



Destructive Doctrines PART III (II Peter

2:12-22)

Depravity of False Teachers

“But these, like natural brute beasts **made to be caught and destroyed, speak evil** of the **things they do not understand**, and **will utterly perish in their own corruption**, and will receive the **wages of unrighteousness**, as those who count it pleasure to carouse in the daytime. **They are spots and blemishes**, carousing in their own deceptions while they feast with you, having **eyes full of adultery and that cannot cease from sin, enticing unstable souls**. They have a **heart trained in covetous practices**, and are accursed children. **They have forsaken the right way and gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Beor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness; but he was rebuked for his iniquity: a dumb donkey** speaking with a man’s voice restrained the madness of the prophet. These are **wells without water, clouds carried by a tempest, for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever.**”

II Peter 2:12-17 NKJV

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☑ **The wicked are made to be caught and destroyed**

☑ **Born Evil:** “The wicked are estranged from the womb; They go astray as soon as they are born, speaking lies.”
Psalms 58:3 NKJV

☑ **Marked out for this condemnation:** “Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints. 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.” Jude 1:3-4 NKJV

- ☑ **Before Esau was Born:** “And not only this, but when Rebecca also had conceived by one man, even by our father Isaac (**for the children not yet being born, nor having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand**, not of works but of Him who calls), it was said to her, “The older shall serve the younger.” As it is written, “Jacob I have loved, but Esau I have hated.”” Romans 9:10-13 NKJV
- ☑ **Pharaoh was raised up for destruction:** “What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? Certainly not! For He says to Moses, “**I will have mercy on whomever I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whomever I will have compassion.**” So then it is not of him who wills, nor of him who runs, but of God who shows mercy. **For the Scripture says to the Pharaoh, “For this very purpose I have raised you up**, that I may show My power in you, and that My name may be declared in all the earth.” Therefore He has mercy on whom He wills, and whom He wills He hardens.”Romans 9:14-18 NKJV
- ☑ **And when you ask is this at all fare!** “You will say to me then, “Why does He still find fault? For who has resisted

His will?" But indeed, O man, **who are you to reply against God?** Will the thing formed say to him who formed it, "Why have you made me like this?" **Does not the potter have power over the clay, from the same lump to make one vessel for honor and another for dishonor?** What if God, wanting to show His wrath and to make His power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath **prepared for destruction, and that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy,** which He had prepared beforehand for glory, even us whom He called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles?" Romans 9:19-24 NKJV

- ☑ **Perish in their own corruption; the wages of unrighteousness** [Read all of Psalm 37]
- ☑ **God will not be mocked:** "Do not be deceived, **God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.** For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life." Galatians 6:7-8 NKJV
- ☑ Excerpts from Psalm 37—could it be any more clear what is in store for wicked?

- ☑ **“Do not fret because of evildoers,** Nor be envious of the workers of iniquity. For **they shall soon be cut down** like the grass, And wither as the green herb.
Psalms 37:1-2
- ☑ Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for Him; **Do not fret** because of him who prospers in his way, Because of the man who brings wicked schemes to pass.
Psalms 37:7
- ☑ **For evildoers shall be cut off;** But those who wait on the LORD, They shall inherit the earth. For yet a little while and **the wicked shall be no more;** Indeed, you will look carefully for his place, But it shall be no more. Psalms 37:9-10
- ☑ **The wicked plots against the just, And gnashes at him with his teeth. The Lord laughs at him,** For He sees that his day is coming. The wicked have drawn the sword And have bent their bow, To cast down the poor and needy, To slay those who are of upright conduct. **Their sword shall enter their own heart,** And their bows shall be broken. Psalms 37:12-15
- ☑ For **the arms of the wicked shall be broken,** But the LORD upholds the righteous. Psalms 37:17

- But **the wicked shall perish**; And **the enemies of the LORD**, Like the splendor of the meadows, **shall vanish**. Into smoke they shall vanish away. Psalms 37:20
- The wicked watches the righteous, And seeks to slay him. **The LORD will not leave him in his hand**, Nor condemn him when he is judged. Psalms 37:32-33
- I have seen the wicked in great power, And spreading himself like a native green tree. **Yet he passed away, and behold, he was no more**; Indeed I sought him, but he could not be found. Psalms 37:35-36
- But the **transgressors shall be destroyed** together; The future of **the wicked shall be cut off.**" Psalms 37:38 NKJV
- Speaking evil about things you do not understand**
 - They do not understand their own words:** "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 1:5-7 NKJV
- Spots and Blemishes**

- ☑ **Spots in your love feasts:** “Likewise also these **dreamers defile the flesh, reject authority, and speak evil of dignitaries...** **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 1:8, 12-13 NKJV
- ☑ See [Without Blemish or...Apostate Religion](#)
- ☑ **Eyes full of adultery—CANNOT cease from sin!**
- ☑ **To those who are defiled nothing is pure:** “To the pure all things are pure, but to those **who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure;** but even their mind and conscience are defiled. They profess to know God, but in works they deny Him, being abominable, disobedient, and disqualified for every good work.” Titus 1:15-16 NKJV
- ☑ **Those in the FLESH cannot please God:** “For those who **live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh,** but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

Because **the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be.** So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God."

Romans 8:5-8 NKJV

☑ **Enticing unstable souls**

☑ **Causing others to sin...** "“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

☑ **Bewitching other with bad doctrine:** “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

☑ **Using bad teachings to draw followers to themselves:** “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

☑ **Hearts trained in covetous practices**

☑ **He devises evil continually:** “A worthless person, a wicked man, Walks with a perverse mouth; He winks with his eyes, He shuffles his feet, He points with his

fingers; Perversity is in his heart, **He devises evil continually**, He sows discord. Therefore his calamity shall come suddenly; Suddenly he shall be broken without remedy." Proverbs 6:12-15 NKJV

☑ **Training in Righteousness (the opposite of hearts trained for evil!:**

☑ **Even the experts need training:** "Then He said to them, "Therefore **every scribe instructed concerning the kingdom** of heaven is like a householder who brings out of his treasure things new and old.""
Matthew 13:52 NKJV

☑ **Godliness training:** "For bodily exercise profits a little, but **godliness is profitable for all things**, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come." I Timothy 4:8 NKJV

☑ **Meditate and take heed to the doctrine:** "Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all. **Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine.** Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you." I Timothy 4:15-16 NKJV

☑ **Be thoroughly equipped:** "But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured

of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood **you have known the Holy Scriptures**, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, **that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped** for every good work." II Timothy 3:14-17 NKJV

- ☑ **Senses exercised to discern both good and evil:** "For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their **senses exercised to discern both good and evil.**" Hebrews 5:13-14 NKJV

- ☑ *"They have **forsaken the right way and gone astray**, following the way of **Balaam** the son of Beor, who **loved the wages of unrighteousness**; but he was **rebuked for his iniquity**: a dumb donkey speaking with a man's voice restrained **the madness of the prophet.**" II Peter 2:15-16 NKJV*
- ☑ **Balaam went astray because he loved the WAGES of unrighteousness—it was madness!**

- ☑ See Numbers 22-24
- ☑ See [Without Blemish or...Apostate Religion](#)
- ☑ See [Destructive Doctrines PART I](#)
- ☑ See [Destructive Doctrines PART II](#)

- ☑ *“These are wells without water, clouds carried by a tempest, for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever.” II Peter 2:17 NKJV*
- ☑ **Wells without water; clouds carried away; darkness forever!**
- ☑ See [Without Blemish or...Apostate Religion](#)

Deceptions of False Teachers

“For when they speak **great swelling words of emptiness**, they **allure through the lusts of the flesh**, through lewdness, **the ones who have actually escaped from those who live in error**. While they **promise them liberty**, they themselves are **slaves of corruption**; for by whom a person is overcome, by him also he is **brought into bondage**. For if, **after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ**, they are **again entangled in them and overcome**, the **latter end is worse for them than the beginning**. For it would have **been better for them not to have known the way of**

righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them. But it has happened to them according to the true proverb: “A dog returns to his own vomit,” and, “a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire.”” II Peter 2:18-22 NKJV

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☑ *“For when they speak **great swelling words of emptiness**, they **allure** through the **lusts of the flesh**, through **lewdness**, the **ones who have actually escaped** from those who live in error.”*
II Peter 2:18 NKJV

☑ Great swelling words of emptiness

☑ **No greater example of this tactic:** “And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry. Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, “**If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.**” But He answered and said, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.’ ” Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, “**If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written: ‘He shall give His angels charge over you,’** and, ‘In their hands

they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.' " Jesus said to him, "It is written again, 'You shall not tempt the LORD your God.' " Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to Him, "**All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me.**" Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.' " Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him." Matthew 4:2-11 NKJV

Allured by lusts and lewdness

The works of the flesh: "Now **the works of the flesh** are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God." Galatians 5:19-21 NKJV

Remedy: "I say then: **Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.** For the flesh lusts

against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish." Galatians 5:16-17 NKJV

☑ **Peter, one chapter earlier:** "as **His divine power** has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having **escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.**" II Peter 1:3-4 NKJV

☑ **Who will they attempt to allure? Those who PREVIOUSLY ESCAPED from those who live in error!**

☑ **Hold Fast:** "by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh... let us draw near with **a true heart in full assurance of faith**, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. **Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering**, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more

as you see the Day approaching.” Hebrews 10:20, 22-25
NKJV

- ☑ **Because if you do get allured...** “For if we sin willfully **after we have received the knowledge of the truth**, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. Anyone who has rejected Moses’ law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. Of **how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace?**” Hebrews 10:26-29 NKJV

- ☑ Insulting the Spirit of grace:

- ☑ See [Darkness You Can Feel](#)

- ☑ See [The Sin that Leads to Death](#)

- ☑ *“While they **promise them liberty, they themselves are slaves of corruption; for by whom a person is overcome, by him also he is brought into bondage.**” II Peter 2:19 NKJV*

- ☑ **Promising liberty while being slaves and bringing others with them into their bondage**

- ☑ **Bondage: anything other than the cross of Christ**
[context: to be saved]
- ☑ “Beware of dogs, beware of evil workers, **beware of the mutilation [context: circumcision to be saved]!**
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
- ☑ “I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you **in the grace of Christ [context: to be saved]**, to a **different gospel [context: to be saved]**, which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the **gospel of Christ [context: to be saved]**. But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches **any other gospel [context: to be saved]** to you than what you have received, let him be accursed. For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ.” Galatians 1:6-10 NKJV
- ☑ “Yet **not even Titus who was with me, being a Greek, was compelled to be circumcised [context: to be**

saved]. 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 [context: saved by the shed blood of Christ alone]**, that they might bring us into bondage), to whom we did not yield submission even for an hour, that the truth of the gospel might continue with you.” Galatians 2:3-5

- ☑ “Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage. Indeed I, Paul, say to you that **if you become circumcised [context: to be saved], Christ will profit you nothing**. And I testify again to every man who becomes circumcised that **he is a debtor to keep the whole law [context: to be saved]**. You have become estranged from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace.” Galatians 5:1-4 NKJV

- ☑ **Please explain if you become circumcised, Christ will profit you nothing:** “And certain men came down from Judea and taught the brethren, “**Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved [context: if you become circumcised to be saved, Christ will profit you nothing].**”

Therefore, when Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and dispute with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas and certain others of them should go up to Jerusalem, to the apostles and elders, about this question. So, being sent on their way by the church, they passed through Phoenicia and Samaria, describing the conversion of the Gentiles; and they caused great joy to all the brethren. And when they had come to Jerusalem, they were received by the church and the apostles and the elders; and they reported all things that God had done with them. **But some of the sect of the Pharisees who believed rose up, saying, “It is necessary to circumcise them, and to command them to keep the law of Moses [context: to be saved].”**” Acts 15:1-5 NKJV

- ☑ *“For if, **after they have escaped** the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they **are again entangled in them** and overcome, **the latter end is worse for them than the beginning**. For it would have been **better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn** from the holy commandment delivered to them. But it has happened to*

them according to the true proverb: “**A dog returns to his own vomit,**” and, “a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire.””II Peter 2:20-22 NKJV

☑ **If after you have escaped the pollutions of the world, and again get entangled by them, the latter outcome is worse than the beginning... You are better to have never known the truth than to have known it and turned away from it!**

☑ **Again see...** “For if we sin willfully **after we have received the knowledge of the truth**, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. Anyone who has rejected Moses’ law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. Of **how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace?**” Hebrews 10:26-29 NKJV

☑ Insulting the Spirit of grace:

☑ See [Darkness You Can Feel](#)

☑ See [The Sin that Leads to Death](#)

☑ **A dog returns to his own vomit!**

- ☑ **Don't look back!** "But Jesus said to him, "No one, having put his hand to the plow, **and looking back**, is fit for the kingdom of God.'" Luke 9:62 NKJV
- ☑ **Don't look back!** "Then the LORD rained brimstone and fire on Sodom and Gomorrah, from the LORD out of the heavens. So He overthrew those cities, all the plain, all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground. But **his wife looked back** behind him, and she became a pillar of salt." Genesis 19:24-26 NKJV
- ☑ **Don't look back...Press on ahead:** "Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but **I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.** Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, **forgetting those things which are behind** and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Therefore let us, as many as are mature, have this mind; and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal even this to you." Philippians 3:12-15 NKJV

NEXT WEEK

One Day is a Thousand Years (II Peter 3:1-13)