

## II Peter 2:2-3

### I. Introduction:

A. As we enter this study, we need to understand that motives for false brethren/teachers is not only financial gain (i.e. **Jude 1:4** and **Revelation 2:20**).

1. Some are just opposed to Christ (**I John 2:18**, **I John 2:22**, **I John 4:3**, and **II John 1:7**).
2. Some just want preeminence (**III John 1:9-10**).

B. Then there are those that hold to, and others that tolerate, false doctrine (**Revelation 2:14-16**).

1. The motives could be loving the praise of men more than God (**John 12:36-43**) or many other motives.
2. One common component in many (not all; **II Timothy 3:13**) who follow false doctrine is that they have their own lusts as a motive (**II Timothy 4:1-5**).

### II. Body: II Peter 2:2-3

A. Many shall follow their pernicious [perdition; destructive] ways (**Matthew 24:10-12**).

1. Coming from the outside as well as from within (**Acts 20:28-31**).
2. Their end is destruction (**Philippians 3:18-19**).
3. Followers who are misled are not excused (**Isaiah 9:16** and **Matthew 15:1-14**).

B. Because of those false teachers, the way of truth (**John 14:6**) is spoken of as evil (**Acts 13:5-12**).

1. They speak evil against the truth (**Acts 13:44-45**), sometimes in ignorance (**II Peter 2:12**; cf. **I Timothy 1:3-7** and **II Timothy 3:1-7**).
2. They also speak against the messengers of the truth (**Acts 14:1-7**) as well as other faithful saints (**I Peter 4:1-4**).

C. Through greedy desire they make merchandise of those they seek to deceive (**Isaiah 56:10-12**, **Jeremiah 6:13**, **Jeremiah 8:10**, **Micah 3:11**, **I Timothy 6:3-5**, **Titus 1:10-14**, etc.). *\*Remember, this is one motive for some false teachers; not the motive for all.*

1. This motive, like most others, sometimes takes time to uncover. For, those that preach the Gospel are worthy of financial support (**I Corinthians 9:1-14** and **II Corinthians 11:8**).
2. You know these individuals through their fruit (**Matthew 7:15-20**).
3. Those that are not motivated by money will not make such their priority (**Philippians 4:10-18** and **I Timothy 6:6-10**).
4. Elders can also be supported financially (**I Timothy 5:17-18**) and are not to be motivated by financial gain (**I Peter 5:1-3**; cf. **I Timothy 3:3** and **Titus 1:7**).

D. Judgment [decree] against those false teachers was not idle nor figuratively delayed as we addressed in our last lesson (cf. **II Peter 2:1**).

1. Besides what we talked about in **II Peter 2:1**, consider also the aspect of judgment against such individuals being an exposure of them and the purging of them (**Romans 16:17-18** and **II Timothy 3:8-9**).

2. Exposing false teachers cuts off their influence and thus cuts off their ability to gain from deceiving others.

a. Consider Jesus' reaction in the temple (**John 2:13-17**).

b. Also, consider Simon with both the early and latter lessons (**Acts 8:5-24**).

III. Conclusion: Our next lesson: **II Peter 2:4-10**