

2PeterWeek14 2 Peter 2:1-9

Community Group Questions

1. What type of false teachings have you observed?
2. What do you think contributes to false teachings?
3. How does it make you feel knowing that God judges?
4. How does it make you feel know that God rescues His people?

As Peter moves through his letter to the Church he is dealing with the rise of false teaching and false teachers that are trying to distract from the Gospel message and pull people away from following Jesus.

Today in 2 Peter 2:1-9 Peter will teach us how to identify false teachers and teaching and he reminds us about how God has dealt with those people in the past.

Identifying false teachers and false teaching Vrs 1-3

-Teaching things that are **not consistent with the truth**. Vrs 1

-False Gospel true GOSPEL

2015 example -Rob Bell former pastor and current author is teaching things that are **not consistent with the truth** of the Gospel...He wrote a book saying there is No Hell that a loving God would not allow people to experience a place like that. This may be popular and attractive to believe but unfortunately it is not the truth.

The Bible teaches eternal separation from God when we reject Jesus.

-Accepting sin. Vrs 2 Do what you feel like doing.

2015 Example-Tony Campolo author and speaker in the Christian community- Teaches that we can excuse sin and **accept sin** as not offensive to God basically he is calling sinful activities not sinful and accusing those who do not embrace sinful lifestyles as unloving.

Let me tell you...This church accepts anyone who sins no matter what your sin is. Jesus died for every sin no matter what your sin is. He did that so we would not live in that sin any longer. So the way we handle that as a body of believers is we teach not to continue in sin, we encourage out of sinful behaviors and confront sin when it is present in the lives of our brothers and sisters in Christ. That is Biblical...Jesus told the women that was caught in adultery “Go and sin no more” He didn’t say keep having a good time.

If you come to me and you are struggling with sinful behaviors my goal as a pastor and Christian is to help you be delivered from that not say “it’s ok just keep committing that sin”. That is not love because God is saying that is not the best He has for you.

Lets say you have a child that is a bully and is getting in trouble in school. As a parent you have the choice to dismiss it and say it is not wrong that’s what kids do or you can call it what it is...sin and take steps to correct it. What happens if you don’t? No friends, maybe beat up, end up continuing down that path and assaulting someone and ending up in jail.

-In it for personal gain. Vrs 3

-Creating a culture of following them rather than following Jesus. Their focus is on themselves making a profit.

2015 example-Creflo Dollar -Prosperity Gospel- This is the teaching that says when you believe in Jesus the only thing you can expect is blessings all the time. Sounds great! Not true and unfortunately many that teach this are the only ones that have a blessing and that blessing is that they have a lot of money and that money comes from the people. Recently Creflo Dollar told the people of his church and that listen to programs that he needed 65million for a private jet because God wants him to travel and bring the Gospel around the world and

He needs it done fast. Sounds like manipulation for personal gain to me.

Here is what tends to happen false teaching becomes popular...hey there is no hell, hey sins the Bible names are no longer sin and hey God wants you to be rich, give me money and you will get rich. These things become popular and then we, as Biblical Christians start wondering why God is allowing this to continue, here is what Peter does next...reminds them of two things...**How God Responds**

Historically God has righteously judged Vrs 4-6 (Their judgment is coming)

- The Angels Vrs 4 (talk about)
- The days of Noah Vrs 5 (talk about)
- Sodom and Gomorrah vrs 6 (talk about)

The point here is that these false teachers are not going to get away with this. God takes care of judgment when people rebel.

Some people think this is absurd or mean that God would judge or punish these people but lets take a step back for a moment.

Imagine this, you are in the market a good used car and a sales person is trying to sell you what he wants you to believe is a solid car at a great deal. What the salesman does not disclose is that the car was in a pretty bad accident that damaged the integrity of the car. Not only that the dealer in which the sales person works for turns the mileage back on the car to make the car seem like it is worth more.

You buy the car then find out all this information later. What do you want to happen to that salesperson? Money back, person to pay, justice to be served.

In the same way the sin of false teaching and leading others away from the Lord is a serious offence to God and He is just so He has to institute justice.

The second thing Peter reminds us is...

Historically God rescues His people Vrs 7-9

-Noah- escaped the flood. He was a herald of righteousness.

-Lot-Was delivered from Sodom and Gomorrah before the Lord destroyed those cities

Vrs 8 tells us what Lot had to deal with.

-God's People...Us redeemed by Jesus. We have the promise that false teachers and teaching will not win the war. They may win a few battles but the war will be won by Jesus and He will rescue His people.