



## False Teachers

**Main Text for The Week:** *“While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.”* ([2 Peter 2:19 KJV](#)).

### **Read and Meditate for This Week’s Study:**

*2 Peter 2:1-22; John 8:34-36; Matthew 12:43-45; Jude 1:4-19; Genesis 18:16-33.*

**Main Thought for the Week:** “Let no man deceive you.” This warning was emphasized by Jesus and each of the apostles, because it was deception that overthrew one third of the angels, it was deception which led to the fall of Adam and Eve, and God knew that it is deception that will play a major role in the final conflict between Christ and Satan. It is essential that God’s people know what it truth, and that we teach what is truth, and that we do not play around with error. False teachings and false teachers were a big problem during the time of the apostles, and Peter attacks the issue decisively ([2 Peter 2:1-3](#)). We need wisdom and discernment from the Holy Spirit to attack this issue today.



## **False Prophets and Teachers**

### **Sunday's Summary – June 4:**

**SUMMARY THOUGHTS:** It is easy to idealize the early church, and to think of it as a time of great peace and harmony among the earliest believers in Jesus. That would be a mistake. Even from the days of Jesus, the church faced struggles - both from without and from within. Many of the problems came from false teachers and false teachings in their midst. In this letter Peter deals with some of those internal challenges. (2 Peter 2:1-3).

1. What are some of the issues that Peter warned about in his letter? (2 Peter 2:1-3)

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2. What are some of the dangers inherent in accepting false teachings? (2 Peter 2:19-21)

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**Discussion Thought:** Look at how strongly Peter reacts to these false teachings. What should this tell us about how important truth is? How can we protect ourselves against any and all attempts to bring false doctrine into the church? \_\_\_\_\_

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**PERSONAL NOTES:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## **Freedom in Christ?**

### **Monday's Summary – June 5:**

1. What is meant by the phrase “freedom in Christ”? (Romans 6:4-6; John 8:34-36) \_\_\_\_\_

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2. What is the result of having freedom in Christ? (Galatians 5:1,13-14; James 1:25-27) \_\_\_\_\_

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**ILLUMINATION:** “The religion of Christ means more than the forgiveness of sin; it means taking away our sins, and filling the vacuum with the graces of the Holy Spirit. It means divine illumination, rejoicing in God. It means a heart emptied of self, and blessed with the abiding presence of Christ. When Christ reigns in the soul, there is purity, freedom from sin. The glory, the fullness, the completeness of the gospel plan is fulfilled in the life. The acceptance of the Saviour brings a glow of perfect peace, perfect love, perfect assurance. The beauty and fragrance of the character of Christ revealed in the life testifies that God has indeed sent His Son into the world to be its Saviour.”

- Ellen G. White, **Christ's Object Lessons**, p. 419.

**Appeal:** Take some time today to reflect upon what Christ has freed you from personally, and offer a prayer of thanksgiving and dedication to Him for His love and mercy to you.

**PERSONAL NOTES:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## **A Dog Returns to Its Vomit**

### **Tuesday's Summary – June 6:**

**SUMMARY THOUGHTS:** Peter was particularly concerned about the fate of those whom the false teachers entice back into their former sins (**2 Peter 2:18**). The false teachers promise freedom, but as Peter points out, the freedom that they promise is radically different from the kind of freedom that Jesus promised to His followers.

1. What are the dangers when a convert to Christianity returns to his/her former lifestyle? (**2 Peter 2:17-22; Matthew 12:43-45**) \_\_\_\_\_  
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2. What does it take for us to avoid this regression in our Christian experience? (**Galatians 1:6-7; Galatians 5:1**) \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Discussion Thought:** What are ways we as a church family can better nurture and disciple all our members, especially newer ones? \_\_\_\_\_  
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**PERSONAL NOTES:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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## **Peter and Jude**

### **Wednesday’s Summary – June 7:**

**SUMMARY THOUGHTS:** Many people have observed that **Jude 1:4-19** largely repeats the message of **2 Peter 2:1 - 3:7**. Whenever Scripture repeats a message, we should be aware that God wants to convey something important. *(In the mouth of two or three witnesses, let everything be established.)* In these similar passages, Peter and Jude take great lengths to notify us of an important truth: God is closely monitoring evil, and has reserved a day for judgment (**2 Peter 2:9,17; Jude 1:6**).

1. What examples of God’s vengeance are we given in Scripture? (**2 Peter 2:4-7; Jude 1:5-7**) \_\_\_\_\_  
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**ILLUMINATION:** “The flames that consumed the cities of the plain shed their warning light down even to our time. We are taught the fearful and solemn lesson that while God’s mercy bears long with the transgressor, there is a limit beyond which men may not go on in sin. When that limit is reached, then the offers of mercy are withdrawn, and the ministration of judgment begins. ... The same voice that warned Lot to leave Sodom bids us, “Come out from among them, and be ye separate, ...and touch not the unclean” (2 Corinthians 6:17). Those who obey this warning will find a refuge.”  
- Ellen G. White, **Conflict and Courage**, p 53

**PERSONAL NOTES:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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## **More Old Testament Lessons**

### **Thursday's Summary – June 8:**

**SUMMARY THOUGHTS:** God teaches us through the Scriptures by both precept and example. Instruction is not only given by way of “Thou shalt” and “Thou shalt not”, but by the examples of the men and women whose histories were recorded through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. All too often, we ignore plain teachings from God’s word, because they do not come in the form of a directive.

1. What other examples of apostasy does Peter give? (2 Peter 2:6; 2 Peter 2:15-16)

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2. What common problem do we share with Sodom, spiritually? (Revelation 3:17; Ezekiel 16:49)

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3. How can we be sure that these examples apply to us today? (Jude 1:7; 2 Peter 2:6; 1 Corinthians 10:11-12)

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**PERSONAL NOTES:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## **Wrapping It All Up**

### **Friday’s Summary – June 9:**

**ILLUMINATION:** “It is the first and highest duty of every rational being to learn from the Scriptures what is truth, and then to walk in the light and encourage others to follow his example. We should day by day study the Bible diligently, weighing every thought and comparing scripture with scripture. With divine help we are to form our opinions for ourselves as we are to answer for ourselves before God. ... If men would but take the Bible as it reads, if there were no false teachers to mislead and confuse their minds, a work would be accomplished that would make angels glad and that would bring into the fold of Christ thousands upon thousands who are now wandering in error.”

- Ellen G. White, *The Great Controversy*, pp. 598-599

**Appeal:** Why not take some time right now to pray for wisdom and discernment that you might understand God’s word directly, and not fall prey to false teachers or false teachings which are rapidly increasing in our world today!

**Final Thoughts:** We at Metro New York World Ministry are committed to preach and teach the truth of God’s word, by which we may have true freedom in Christ Jesus. Not only are we dedicated to preaching God’s truth, but we desire that each listener obtain a living connection with Jesus Christ, through the indwelling power of the Holy Spirit, that they may be able to study and know truth for themselves. In the final conflict, we will not be able to lean upon anyone else’s understanding of the Word of God, but we will have to answer for ourselves before God.

**PERSONAL NOTES:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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