

1 & 2 Peter Series

Part 5: 2 Peter 2:12 – 22

Warning of False Prophets from Within their Nature & Tactics ...continued

Matthew 7:15-23 "Beware of the **false prophets**, who come to you in **sheep's clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves.**

16 **You will know them by their fruits.** Grapes are not gathered from thorn bushes nor figs from thistles, are they?

17 So every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit.

18 A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, nor can a bad tree produce good fruit.

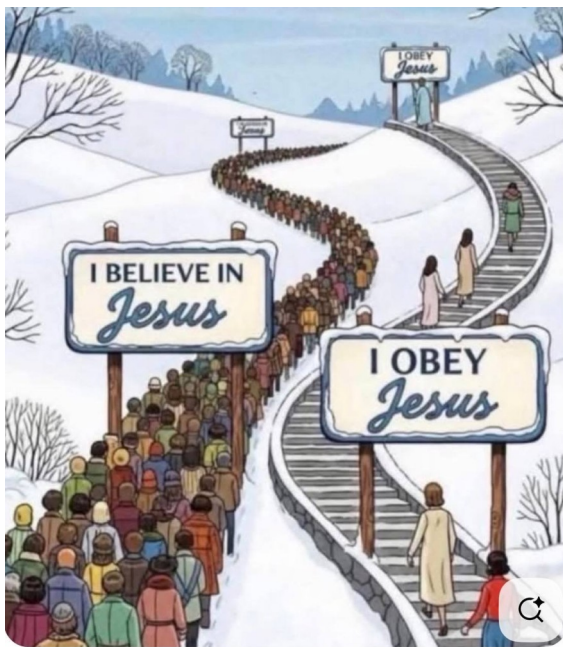
19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

20 **So then, you will know them by their fruits.**

21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who **does the will of My Father** who is in heaven will enter.

John 14:21 He who has My commandments **and keeps them** is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him."

22 **Many** will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy **in Your name**, and **in Your name** cast out demons, and **in Your name** perform many miracles?' 23 And then **I will** declare to them, '**I** never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness.'



2 Corinthians 11:13-15 For such men are **false apostles, deceitful workers, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ.** 14 No wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. 15 **Therefore** it is not surprising if his servants also **disguise themselves as servants of righteousness,** whose end will be according to their deeds.

Ezekiel 34 *Then the word of the Lord came to me saying, 2 "Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel. Prophesy and say to those shepherds, 'Thus says the Lord God, "Woe, shepherds of Israel who have been feeding themselves! Should not the shepherds feed the flock? 3 You eat the fat and clothe yourselves with the wool, you slaughter the fat sheep without feeding the flock. 4 Those who are sickly you have not strengthened, the diseased you have not healed, the broken you have not bound up, the scattered you have not brought back, nor have you sought for the lost; but with force and with severity you have dominated them. 5 They were scattered for lack of a shepherd, and they became food for every beast of the field and were scattered. 6 My flock wandered through all the mountains and on every high hill; My flock was*

scattered over all the surface of the earth, and there was no one to search or seek for them. ""

7 Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord: 8 "As I live," declares the Lord God, "surely because My flock has become a prey, My flock has even become food for all the beasts of the field for lack of a shepherd, and My shepherds did not search for My flock, but rather the shepherds fed themselves and did not feed My flock; 9 therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord: 10 'Thus says the Lord God, "Behold, I am against the shepherds, and I will demand My sheep from them and make them cease from feeding sheep. So the shepherds will not feed themselves anymore, but I will deliver My flock from their mouth, so that they will not be food for them. ""

11 For thus says the Lord God, "Behold, I Myself will search for My sheep and seek them out. 12 As a shepherd cares for his herd in the day when he is among his scattered sheep, so I will care for My sheep and will deliver them from all the places to which they were scattered on a cloudy and gloomy day. 13 I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them to their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the streams, and in all the inhabited places of the land. 14 I will feed

them in a good pasture, and their grazing ground will be on the mountain heights of Israel. There they will lie down on good grazing ground and feed in rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. 15 I will feed My flock and I will lead them to rest," declares the Lord God. 16 "I will seek the lost, bring back the scattered, bind up the broken and strengthen the sick; but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with judgment.

17 "As for you, My flock, thus says the Lord God, 'Behold, I will judge between one sheep and another, between the rams and the male goats. 18 Is it too slight a thing for you that you should feed in the good pasture, that you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pastures? Or that you should drink of the clear waters, that you must foul the rest with your feet? 19 As for My flock, they must eat what you tread down with your feet and drink what you foul with your feet!'"

20 Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them, "Behold, I, even I, will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. 21 Because you push with side and with shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns until you have scattered them abroad, 22 therefore, I will deliver My flock, and they will no longer be a prey; and I will judge between one sheep and another.

23 "Then I will set over them one shepherd, My servant David, and he will feed them; he will feed them himself and be their shepherd.

24 And I, the Lord, will be their God, and My servant David will be prince among them; I the Lord have spoken. 25 "I will make a covenant of peace with them and eliminate harmful beasts from the land so that they may live securely in the wilderness and sleep in the woods. 26 I will make them and the places around My hill a blessing. And I will cause showers to come down in their season; they will be showers of blessing. 27 Also the tree of the field will yield its fruit and the earth will yield its increase, and they will be secure on their land. Then they will know that I am the Lord, when I have broken the bars of their yoke and have delivered them from the hand of those who enslaved them. 28 They will no longer be a prey to the nations, and the beasts of the earth will not devour them; but they will live securely, and no one will make them afraid. 29 I will establish for them a renowned planting place, and they will not again be victims of famine in the land, and they will not endure the insults of the nations anymore. 30 Then they will know that I, the Lord their God, am with them, and that they, the house of Israel, are My people," declares the Lord God. 31 "As for

you, My sheep, the sheep of My pasture, you are men, and I am your God,” declares the Lord God.

Read in Ezekiel is Chapter 14 on the similar subject:

2 Peter 2:12-22 But these, like unreasoning animals, born as creatures of instinct to be captured and killed, reviling where they have no knowledge, will in the destruction of those creatures also be destroyed,

13 suffering wrong as the wages of doing wrong. They count it a pleasure to revel in the daytime. They are stains and blemishes, reveling in their deceptions, as they carouse **with you**,

14 having eyes full of adultery that never cease from sin, enticing unstable souls, having a heart trained in greed, **accursed children**; 15 forsaking the right way, they have gone astray, having followed the way of Balaam, the son of Beor, who loved the **wages of unrighteousness**;

16 but he received a rebuke for his own transgression, for a mute donkey, speaking with a voice of a man, restrained the madness of the prophet.

17 **These** are springs without water and mists driven by a storm, for whom the black darkness has been reserved. 18 For speaking out **arrogant words of vanity** they entice by fleshly desires, by sensuality, those who barely escape from the ones who live in error,

***Romans 6:16** Do you not know that when you present yourselves to someone as slaves for obedience, **you are slaves of the one whom you obey**, either of sin resulting in death, or of obedience resulting in righteousness?*

2 Peter 2:19 promising them freedom while they themselves are slaves of corruption; for by what a man is overcome, by this he is enslaved.

20 For **if**, after they have escaped the defilements of the world by the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and are overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first.

21 **For it would be better for them not to have known the way of righteousness**, than having known it, to turn away from the holy commandment handed on to them.

22 It has happened to them according to the true proverb, "A dog returns to its own vomit," and, "A sow, after washing, returns to wallowing in the mire."

2 Peter 3:1 This is now, beloved, the second letter I am writing to you in which I am stirring up your sincere mind **by way of reminder**,

Prayer and song "Better Not To Know"