



2 Peter

Marked Men

Session 13

“Without a heart transformed by the grace of Christ, we just continue to manage external and internal darkness.” *By Matt Chandler*

The picture Peter is showing us here is of proud people who try to build themselves up while they try to tear down everybody else. They show no respect for authority and are not afraid to attack and defame people in high positions.

Read 2 Peter 2:10-12

Question: Man’s fallen nature encourages pride. There are two kinds of boldness.

1. The first is a heroic boldness which is good.
2. The second kind of boldness, “self-willed”, is satanic.

How do we fight off having an arrogant boldness?

Question: Reviling is a serious matter. They call themselves the exalted ones. What steps do you have in place in your life to prevent you from living an exalted lifestyle?

Question: Speaking evil of others is a great sin. Read Titus 3:1-2. How do you speak about those of authority over you? How about a parent, civil leaders, church leaders, or even where you work?

Question: Peter compares these false apostates to “unreasoning animals” whose destiny is to be slaughtered. So, it is with people who are apostates – they make a lot of noise. How do we discern the truth of the Word of God in people who have their own agendas?

Read 2 Peter 2:13-14a

In our own society, there are those who plead for funds for their ministries, yet live in expensive houses, drive luxury cars, and wear costly clothes.

Question: A fallacy is “when a person becomes accustomed to his vices and sees them as virtues.” How do we keep from falling into the trap of our own vices and seeing them as virtues?

Christian love does not mean that we tolerate every false doctrine and every so-called “lifestyle”.

Question: How do we keep our beliefs and our behavior in alignment with the Word of God?

Satan knows that he could never trap us unless there is some fine bait to attract us.

Question: What fine bait does Satan use to attract us in which pervasion creeps into our lives?

Read 2 Peter 2:14b-16

We have already learned one reason for the apostates’ godless conduct. They want to satisfy their own cravings of the flesh. But there is a second reason - they are covetous and want to exploit people for personal gain.

Question: Covetousness is the insatiable desire for more money, more power, more prestige. Why is covetousness never satisfied?

You can see in Balaam the two aspects of the apostates that Peter emphasized in this chapter: sensual lust and covetousness.

Question: Balaam kept playing with the will of God, trying to get a different viewpoint. How do we keep living and having an obedient heart to God’s authority in our lives?

Assignment: Are you being watchful for marked men and women around who do not speak God’s truth? Be in the Word of God to know truth.

Next week: 2 Peter 2:17-22 False Freedom