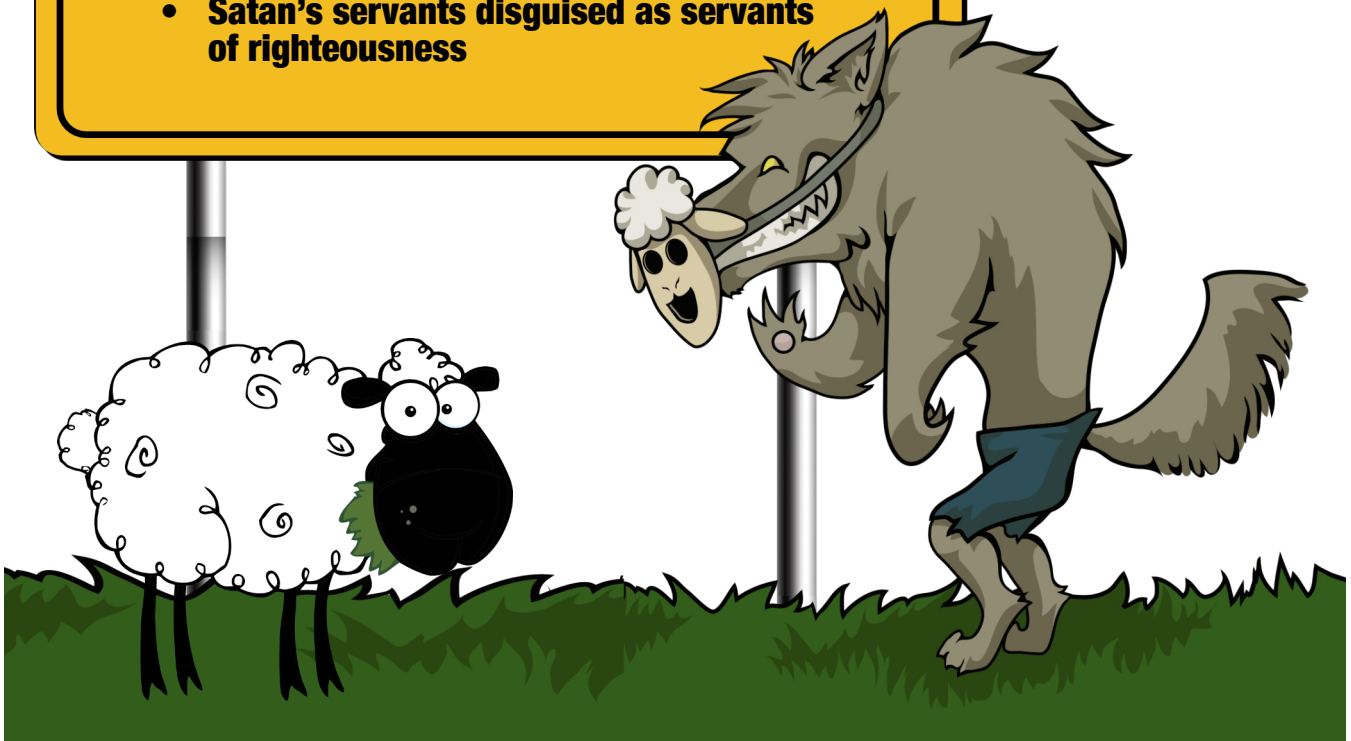


THERE WILL BE FALSE TEACHERS AMONG YOU

- **Fierce wolves.**
- **Many deceivers.**
- **Many false prophets.**
- **Many antichrists.**
- **Evil people and impostors.**
- **False prophets in sheep's clothing.**
- **False brothers secretly brought in.**
- **Certain people creeping in unnoticed.**
- **Deceitful workmen.**
- **Satan's servants disguised as servants of righteousness**



1. There will be false teachers among us, 2:1.

- (2 Peter 2:1 ESV) But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction.

A) **BUT** ...

A VERY IMPORTANT TRANSITION ... Peter has just directed them to focus their attention on the coming of Christ and on the fully confirmed word of God as to a lamp shining in a dark place—the singular word of God which is not given to interpretation and which never lends itself to the will of humans, the word of God which was given to us by the Holy Spirit of God ... and then he says ... **BUT** ... in spite of what God said ... here is what will happen ... **“false prophets also arose among the people”** ...

B) False prophets arose among the holy nation Israel in the Old Testament period.

- (2 Peter 2:1 ESV) **But false prophets also arose among the people**, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction.
- (Jeremiah 14:14 ESV) And the LORD said to me: “The prophets are prophesying lies in my name. I did not send them, nor did I command them or speak to them. They are prophesying to you a lying vision, worthless divination, and the deceit of their own minds.”
- (Jeremiah 23:11, 14 ESV) Both prophet and priest are **ungodly**; even in my house I have found **their evil**, declares the LORD ... in the prophets of Jerusalem I have seen a horrible thing: they commit adultery and walk in lies; they strengthen the hands of evildoers, so that no one turns from his evil; all of them have become like Sodom to me, and its inhabitants like

Gomorrah.

- (Lamentations 2:14 ESV) Your prophets have seen for you false and deceptive visions; they **have not exposed your iniquity** to restore your fortunes, but have seen for you oracles that are false and misleading.
- (Ezekiel 22:27–28 NLT) **Your leaders are like wolves** who tear apart their victims. They actually destroy people’s lives for money! 28 **And your prophets cover up for them** by announcing false visions and making lying predictions. They say, ‘My message is from the Sovereign LORD,’ when the LORD hasn’t spoken a single word to them.

C) False teachers will be among us ... the Church, the holy nation, in the New Testament period.

- (2 Peter 2:1 ESV) But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction.
- (Matthew 24:11 ESV) And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray.
- (1 Peter 2:9–10 ESV) But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, **a holy nation**, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. 10 Once you were not a people, but **now you are God’s people**; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Christ warned his disciples to ... beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves ...

And in Matthew 23 he described the first century religious leaders of Israel ... those he confronted during his time here ... in this way ... as those who preach but do not practice, men

who lay heavy burdens on the people of which they are not willing to lift a finger to help with, ungodly leaders of the people of God who are full of religious pretense and who love to be recognized as deeply spiritual, keepers of the word who actually slam the door of heaven in the face of those seeking God, evangelists who travel far and wide to make converts and make that person twice the child of hell as they are, religious leaders who neglect what is most important, who are concerned with an outward show of godliness but who remain a filthy mess inside ...

However ... even saying all of that ... he affirmed that ... outwardly they appear beautiful ... and ... they appear righteous to those around them ...

The Apostle Paul ... was determined not to merely expose, but to undermine the work of ... the false apostles, the deceitful workmen who disguise themselves as apostles of Christ and who also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness (2 Corinthians 11:12–15) .

He warned the church elders that ... after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them (Acts 20:28–32).

He also warned of ... false brothers who were secretly brought in; who slipped in to spy on them and enslave them (Galatians 2:4).

And of ... evil people and impostors who will go on from bad to worse, who are deceiving and being deceived (2 Timothy 3:13).

The Apostle John ... warned the churches of the first century and warns us now **that** ... many antichrists have come (1 John 2:18) ... **that** ... testing the spirits was necessary to see whether they are from God because many false prophets have gone out into the world (1 John 4:1) ... **that** ... many deceivers have gone out into the world who are antichrists ... **and that they were to ... not** offer hospitality to these false teachers or even greet them, because even greeting them—being friendly to them, playing nice with the false teachers—is taking part in their wicked works (2 John 7–11).

2. There will be false teachers among us and they will bring in destructive teaching, 2:1-3a.

- (2 Peter 2:1–3a ESV) But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction. 2 And many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of truth will be blasphemed. 3 And in their greed they will exploit you with false words.

A) False teachers will come in and secretly bring in destructive teaching.

- i. False teachers will come in and bring in destructive heresies based on the diversity of opinions which bring eternal damnation.
- ii. False teachers refuse to acknowledge the sovereignty of the Master—our Sovereign Lord.
- iii. Many will follow them.
- iv. They will cause the way of truth to be dishonored.
- v. False teachers exploit with false words.

3. God will judge the false teachers and he will rescue the righteous in his time, 2:3b-9.

A) False teachers will not be spared the judgment of God, 2:3b-8.

- (2 Peter 2:3b ESV) Their condemnation from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep.
- i. God did not spare the angels who sinned, 2:4.
 - (2 Peter 2:4 ESV) For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to chains of gloomy darkness to be kept until the judgment.
- ii. God did not spare the ancient world but preserved Noah, 2:5.
 - (2 Peter 2:5 ESV) If he did not

spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a herald of righteousness, with seven others, when he brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly.

- iii. God did not spare Sodom and Gomorrah but rescued Lot, 2:6-8.
- (2 Peter 2:6–8 ESV) If by turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to ashes he condemned them to extinction, making them an example of what is going to happen to the ungodly; 7 and if he rescued righteous Lot, greatly distressed by the sensual conduct of the wicked 8 (for as that righteous man lived among them day after day, he was tormenting his righteous soul over their lawless deeds that he saw and heard).

B) The Lord knows how to rescue the godly and keep the unrighteous under punishment until the day of judgment, 2:9.

- (2 Peter 2:9 ESV) Then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment until the day of judgment.

CONCLUSION: When you turn down God's plan, the only thing left is eternal damnation.

- (2 Peter 2:20–22 ESV) For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world through the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first. 21 For it would have been better for them never to have known the way of righteousness than after knowing it to turn back from the holy commandment delivered to them. 22 What the true proverb says has happened to them: “The dog returns to its own vomit, and the sow, after washing herself, returns to wallow in the mire.”

NO ONE CAN ESCAPE THIS WORLD—WE MUST BE RESCUED. THE ONLY SALVATION PLAN IS GOD'S RESCUE PLAN.

- (2 Timothy 4:18 ESV) **The Lord will rescue me** from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.
- (2 Peter 2:9 ESV) Then **the Lord knows how to rescue the godly** from trials, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment until the day of judgment.

WHEN YOU TURN DOWN GOD'S PLAN, THE ONLY THING LEFT IS ETERNAL DAMNATION.

- (Hebrews 10:26–27 ESV) For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, 27 but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries.
- (Hebrews 6:4–6 ESV) For it is impossible, in the case of those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, and have shared in the Holy Spirit, 5 and have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the age to come, 6 and then have fallen away, to restore them again to repentance, since they are crucifying once again the Son of God to their own harm and holding him up to contempt.

