

2 Peter Series

Lesson #045

April 29, 2021

Dean Bible Ministries

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**Learning from a Dumb Ass**  
**2 Peter 2:12–17**



**2<sup>nd</sup> PETER**

**Guard Against False Teachers**

## **2A God Warns Us About False Teachers, 2 Peter 2:1–22**

**1B The certainty of false teachers and  
their destructive heresies, 2:1a**

**2B The destructiveness of deception,  
2:1b–3**

**3B The certainty of their judgment,  
2:4–10a**

**4B The self-destruction of their  
arrogance, 2:10b–22**

**2 Pet. 2:9, “then the Lord knows how to deliver the believer (godly) out of testing and to reserve the unjustified (unbeliever) under punishment for the day of judgment” (Great White Throne), [~RD]**

**πειρασμός *peirasmos*  
masc sing gen  
(m) temptation, testing**

**εὐσεβής *eusebēs*  
masc plur acc  
godly, spiritually growing,  
but here, in contrast to  
“unjust” it means those  
with imputed  
righteousness, i.e., believer**

**ἄδικος *adikos*  
masc plur acc  
unjust;  
unrighteous;  
not justified**

**τηρέω *tēreō*  
pres act infin  
to keep, to guard**

**2 Pet. 2:10, “and especially who follow after their sin nature in the lust of uncleanness and despise authority. Presumptuous, self-willed, they are not afraid (do not tremble) to ridicule (revile, speak disrespectfully) of angelic glories,”**  
**[~RD]**

**πορεύομαι *poreuomai* pres  
mid part masc plur acc to  
go; journey, travel, march,  
denotes by contrast with  
περιπατέω, going in a  
particular direction or with  
a particular intention**

**ὀπίσω *opisō* Improper  
Preposition (+gen)  
(+gen) after (prep.);  
back (adv.)  
To follow the flesh, be  
led by the sin nature**

**2 Pet. 2:11, “whereas angels, who are greater in power and might, do not bring a reviling accusation against them before the Lord.”**

*ὅπου hopou*

**Used to express  
an opposite  
circumstance  
whereas; in  
contrast**

**2 Pet. 2:11, “in contrast, angels, who are greater in power and might, do not bring a reviling judgment against them before the Lord.” (cf., Jude 9)**

**ὅπου *hopou***

**Used to express an opposite circumstance whereas; in contrast**

**βλάσφημος *blasphēmos***

**Adjective fem sing acc  
blasphemous, blasphemer**

**κρίσις *krisis***

**fem sing acc  
(f) judgment, decision, legal case; meaning**

**Jude 8, “Likewise also these dreamers defile the flesh, reject authority, and speak evil of dignitaries.**

**Jude 9, “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!’**

**Jude 10, “But these speak evil [revile, abusive speech] of whatever they do not know; and whatever they know naturally, like brute beasts, in these things they corrupt [destroy] themselves.”**



**1. Follow the lusts of their sin nature;  
result, the lusts that war against the soul**

**1 Pet. 2:11, “Beloved, I beg you as  
sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from  
fleshly lusts which war against the  
soul,”**

**Their appeal is to the lusts of the sin  
nature in their listeners.**

**2. That lust is identified as the lust of uncleanness: this is better translated the lust which made a cesspool, a septic tank, of their souls.**

### **3. They despise authority, especially the authority of God.**

- **Authority of any kind**
- **Authority of God**
- **Authority in the marriage and in the family**
- **Authority in government**
- **Authority in nations**

**4. They are antinomians—reject laws, rules, absolutes; they reject all traditional values. But today, they have set up their own value systems under the guise of “social justice” or “spiritual freedom” or some other worldview that denies biblical absolutes.**

**But this social justice is just a different worldview. It is a religious worldview that their own writings have defined as Critical Social Justice. This is totally at odds with biblical justice.**

**5. They are self-willed, they have maximized all of the arrogance skills and are now seeking to make human hybrids through genetic manipulation, to become their own creator gods to define a totally new reality for the future.**

**6. And in all of this, there are various religious and Christian leaders willing to play along because they are blind.**

**2 Pet. 2:12, “But these [men, false teachers], like natural brute beasts born to be caught and destroyed, speak evil of the things they do not understand, and will utterly perish in their own corruption,”**

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**φυσικός *phusikos***

**neut plur nom**

**natural, native; physical**

**ἄλογος *alogos***

**neut plur nom**

**speechless; without**

**speech; irrational;**

**“like irrational**

**creatures of instinct”**



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**γεννάω *gennaō* perf  
pass part neut plur  
nom  
born, made**

**βλασφημέω *blasphēmeō*  
pres act part masc plur  
nom  
to verbally abuse, revile,  
blaspheme**

# Comparison of False Teachers with Wild Animals

## False Teachers

Ridicule what they  
don't understand and  
will in their  
destruction be  
destroyed

## Wild Animals

Natural, irrational animals  
born for the purpose of  
capture and destruction

**2 Pet. 2:12, “But these [men, false teachers], like irrational creatures by nature *were* born to be caught and destroyed, speak evil of the things they do not understand, and [they] will utterly persist in their own corruption,”**

**ἀγνοέω *agnoeō*  
3 plur pres act  
indic  
“to be ignorant;  
to not know,  
lack  
knowledge”**

**φθείρω *phtheirō*  
3 plur fut pass  
indic to ruin,  
corrupt, destroy,  
“they will be  
destroyed”**

**φθορά *phthora*  
fem sing dat  
corruption,  
decay  
“in their own  
corruption”**

**2 Pet. 2:12, “But these [men, false teachers], like irrational creatures by nature *were* born to be caught and destroyed, speak evil of the things they do not understand, and [they] will be destroyed in their own corruption,” [~RD]**

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2 Pet. 2:12, “But **these** [men, false teachers], like irrational creatures of instinct born to be caught and destroyed, speak evil of the things they do not understand, and **[they]** will be destroyed in their own corruption.

2 Pet. 2:13, “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,

2 Pet. 2:14, “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.

2 Pet. 2:15, “They have forsaken the right way and **[they have]** gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Beor, who loved the **wages of unrighteousness**,

2 Pet. 2:16, “but he was rebuked for his iniquity: a dumb donkey speaking with a man’s voice restrained the madness of the prophet.

2 Pet. 2:17, “**These** are wells without water, clouds carried by a tempest, for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever.”

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**ἡδονή *hēdonē*  
fem sing acc (f)  
pleasure,  
delight**

**τρυφή *truphē*  
fem sing acc  
effeminacy, self-  
indulgence**

**ἐντρύφᾳω *entruphaō*  
pres act part masc plur nom  
to revel, carouse, indulge the baser lusts**

**2 Pet. 2:15, “[Because they] abandoned the right way and they went astray, [by] following the way of Balaam the son of Beor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;”**

**καταλείπω**

***kataleipō***

**aor act part**

**masc plur**

**nom**

**to abandon,**

**forsake**

**πλανάω *planaō* 3**

**plur aor pass indic**

**to wander;**

**deceive;**

**went astray**



**2 Pet. 2:16, “but he was rebuked for his iniquity: a dumb donkey speaking with a man’s voice restrained the madness of the prophet.”**

**φθέγγομαι  
*phtheggomai*  
aor mid part neut  
sing nom  
to speak, utter**

**Num. 22:27**, “And when the donkey saw the Angel of the LORD, she lay down under Balaam; so Balaam’s anger was aroused, and he struck the donkey with his staff.

**Num. 22:28**, “Then the LORD opened the mouth of the donkey, and she said to Balaam, ‘What have I done to you, that you have struck me these three times?’

**Num. 22:29**, “And Balaam said to the donkey, ‘Because you have abused me. I wish there were a sword in my hand, for now I would kill you!’

**Num. 22:30**, “So the donkey said to Balaam, ‘Am I not your donkey on which you have ridden, ever since I became yours, to this day? Was I ever disposed to do this to you?’ And he said, ‘No.’ ”

**2 Pet. 2:16, “but he was rebuked for his iniquity: a dumb donkey speaking with a man’s voice restrained the madness of the prophet.”**

**φθέγγομαι  
*phtheggomai*  
aor mid part neut  
sing nom  
to speak, utter**

**παραφρονία  
*paraphronia* fem  
sing acc insanity,  
madness,  
psychotic,  
divorced from the  
reality of God and  
His creation.**

**2 Pet. 2:18, “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.”**

**φθέγγομαι**  
***phtheggomai***  
**aor mid part neut**  
**sing nom**  
**to speak, utter**