be among Christians. The most distressing fact is that so many Christians will follow their destructive ways."*
 - Illustration - Elevator Experiment
- 2nd Because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed:

- When false teachers are at work and when crowds are following them, the way of truth is blasphemed.
- God's holy name and honor are disgraced

○ **3rd Lesson - Matthew 24 Deception**

Matthew 24:3–5 (NKJV)

3 Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?"

4 And Jesus answered and said to them: "**Take heed that no one deceives you.**

5 For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many.

The Methods They Use v. 3a

• **Third: The strategy and destiny of false teachers vs. 3**

○ **1st By covetousness v. 3a**

2 Peter 2:3 (NKJV)

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.

▪ **Covetousness – Greek: Pleonexia**

- Means: Greedy desire to have more, covetousness, avarice

▪ **False teachers use covetousness –**

- Instead of feeding the Flock – fleecing the flock
- Their Desire is to make merchandise of You
- They are Driven by sensual pleasures

▪ **Deceptive Word**

- Words that sound true BUT are not

- It is possible to share the WORD of God in such a way that it sounds right BUT they twist the meaning...

- **2nd Their Judgment v. 3b**

2 Peter 2:3 (NKJV)

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.*

- Peter assured us that false teachers will be judged.
- Even though it seems they prosper, their judgment is not idle.
- God's wrath pours out on them even in allowing them to continue, thus heaping up more and more condemnation and hardness of heart in themselves.

Their Manipulation Brings God Wrath vs. 3b-11

- **First: The Ungodly Will Be Judged vs. 4-6**

- **1st If God did not spare the angels who sinned v. 4**

2 Peter 2:4 (NKJV)

4 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;

- **1st The Sin of Angels**

- 1st The original rebellion Satan and third of the Angels Rebelled against God
 - Satan's I WILL
- 2nd Jude 6 Left their Proper Domain

Jude 6 (NKJV)

6 And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day;

- The “Sons of God” described in Genesis 6:1-2

- The children born to them were Nephilim, which means “fallen ones”

Genesis 6:1–2 (NKJV)

1 Now it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them,
2 that the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose.

- **2nd Cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness v. 4b**

2 Peter 2:4 (NKJV)

4 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;**

- **The Judgment Of Angels**

- God judged these wicked angels, setting them in chains of darkness.
- Apparently, some fallen angels are in bondage while others are unbound and active in the earth as demons

- **Cast Into HELL**

- Hell – Greek: Tartaroo –
- Meaning: The name of the subterranean region, doleful and dark, regarded by the ancient Greeks as the abode of the wicked dead, where they suffer punishment for their evil deeds.
- What’s this place?

- It’s not real clear what Peter is talking about here.

- This is the only place that the word for Tartarus is used in the New Testament.
- Appears to be a SPECIAL place for the very wicked

▪ **Lesson**

- If God DID NOT SPARE the Angel
- FALSE TEACHERS BETTER LOOK OUT

○ **3rd And did not spare the ancient world v. 5**

2 Peter 2:5 (NKJV)

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;

▪ **God judged the ancient world, the world before Noah's Flood**

- Because the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great

Genesis 6:5 (NKJV)

5 Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

▪ **Wickedness of Noah's Time**

- Population explosion (Genesis 6:1, 11)
- Widespread violence (Genesis 6:11, 13)
- Corruption throughout society (Genesis 6:12)
- Preoccupation with illicit sex activity (Genesis 4:19; 6:2)
- Widespread words and thoughts of blasphemy (Jude 15)

- Organized Satanic activity (Genesis 6:1–4)

- **Noah a PREACHER of Righteousness**

- Preaching Righteousness today
 - The world is REJECTED
 - Old Fashioned / Archaic
 - Restricting FREEDOM
 - The Church
 - Legalism
 - Let me ask a question
 - When you think of the Liberty, we have in Christ what is the first thing you think of?

- **4th Judgment of Sodom and Gomorrah v. 6a**

2 Peter 2:6 (NKJV)

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;*

- **What was the SIN of Sodom and Gomorrah**

- The NEW church of today
 - PRIDE, No Hospitality

Ezekiel 16:49–50 (NKJV)

49 Look, this was the iniquity of your sister Sodom: She and her daughter had pride, fullness of food, and abundance of idleness; neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy.

50 And they were haughty and committed abomination before Me; therefore I took them away as I saw fit.

- GOD

- The Account in Genesis makes it very clear it was HOMOSEXUALITY

- Lesson

- 1st We Don't hate anyone
- 2nd We can't affirm SIN
- 3rd Homosexuality is SIN and Abomination to GOD
 - God's Word NOT mine
 - Yes, Christ does condemn this sin
- 4th Nations that have gone the way we're going DIE
- 5th Homosexuality is a SIN that can be forgiven –
 - Grace is able to free you from this sin

- Illustration - Show Picture

- 5th Making them an example v. 6b

2 Peter 2:6 (NKJV)

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;**

- Wake UP False Teachers

- God judged the angels who sinned
 - So no one is too high to be judged.
- God judged the ancient world before the flood

- So God doesn't grade on a curve, only comparing man among other men.
- God judged Sodom and Gomorrah
 - So even the prosperous can be judged.

• **Second: The Righteous Will be Delivered vs. 7-9**

- **1st Delivered Righteous Lot vs. 7-9**

2 Peter 2:7–9 (NKJV)

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,

▪ **Lot was Righteous**

- Peter already told us how the Lord delivered Noah (2 Peter 2:5).
- Now, he shows us that the Lord delivered righteous Lot.
- Lot was righteous in God's eyes, though perhaps it was hard for others to see his righteousness. Yet the wickedness of Sodom and Gomorrah tormented his righteous soul from day to day.

▪ **Lot was VEXED**

- To BE DISTRESSED
- Lesson
 - Do you feel this way? – YOU SHOULD
 - 1st About your own condition

- 2nd This LOST world

- **God Knows how to Deliver the Righteous**

- Even as the Lord delivered Lot
- He knows how to deliver us from the temptations we face
- He knows how to reserve the unjust for the day of judgment.
- We can trust in God's deliverance of the godly because it is just as certain as His judgment of the ungodly.

- **Third: More Description Of False Teachers vs. 10-11**

- **1st And especially those who walk according to the flesh v. 10a**

2 Peter 2:10 (NKJV)

10 and especially those who walk according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and despise authority. They are presumptuous, self-willed. They are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries,

- These ungodly ones are especially reserved for judgment.
- They live according to the flesh, not the spirit, and are marked by uncleanness.

- **2nd They are presumptuous, self-willed v. 10b**

2 Peter 2:10 (NKJV)

10 and especially those who walk according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and despise authority. They are presumptuous, self-willed.
They are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries,

- **Presumptuous, self-willed.**
 - “Presumptuous” is to be brazen, audacious, and defiant.

- “Self-willed” is to be obstinate, determined in one’s own way.
- **3rd Whereas angels, who are greater in power and might, do not bring a reviling accusation v. 10 – 11**

2 Peter 2:10–11 (NKJV)

10 and especially those who walk according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and despise authority. They are presumptuous, self-willed. **They are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries,**
11 whereas angels, who are greater in power and might, do not bring a reviling accusation against them before the Lord.

- These ungodly ones are proud, despising authority.
 - In their pride they will even speak ill of spiritual powers (Satan and his demons)
 - That even the angels themselves do not speak evil of, but the angels rebuke them in the name of the Lord instead.

Jude 8–9 (NKJV)

8 Likewise also these dreamers defile the flesh, reject authority, and speak evil of dignitaries.

9 Yet Michael the archangel, in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Moses, dared not bring against him a reviling accusation, but said, “The Lord rebuke you!”

- Much of what goes on under the name of spiritual warfare shows this kind of pride and presumption.
 - While we recognize our authority in Jesus, we see that it is only in Jesus that we have it – and we leave the reviling accusations to Him alone.

Closing

- May the Lord Keep us on the RIGHT path