Destructive Doctrines PART I

(II Peter 2:1-3)

Prologue: The First word of chapter two is "but" referring back to the final verse of chapter one. Of course, there were no chapters breaks in the original letter. *"knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit."* II Peter 1:20-21 NKJV

False Teachers and Destructive Heresies

"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**. And **many will follow their destructive ways**, because of whom **the way of truth will be blasphemed**. 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 Peter 2:1-3 NKJV

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False Prophets, False Teachers, Destructive Heresies, Swift Judgment!

- Y'shua warned us: "Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold." Matthew 24:11-12 NKJV
- <u>There is probably no better place to witness the</u> <u>description of such false prophets and teachers, and</u> <u>destructive heresies than Jeremiah chapter 23!</u>
 - Unfaithful Shepherds: ""Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of My pasture!" says the LORD. Therefore thus says the LORD God of Israel against the shepherds who feed My people: "You have scattered My flock, driven them away, and not attended to them. Behold, I will attend to you for the evil of your doings," says the LORD. "But I will gather the remnant of My flock out of all countries where I have driven them,

and bring them back to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase. I will set up [replacement] shepherds over them who will feed them; and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, nor shall they be lacking," says the LORD." Jeremiah 23:1-4 NKJV

Profane Prophets and Priests: "[This is how you should feel...] My heart within me is broken Because of the prophets; All my bones shake. I am like a drunken man, And like a man whom wine has overcome, Because of the LORD, And because of His holy words. [This is what it has caused...] For the land is full of adulterers; For because of a curse the land mourns. The pleasant places of the wilderness are dried up. Their course of life is evil, And their might is not right. [This is who caused it...] "For **both prophet and priest are profane**; Yes, in My house I have found their wickedness," says the LORD. [This will **be their consequence...**] "Therefore their way shall be to them Like slippery ways; In the darkness they shall be driven on And fall in them; For I will bring disaster on them, The year of their punishment," says the LORD. [This is what they did...] "And I have seen folly in the prophets of Samaria: They prophesied by Baal And caused My people Israel to err. Also I have seen a

horrible thing in the prophets of Jerusalem: They **commit** adultery and walk in lies; They also strengthen the hands of evildoers, So that no one turns back from his wickedness. [This is what Yahweh thinks if them...] All of them are like **Sodom** to Me, And her inhabitants like **Gomorrah**. "Therefore thus says the LORD of hosts concerning the prophets: 'Behold, I will feed them with wormwood, And make them drink the water of gall; For from the prophets of Jerusalem Profaneness has gone out into all the land.' " [This is what you should do...] Thus says the LORD of hosts: "Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you. They make you worthless; [This is where the lies come from...] They speak a vision of their own heart, Not from the mouth of the LORD. [This encapsulates what they prophesy...] They continually say to those who despise Me, 'The LORD has said, <u>"You shall have peace" '; And to</u> everyone who walks according to the dictates of his own heart, they say, 'No evil shall come upon you.' " [Who are those who have truly heard from Yahweh and does anyone ever get away with lying about what He said?] For who has stood in the counsel of the LORD, And has perceived and heard His word? Who has marked His

word and heard it? Behold, a whirlwind of the LORD has gone forth in fury— A violent whirlwind! It will fall violently on the head of the wicked. The anger of the LORD will not turn back Until He has executed and performed the thoughts of His heart. [If you don't see the truth of what's going on now, you will one day...] In the latter days you will understand it perfectly. [Here's the bottom line; if they were truly prophets of Mind, you'd have turned from doing your own thing...] "I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran. I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied. But if they had stood in My counsel, And had caused My people to hear My words, Then they would have turned them from their evil way And from the evil of their doings. [Yahweh is always close by and paying attention; He is not uninvolved...] " Am I a God **near** at hand," says the LORD, "And **not** a God **afar** off? Can anyone hide himself in secret places, So I shall not see him?" says the LORD; "Do I not fill heaven and earth?" says the LORD. "I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in My name, saying, 'I have dreamed, I have dreamed!' [How long do you think you can get away with your deceiving heresies, swapping Yahweh for false Gods?] How long

will this be in the heart of the prophets who prophesy lies? Indeed they are **prophets of the deceit** of their own heart, who try to make My people **forget My name** by their dreams which everyone tells his neighbor, as their fathers forgot My name for Baal. [If a prophets does hear from Yahweh, by all means, let him speak...] "The prophet who has a dream, let him tell a dream; And he who has My word, let him speak My word faithfully. What is the chaff to the wheat?" says the LORD. " Is not My word like a fire?" says the LORD, "And like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces? [When false prophets open their mouths in lies and false dreams, they are in fact stealing My Words, and the people will **suffer...**] "Therefore behold, I am **against the prophets**," says the LORD, "who steal My words every one from his neighbor. Behold, I am **against the prophets**," says the LORD, "who use their tongues and say, 'He says.' Behold, I am against those who prophesy **false dreams**," says the LORD, "and tell them, and **cause My people to** err by their lies and by their recklessness. Yet I did not send them or command them; therefore they shall not **profit this people at all**," says the LORD. [Whomever originates and or repeats that what they saying is "the

Oracle of the Lord", when it is in fact NOT Yahweh's word, will be utterly forsaken (an everlasting reproach and perpetual shame)...] "So when these people or the prophet or the priest ask you, saying, 'What is the oracle of the LORD?' you shall then say to them, 'What oracle?' I will even forsake you," says the LORD. "And as for the prophet and the priest and the people who say, 'The oracle of the LORD!' I will even punish that man and his **house**. Thus every one of you shall say to his neighbor, and every one to his brother, 'What has the LORD answered?' and, 'What has the LORD spoken?' And the oracle of the LORD you shall mention no more. For every man's word will be his oracle, for you have perverted the words of the living God, the LORD of hosts, our God. Thus you shall say to the prophet, 'What has the LORD answered you?' and, 'What has the LORD spoken?' But since you say, 'The oracle of the LORD!' therefore thus says the LORD: 'Because you say this word, "The oracle of the LORD!" and I have sent to you, saying, "Do not say, 'The oracle of the LORD!' " therefore behold, I, even I, will utterly forget you and forsake you, and the city that I gave you and your fathers, and will cast you out of My presence. And I will bring an everlasting reproach upon you, and a perpetual shame, which shall not be forgotten.' "" Jeremiah 23:9-40 NKJV

False Teachers

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Spots in Love feasts (judgment on those who do not believe God's warnings): [See Without Blemish or...Apostate Religion] "For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, **ungodly men**, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and **deny** the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ. But I want to remind you, **though you** once knew this, that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe. 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; as **Sodom and Gomorrah**, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire. Likewise also **these dreamers** defile the flesh, reject authority, and speak evil of dignitaries [see also II Peter 2:10-11]. 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!" **But these speak evil of whatever** they do not know; and whatever they know naturally, like brute beasts, in these things they corrupt themselves. **Woe to them!** For they have gone in <u>the way of Cain</u>, have run greedily in the <u>error of Balaam</u> for profit, and perished in the <u>rebellion of Korah</u>. [See <u>Without Blemish</u>

or...Apostate Religion] These are spots in your love feasts, while they feast with you without fear, serving only themselves. They are clouds without water, carried about by the winds; late autumn trees without fruit, twice dead, pulled up by the roots; raging waves of the sea, foaming up their own shame; wandering stars for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever." Jude 1:4-13 NKJV

Destructive Heresies

 Paul to Timothy: "As I urged you when I went into Macedonia—remain in Ephesus that you may charge some that they teach no other doctrine, nor give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which cause disputes rather than godly edification which is in faith. Now the purpose of the commandment is love from a pure heart, from a good conscience, and from sincere faith, from which some, having strayed, **have turned aside to idle talk, desiring to be teachers of the law, understanding neither what they say nor the things which they affirm.**" I Timothy 1:3-7 NKJV

<u>Market Swift Destruction</u>

Don't be fooled by what looks like inaction by Yahweh...[No better description than later in this very letter]

"Beloved, I now write to you this second epistle (in both of which I stir up your pure minds by way of reminder), that you may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us, the apostles of the Lord and Savior, knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, **all things continue as they were** from the beginning of creation." For this **they willfully forget:** that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water. But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of

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judgment and perdition of ungodly men. But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance." II Peter 3:1-9 NKJV

- "And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed." II Peter 2:2 NKJV
 - Many will follow destructive ways...
 - Leading one child astray: "Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea." Matthew 18:6 NKJV
 - Deception: "And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you... Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold." Matthew 24:4, 11-12 NKJV
 - The road is narrow: ""Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction,

and there are many who go in by it. **Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.** "<u>Beware of false prophets</u>, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles?" Matthew 7:13-16 NKJV

Mow can you spot the blasphemers? Lawlessness!

- Sin is lawlessness: "Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness." I John 3:4 NKJV
- Not Keeping His Commands: "Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments.
 He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him." I John 2:3-5 NKJV
- Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments: ""Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will

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by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled. Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 5:17-19 NKJV

In what other ways can you spot blasphemers?

Men who tell lies to draw others unto themselves:

- False Brethren: "And this occurred because of false
 brethren secretly brought in (who came in by stealth
 to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus,
 that they might bring us into bondage)," Galatians 2:4
 NKJV
- Bewitching messages: "O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed among you as crucified?"Galatians 3:1 NKJV
 - Eventually all that people will want is the lie! "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to

fables. But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry." II Timothy 4:3-5 NKJV

Beware of the mutilation! "Beware of dogs, beware of evil workers, beware of the mutilation! For we are the circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh," Philippians 3:2-3 NKJV

Mon't look at Y'shua; look at us!

- Be zealous for me! "They zealously court you, but for no good; yes, they want to exclude you, that you may be zealous for them." Galatians 4:17 NKJV
- I am of...Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? "Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. For it has been declared to me concerning you, my brethren, by those of Chloe's household, that there are contentions among you. Now I say this, that each of you says, "I am of Paul," or "I am of Apollos," or "I am of Cephas," or "I am of Christ." Is Christ divided? Was

Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, lest anyone should say that I had baptized in my own name. Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas. Besides, I do not know whether I baptized any other." I Corinthians 1:10-16 NKJV

- Anyone who looks elsewhere: "Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son. Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either; he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also." I John 2:22-23 NKJV
- "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 Peter 2:3 NKJV
 - <u>Covetousness—when your attention turns to "building</u> your own house!" (Simply substitute "modern-day seekerfriendly, grace-only church" for "house")
 - Building your own house at all costs! ""Woe to him who
 builds his house by unrighteousness And his chambers
 by injustice, Who uses his neighbor's service without

wages And gives him nothing for his work, Who says, 'I will build myself a wide house with spacious chambers, And cut out windows for it, Paneling it with cedar And painting it with vermilion.' **"Shall you reign because you enclose yourself in cedar?** Did not your **father [speaking to Shallum the son of Josiah, king of Judah]** eat and drink, And **do justice and righteousness?** Then it was well with him. **He judged the cause of the poor and needy**; Then it was well. **Was not this knowing Me?"** says the LORD. **"Yet your eyes and your heart are for nothing but your covetousness**, For shedding innocent blood, And practicing oppression and violence."" Jeremiah 22:13-17 NKJV

Evil gain for your own house: ""Woe to him who covets evil gain for his house, That he may set his nest on high, That he may be delivered from the power of disaster!" Habakkuk 2:9 NKJV

Exploiting others with deceptive words

 *Four of the seven things Yahweh calls an abomination involve deceptive words! "These six things the LORD hates, Yes, seven are an abomination to Him: [1] A proud look, [*2] A lying tongue, [3] Hands that shed innocent blood, [*4] A heart that devises wicked plans, [5] Feet that are swift in running to evil, **[*6] A false witness who speaks lies**, **[*7] And one who sows discord** among brethren." Proverbs 6:16-19 NKJV

- Disguised lips filled with deceit: "He who hates, disguises it with his lips, And lays up deceit within himself; When he speaks kindly, do not believe him, For there are seven abominations in his heart; Though his hatred is covered by deceit, His wickedness will be revealed before the assembly. Proverbs 26:24-26 NKJV
- Be warned, deceit can taste sweet! "My son, pay attention to my wisdom; Lend your ear to my understanding, That you may preserve discretion, And your lips may keep knowledge. For the lips of an immoral woman drip honey, And her mouth is smoother than oil; But in the end she is bitter as wormwood, Sharp as a two-edged sword." Proverbs 5:1-4 NKJV
- **Judgment has tarried...But judgement is coming...**
 - Though it tarries—it will surely come: "I will stand my watch And set myself on the rampart, And watch to see what He will say to me, And what I will answer when I am corrected. Then the LORD answered me and said: "Write the vision And make it plain on tablets, That he

may run who reads it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time; But at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. **Though it tarries, wait for it; Because it will surely come,** It will not tarry. "Behold the proud, His soul is not upright in him; But the just shall live by his faith." Habakkuk 2:1-4 NKJV

- I recommend you study these teachings on Habakkuk:
 - Mabakkuk 1: <u>How Long Shall I Cry</u>
 - Mabakkuk 2: <u>Stand Watch and See</u>
 - Mathematical Habakkuk 3: <u>A Prophet's Testimony and Song</u>

NEXT WEEK

Destructive Doctrines PART II (II Peter 2:4-11)