

‘Churchy’ Bad Guys (part 1)

Peter’s warnings about false teachers 2 Peter 2:1 (part 1) Chris Mueller 1-19-2020

Introduction:

Joshua 24:15 *If it is disagreeable in your sight to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve...but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.*

2 Peter 2:1-3 *But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will also be false teachers among you, who will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves. Many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of the truth will be maligned; and in their greed they will exploit you with false words; their judgment from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep.*

#0 Churchy bad guys—their evil E_____

1a *But false prophets*

Chapter 2:1,3,12,17

Chapter 1

Chapter 2

TURN TO...

Deuteronomy 13:1

Jeremiah 23:16

Matthew 7:15

2 Corinthians 11:13

2 Timothy 4:3

#1 Churchy bad guys—their evil E_____

1a *But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will also be false teachers among you*

SPURGEON False teachers will always try to do their hateful work secretly. They ask, “What is all this fuss about? We have not departed from the truth, we are as sound in the faith as any of you are,” when they know, traitors that they are, that they are undermining the foundations, and trying to take away the very cornerstone of the faith. These “false teachers” will deceive the very elect of God if it be possible. But the elect are not easily deceived, for God has given them a discerning mind by which they “test the spirits to determine if they are from God” (1 John 4:1). The Lord Jesus said of His sheep, “And they will never follow a stranger, but will flee from him, because they do not know the voice of strangers” (John 10:5). Sheep though they are, they have discernment enough to know their Shepherd, and the Godly soon detect false teachers.

JOHN MACARTHUR False teachers arise when the church begins to embrace the worldly culture around it. As a result, congregations no longer desire to “endure [hold to] sound [healthy] doctrine.” God-centered worship and preaching are replaced by man-centered antics and entertainment.

Titus 1:9b *...must be able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict.*

#2 Churchy bad guys—their evil E_____

1b *who will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves.*

1st Churchy bad guys—their evil S_____

1b who will secretly introduce destructive heresies

Jude 4 Certain persons have crept in unnoticed.

Galatians 5:20 enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions

HERESIES

Titus 3:10 ESV As for a person who stirs up division, after warning him once and then twice, have nothing more to do with him.

2 Thessalonians 3:14 If anyone does not obey our instruction in this letter, take special note of that person and do not associate with him, so that he will be put to shame.

1 Timothy 4:1 But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons.

Titus 3:9-11 But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and strife and disputes about the Law, for they are unprofitable and worthless. Reject a factious man after a first and second warning, knowing that such a man is perverted and is sinning, being self-condemned.

Liberal theology

Mormonism

Jehovah's Witnesses

Romanism

2nd Churchy bad guys—their evil S_____

1c even denying the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves

Proverbs 19:3 The foolishness of man ruins his way, And his heart rages against the Lord.

2 Peter 1:1 Simon Peter, a bond-servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have received a faith of the same kind as ours, by the righteousness of our God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

CALVIN = warning believers NOT to get ensnared by false teachers

Rejecting false teachers and their teachings is loving Christ's Church and His Word

TAKE HOME

- 1 – Do you love truth and hate error enough to SPEAK UP against error and for truth?
- 2 – Do you truly view loving truth and rejecting error as loving CHRIST and His Word?
- 3 – Do your family and friends see you as one who seeks to know and live the truth, or do they regularly see you COMPROMISE the truth?
- 4 – When you resist error, do you see its connection to God's CHARACTER?
- 5 – Have you submitted to Christ as Lord so that your life is marked by OBEDIENCE?

QUESTIONS FOR GROWTH IN CHRIST

1. Why do many Christians try to overlook error, and what is the consequence of doing so in their life, their family and their church?
2. Why have God's people through the ages, both OT and NT, had to battle with false teachers? Why does Christ allow that?
3. How do false teachers introduce their heresies into a healthy church, drawing away make-believers and hurting believers?
4. Why is heresy so destructive and damnable?
5. What must a believer, then a church, do in order to protect themselves from errorists and their error?
6. Why is denying Christ as Master viewed as such a big deal in verse 1?
7. Explain what Peter means by stating "the Master who bought them"?
8. What steps will you take this week to grow in discernment of the truth in order to resist churchy bad guys?

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