

2 Peter

Destructive Doctrines (2 Peter 2:1-3)

Our approach each week will be REAP (read, explain, apply, personalize).

Read: Destructive Doctrines (2:1-3)

Greeting the Faithful

1 Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ,

To those who have obtained like precious faith with us by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ:

2 Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, 3 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, 4 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.

Fruitful Growth in the Faith

5 But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, 6 to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, 7 to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. 8 For if these things are yours and abound, *you* will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins.

10 Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; 11 for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Peter's Approaching Death

12 For this reason I will not be negligent to remind you always of these things, though you know and are established in the present truth. 13 Yes, I think it is right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by reminding *you*, 14 knowing that shortly I *must* put off my tent, just as our Lord Jesus Christ showed me.

15 Moreover I will be careful to ensure that you always have a reminder of these things after my decease.

The Trustworthy Prophetic Word

16 For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty. 17 For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." 18 And we heard this voice which came from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain.

19 And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; 20 knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, 21 for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke *as they were* moved by the Holy Spirit.

Destructive Doctrines

1 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. 2 And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed. 3 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.

Explain: Destructive Doctrines (2:1-3)

Bible study is asking and answering questions about the text. Let's ask some.

Are there any literary/structural observations?

Peter shifts in two ways in today's text. First, his audience shifts to the 'they/them.' Second, his tense shifts to the future—the future indicative to be specific. The future indicative is regularly translated "will" in English. He's making factual statements about the future—and those are great for us.

What are the most repeated words in 2 Peter?

Their/them/themselves/they (42), you/your (28), he/his/him (22), our/us/we (21), **will** (21), Lord (15), I/me/my (12), day (9), Jesus (9), **know**/knowing/known/knows (9), Christ (8), God (7), knowledge (7), righteous/righteousness (7), beloved (6), destruction/destructive (6), holy (6), own (6), heavens (5), Savior (5), speak/speaking (5), way (5), world (5), earth (4), glory (4), godliness (4), judgment (4), promise (4), water (4), lust/lusts (4)

What are the most repeated words in this text?

Their/them/themselves/they (5), will (5), destruction/destructive (4), bring (2), false (2), way/ways (2), you (2)

What do the words mean?

1 But there were [second aorist middle deponent indicative; to cause to be ("generate), i.e., (reflexively) to become (come into being), used with great latitude (literal, figurative, intensive, etc.): arise, be assembled, be(-come, -fall, -have self), be brought (to pass), (be) come (to pass), continue, be divided, draw, be ended, fall, be finished, follow, be found, be fulfilled, God forbid, grow, happen, have, be kept, be made, be married, be ordained to be, partake, pass, be performed, be published, require, seem, be showed, sound, be taken, be turned, use, wax, will, would, be wrought; used in **1:4, 16, 20; 2:1, 20**] **also false prophets** [*pseudoprophetes*; a spurious prophet, i.e., pretended foreteller or religious **impostor**: false prophet] **among the people** [a people; people], **even as there will be** [future indicative; will be: shall (should) be (have), (shall) come (to pass), what would follow] **false teachers** [*pseudodidaskalos*; a spurious teacher, i.e., propagator of erroneous Christian **doctrine**: false teacher] **among you, who will secretly bring in** [future active indicative; to lead in aside, i.e., introduce surreptitiously: privily bring in] **destructive** [*apoleia*; ruin or loss (physical, spiritual or eternal): damnable(-nation), destruction, die, perdition, pernicious ways, waste; used in **2:1** (twice), **2, 3; 3:7, 16**] **heresies** [properly, a choice, i.e., (specially) a party or (abstractly) disunion: heresy (which is the Greek word itself), **sect**], **even denying** [present middle or passive deponent participle (**repeatedly** denying); to contradict, i.e., disavow, reject, abnegate: deny, refuse] **the Lord** [*despotes*; an absolute ruler ("despot"): Lord, master] **who bought them** [aorist active participle; properly, to go to market, i.e., (by implication) to purchase; specially, to redeem: buy, redeem], **and bring** [present active participle (**repeatedly** bring); to superinduce, i.e., inflict (an evil), charge (a crime): bring upon; used in **2:1, 5**] **on themselves swift** [curt, i.e., impending: shortly, swift; used in **1:14; 2:1**] **destruction** [*apoleia*; ruin or loss (physical, spiritual or eternal): damnable(-nation), destruction, die, perdition, pernicious ways, waste; used in **2:1** (twice), **2, 3; 3:7, 16**]. **2 And many** [*polys*; (singular) much (in any respect) or (plural) many; neuter (singular) as adverbial, largely; neuter (plural) as adverb or noun often, mostly, largely: abundant, altogether, **common**, far (passed, spent), (be of a) great (age, deal, -ly, while), long, many, much, oft(-en (-times)), plenteous, sore, straightly] **will follow** [future active indicative; to follow out, i.e., (figuratively) to imitate, obey, yield to: follow; used in **1:16; 2:2, 15**] **their destructive ways** [*apoleia*; ruin or loss (physical, spiritual or eternal): damnable(-nation), destruction, die, perdition, pernicious ways, waste; used in **2:1** (twice), **2, 3; 3:7, 16**], **because of**

[*dia*] **whom the way** [a road; by implication, a progress (the route, act or distance); figuratively, a mode or means: journey, (high-)way; used in **2:2, 15** (twice), **21**] **of truth** [truth: true, truth, verity; used in **1:12; 2:2**] **will be blasphemed** [future passive indicative; to vilify; specially, to speak impiously: (speak) blaspheme(-er, -mously, -my), defame, rail on, revile, speak evil; used in **2:2, 10, 12**]. **3 By covetousness** [avarice, i.e., (by implication) fraudulency, extortion: covetous(-ness) practices, greediness; used in **2:3, 14**] **they will exploit** [future middle deponent indicative; to travel in (a country as a peddler), i.e., (by implication) to trade: buy and sell, make **merchandise**] **you with deceptive** [molded, i.e., (by implication) artificial or (figuratively) fictitious (false): feigned] **words** [/logos; something said (including the thought); by implication, a topic (subject of discourse), also reasoning (the mental faculty) or motive; by extension, a computation; specially, (with the article in John) the Divine Expression (i.e., Christ): account, cause, communication, doctrine, fame, intent, matter, mouth, preaching, question, reason, reckon, remove, say(-ing), shew, speech, talk, thing, none of these things move me, tidings, treatise, utterance, word, work; used in **1:19; 2:3; 3:5, 7**]; **for a long time** [long ago, for a long while: of a long time, of old; used in **2:3; 3:5**] **their judgment** [*krima*; a decision (the function or the effect, for or against ("crime")): avenge, condemned, condemnation, damnation, go to law, judgment] **has not been idle** [present active indicative; to be idle, i.e., (figuratively) to delay: linger], **and their destruction** [*apoleia*; ruin or loss (physical, spiritual or eternal): damnable(-nation), destruction, die, perdition, pernicious ways, waste; used in **2:1** (twice), **2, 3; 3:7, 16**] **does not slumber** [present active indicative; to **nod**, i.e., (by implication) to fall asleep; figuratively, to delay: slumber].

Apply (What is the point?)

1. False teachers will be **present** with us
2. False teachers will be **popular** with us (I want to add, "False teachers will be profitable with us," but that would capitulate to my hatred for parallel structure and alliteration)
3. God will not **overlook** (their—or our—or anyone's) sin

Personalize (What do we do with that?)

1. **Unify** around truth
2. Unify around **truth**
3. Live like presence and popularity (and profitability) are not evidence of **righteousness**

Next week: Doom of False Teachers (2:4-11)

4 For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast *them* down to hell and delivered *them* into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment; **5** and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, *one of eight people*, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly; **6** and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned *them* to destruction, making *them* an example to those who afterward would live ungodly; **7** and delivered righteous Lot, *who was* oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked **8** (for that righteous man, dwelling among them, tormented *his* righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing *their* lawless deeds)— **9** *then* the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment, **10** and especially those who walk according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and despise authority. *They are* presumptuous, self-willed. They are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries, **11** whereas angels, who are greater in power and might, do not bring a reviling accusation against them before the Lord.

Homework

1. Ask the Holy Spirit for help
2. Read next week's text (multiple times in multiple ways) (**2 Peter 2:4-11**)
3. Talk to someone about the text ([fb.com/OurSundaySchool](https://www.facebook.com/OurSundaySchool) or in person)
4. Share ([fb.com/OurSundaySchool](https://www.facebook.com/OurSundaySchool)) insights and questions by Thursday
5. Invite a member or non-member