

# POWER HOUR

4/12/2026

Lesson Text:  
2 Peter 2:1-10a

Background Scripture:  
Jude 1:3-7, Luke 17:22-37

Devotional Reading:  
Genesis 6:1-8; 19:1-26 &  
2 Thessalonians 1:5-10

“THE DESTRUCTION OF FALSE  
TEACHERS”

NLT TRANSLATION

**Golden Text:** So you see, the Lord knows how to rescue godly people from their trials, even while keeping the wicked under punishment until the day of final judgment. 2 Peter 2:9 NLT

**Time:** [between A.D. 63-64](#)

**Place:** [unknown](#)

## 2 Peter 2:1-10a NLT

<sup>1</sup> But there were also false prophets in Israel, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will cleverly teach destructive heresies and even deny the Master who bought them. In this way, they will bring sudden destruction on themselves. <sup>2</sup> Many will follow their evil teaching and shameful immorality. And because of these teachers, the way of truth will be slandered. <sup>3</sup> In their greed they will make up clever lies to get hold of your money. But God condemned them long ago, and their destruction will not be delayed. <sup>4</sup> For God did not spare even the angels who sinned. He threw them into hell, in gloomy pits of darkness, where they are being held until the day of judgment. <sup>5</sup> And God did not spare the ancient world—except for Noah and the seven others in his family. Noah warned the world of God's righteous judgment. So God protected Noah when he destroyed the world of ungodly people with a vast flood. <sup>6</sup> Later, God condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah and turned them into heaps of ashes. He made them an example of what will happen to ungodly people. <sup>7</sup> But God also rescued Lot out of Sodom because he was a righteous man who was sick of the shameful immorality of the wicked people around him. <sup>8</sup> Yes, Lot was a righteous man who was tormented in his soul by the wickedness he saw and heard day after day. <sup>9</sup> So

you see, the Lord knows how to rescue godly people from their trials, even while keeping the wicked under punishment until the day of final judgment. <sup>10</sup> He is especially hard on those who follow their own twisted sexual desire, and who despise authority.

## **INTRODUCTION**

2 Peter 3:1 notes that this is the second letter written to the audience, which tells us that the audience is likely the same as 1 Peter. As such, it is written to churches in the western and northern regions of modern-day Turkey. Given a time of writing of A.D. 63-64, Peter wrote to these churches approximately fifteen years after Paul established fellowships in Galatia and other regions. While Peter's first letter dealt with Christian suffering, 2 Peter dealt with false teachers and the denial of the second coming of Christ.

The false teachers denied God's coming judgment. In doing so, they ignored His judgment in the past. Peter responded to their claims by referring to God's judgment in the past as recorded in Scripture. If God brought judgment in the past to preserve those who were faithful and remained righteous despite the influences they faced, then He would do so again.

**1. Deception of false teachers (2 Peter 2:1-3).** Peter began this section by showing that false teaching was nothing new. It should have been no surprise, then, that there were false teachers in the church.

The heresy Peter seemed to have in mind was a denial of Jesus as Savior and Lord—a heresy common even in today's churches. Those false teachers walked in immorality and sin (2 Peter 2:14; Jude 1:4). They were active members in the church, but they denied the Lord's work. Because of their influence in the church, they were able to lead many astray, and God would judge them. There are consequences for false teachers.

**2. Condemnation of false teachers (2 Peter 2:4-10a).** In order to assure his readers that the false teachers would be condemned, Peter recounted examples of the judgment of the wicked. His first example was that of angels. God condemned the angels who rebelled against Him, just as He will condemn anyone who rebels

against Him.

The second example Peter provided is the Flood of Noah's day. The people continued in their wickedness right up until the moment God swept them away (Luke 17:26-27). Likewise, when Jesus returns, He will return with judgment on sin and salvation for all who have trusted in Him.

Peter listed the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah as examples. God condemned them for their wickedness, yet God still preserved righteous Lot. He made many mistakes, yet God still counted him as righteous.

The point of these examples was to show that God is able to save the godly but will by no means excuse the ungodly. False teachers may seem to get away with their false teaching, at least for now, but their condemnation is sure. Peter did not want the recipients of his letter to be deceived, lulled into believing the false teaching because God allowed it to continue. The Day of Judgment is coming, and the Lord will condemn all who follow the corrupt desires of the flesh and despise true authority, such as the authority of Christ. Only the godly—those who trust in the true gospel of Jesus Christ, as revealed in Scripture—will be rescued.

## **PRACTICAL POINTS**

Today's false teachers follow the same patterns as false teachers of the past (2 Peter 2:1).

False teachers can be identified by their immoral conduct (vss. 2-3).

Those who claim that the Old Testament God is wrathful while the New Testament God is loving, overlook the fact that the New Testament cites Old Testament judgments to prove the reality of a greater judgment to come (vss. 4-9).

The more darkness surrounds us, the brighter a righteous life can shine in the world (vs. 5).

If we are not distressed by immoral conduct in our culture, it may mean we have become callous to unrighteousness (vss. 6-8).

God's judgment is a great comfort to the righteous (vss. 9-10a).

## **CONCLUSION**

False teaching is not new. It was present in the days of the apostles, and it

continues today. False teaching can be popular, but no matter how attractive it may seem, Christians need to be on guard. Any teaching that twists the gospel is false, and God has reserved condemnation for false teachers on the Day of Judgment. We need to make sure our beliefs stem from Scripture instead of popular culture. In order to avoid false teaching, believers have to know what God's Word says. Do you make a regular habit of reading Scripture? If not, consider doing so in your daily routine. You can set aside a specific time, or get into the habit of listening to the Bible while you drive. Although it can be difficult, we often have more time than we think. The more we carefully and prayerfully examine the Bible – particularly when we have other Christians in our lives with whom we can speak about the gospel-the less likely it will be for us to be led astray.

### **QUESTION(S)**

1. What two fundamental doctrines did the false teachers of 2 Peter deny?
2. What seems to have been the false teachers' motive?
3. What was Peter's point in citing three Old Testament examples of divine judgment?
4. What respective ideas did Jude 1:6-7 and 2 Peter 2:4-9 emphasize that account for the differences in the two parallel passages?
5. In addition to a judgment warning, what message does Peter deliver to us by discussing Noah?
6. What message does Lot's life convey to us who live in a very immoral world?
7. What was Peter's logical argument when he posed the four "if God" statements?

**Next week,** We will continue looking at what the apostle Peter had to say about the deception of false teachers. **"The Deception of False Teachers"**

**2 Peter 2:10b-22.**

*Union Gospel Press, LifeStone*