

DECEMBER 10, 2018

## 2 Peter 2

***THEME: A strong warning to all believers to stand firm, stable and unshakeable in our faith – to continue in the Word of God to prevent us from falling prey to false teachers.***

**Our lives should always flow from Jesus and point to Jesus!**

**One way to recognize deceptive teachers is their emphasis on themselves or money or sin, instead of Jesus.**

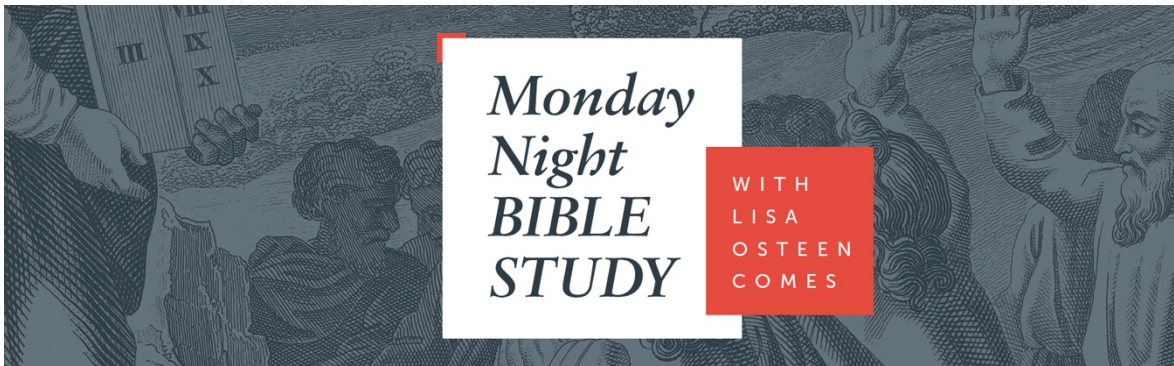
### **1. THE PROBLEM OF FALSE TEACHERS:** 2 Corinthians 11:14, 1 John 4:1-4

- False teachers invaded the Church and denied the Second Coming of Jesus.
- False prophets and teachers will secretly and deceptively bring in deceptive heresies that even deny Jesus.
- Many times people fall prey to them little by little.
- Their teachings sound good.
- They make promises.
- They talk about the supernatural.
- They may be charming.
- They have mixed some truth in with their false doctrine.

**Another way to recognize false teaching is by their fruit.**

### **2. CHARACTERISTICS OF FALSE PROPHETS AND TEACHERS:** Matthew 7:16-19, Numbers 22

- They prey upon new believers, who are not mature in the Word of God.
- They entice unsteady souls.



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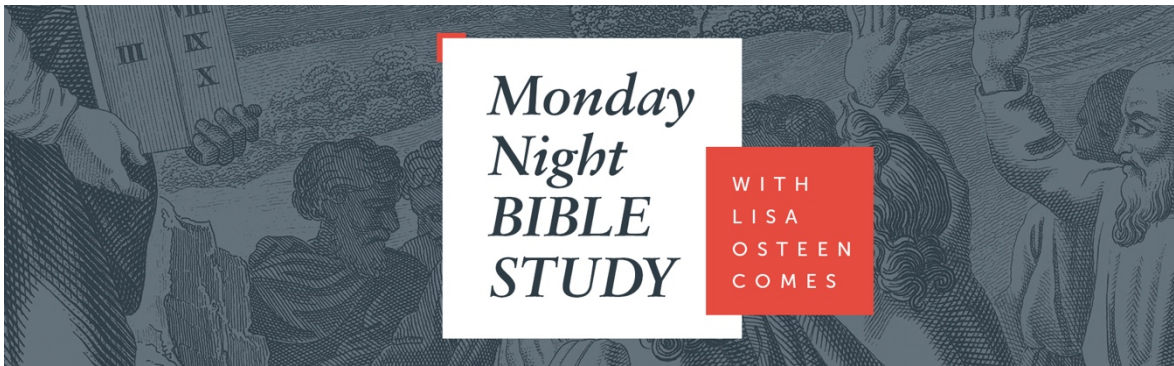
- They follow corrupt desires of the flesh – sexual immorality.
- They are corrupt or evil.
- They dishonor the Truth (the Word).
- They are greedy.
- They are bold and arrogant and won't listen to anyone.
- They scoff at supernatural beings/blaspheme.
- They promise freedom, but are slaves themselves.
- They despise authority.
- They exploit you with false words and fabricated stories (Lies).
- Some even deny Jesus.
- They are like animals that are on the prowl to deceive people.
- They have left the way of righteousness.

**You can be sure of this: God has blessed you and no one can curse you! There is no spell or witchcraft that can harm you!**

### **3. THE JUDGMENT OF FALSE TEACHERS AND THEIR FOLLOWERS:**

#### **THREE EXAMPLES OF GOD'S JUDGMENT FROM THE PAST:**

1. **Fallen Angels** *Revelation 12:4-9, Jude 1:6*
  - Peter is saying the false teachers should learn from these fallen because if they despise authority and reject the lordship of Christ, they will share the same sentence as these angels.
2. **Noah** *Genesis 6-9*
  - When you serve and walk with God, you find favor in the eyes of the Lord.



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#### **BE LIKE NOAH:**

- Be righteous in your generation!
- Be the one God can count on!
- BE the one He can spot out and shine His favor on!
- God desires a righteous people who will obey Him and live according to His Word.

The world is filled with evil, but we have the power of the Holy Spirit to say no to temptation and to live for God!

#### **3. Sodom and Gomorrah *Genesis 19, Jude 1:17***

- These two cities serve as an example of those who suffer the punishment of eternal fire.
- They are an example of what will happen to the ungodly – to those who choose to deny Jesus and live a life of ungodliness.

**False teachers and prophets bring the same kind of destruction on themselves:**

- The angels are bound for eternal destruction.
- The earth was totally destroyed by the flood.
- Sodom and Gomorrah was reduced to ashes.
- They heap destruction upon themselves because they have the Truth like we all do.

**Peter warns that it is possible to fall away from Jesus and the Truth, but you can return and repent and live for Jesus.**

- Be on guard.
- Listen to the Holy Spirit.
- Be accountable to a Pastor.
- Obey the Word of God.
- Learn to take godly counsel from people.