

II Peter 2:17-22

I. Introduction:

A. False promises have long been made by those teaching error (**Jeremiah 23:16-17**).

1. That which came from their hearts were lies (**Jeremiah 23:26**).
2. They brought false hope (**Jeremiah 6:13-14** and **Ezekiel 13:6**).

B. These false teachers have an audience because people want what they are selling (**Isaiah 30:9-11**, **Jeremiah 5:31**, and **Micah 2:11**).

1. What would they have to sell if saints put do death carnality as we are instructed to do (**Colossians 3:1-6**)?
2. What could these false teachers sell if all saints would just buy the truth and sell it not (**Proverbs 23:23**)?

II. Body: II Peter 2:17-22

A. Wells without water, clouds with no rain - empty promises (cf. **Proverbs 25:14**).

1. These false teachers will have the mist of darkness forever (**Matthew 25:30** and **Jude 1:13**).
2. Unfortunately, they will take their students with them (**Luke 6:39** and **Ephesians 5:1-6**).

B. They talk a big game towards those whom have been converted (**Jude 1:16**).

1. Great swelling perverse words (**Jeremiah 14:13-14**).
2. Alluring through the lusts of the flesh (**II Timothy 3:1-7**; cf. **James 1:13-16**).
3. Their targets are those are clean, having formerly escaped from those who live in error (**II Peter 1:3-4**; cf. **Ephesians 2:1-3**).
4. They promise false liberty (**Jeremiah 7:1-10**). Ex. teaching liberty to the satisfying of the flesh (**Galatians 5:13**).
 - a. With the target being saints, there is already liberty (**Galatians 5:1** and **James 2:12**).
 - b. However, this liberty is NOT to do as one pleases of themselves as one did in his or her sinful past (**Romans 6:20**).
 - c. Those caught up in such forget what the fruit of sin is and what they are giving up if they walk away from Christ (**Romans 6:21-23**).

5. Yet, they deliver to bondage those who had escaped bondage (**Galatians 2:1-5** and **Galatians 4:9**).

C. If the converted turn back to darkness... (**Hebrews 10:35-39**).

1. Entangled (**II Timothy 2:3-4**) again (**II Timothy 4:10**; cf. **I John 2:15-17**).
2. The latter end (**Deuteronomy 32:29**) is worse than the beginning.

- a. This is surely a complex thought. It ties contextually to knowledge. We will look at that next.
- b. Consider what is to have walked away from sin, to the Lord, and then to go back to darkness. How does the Lord deal with His people who walk away (**Ezekiel 9:9-10**, **Hebrews 10:26-31**, and **Hebrews 12:22-29**)?
3. It would have been better not to have known (**Matthew 11:20-24**).
 - a. In one way, accountability (**Luke 12:41-48** and **James 4:17**).
 - b. In another way, knowing what could have been (**I John 5:13** and **Jude 1:21**).
 - c. Consider what it would be like to have hope (**I Peter 1:3-9**) and then to turn from that hope.
- D. When one turns from the holy commandment delivered to them (**II Timothy 4:3-4**).
 1. Obedience to the Lord's instructions is rewarding (**John 15:10** and **Hebrews 5:8-9**).
 2. The true proverb (**Proverbs 26:11**).

III. Conclusion: Our Next Lesson: **II Peter 3:1-7**