



The Epistles of Peter
2 Peter 2:1-3: Revisited—The Consequences
From Sermon 5.9.26

Read 2 Peter 2:1-3

Overview from Sunday's sermon: since we've covered so much heavy material and before we dive into the next powerful portion, this special week was a great time to go back and revisit how God the Holy Spirit had the Apostle Peter open the chapter. Did the false teachers come as Peter prophesied? What various forms and institutions came about from those false teachers launching false movements?

1. What kind of church environment did you grow up in (if any)? Various Personal Answers

What have you come to realize about that church as you mature? Options...

- 1) Nothing. I still don't see differences in the various faiths, denominations, and churches.
- 2) They were spot on and faithful.
- 3) They were inaccurate and deceived—mishandling the Word of God.

2. Read each Bible verse about adding to, subtracting from, and preaching God's Word accurately.

Deuteronomy 4:2—_____

Proverbs 30:5-6—_____

Revelation 22:18-19—_____

Ezekiel 3:17-21—_____

James 3:1—_____

3. What is the inevitable result of even the smallest compromise of the Bible? A string of biblical denials, manmade doctrines and practices, works-based salvation, cults, powerless Church, social justice clubs. Example: dismiss the Creation account and the rest will eventually fall.

4. List wayward each group and cite what they've done to the Word of God that drifted from Scripture

- Roman Catholic/Eastern Orthodox: add tradition upon tradition getting further from Gospel.
- Liberal Church: reject most of Scripture. Make Jesus a social justice advocate and example.
- Cults/Pseudo-Church: discredit the Bible and biblical church. Claim they are the new reformation.
- Charismatics: distort/peddle the Holy Spirit. Claim new revelation. Turn church into a circus.
- Pragmatic/Feel Good/Manifest: crowds over substance. Easy-believism. False conversions.
- Journeys to Heaven: books and movies that, in no way, line up with Scripture accounts of heaven.

4a. Referring to the course of the Liberal Church mentioned above, what is...

...Ecumenicalism: drop all doctrine for the sake of unity. It's always the fundamentalists who are asked to compromise.

...Syncretism: spiritualism, meditation, feminism, tolerance, psychology, philosophy, evolution/*science

5. Was the legalizing of Christianity in the Roman Empire a good thing or a bad thing? Yes, both. Generally, the persecuted church is stronger than the peace-time church. The legalizing of Christianity ended the merciless persecution, seizure, and executions. At the same time, the church began its downward spiral of incorporating the pagan world and human, manmade tradition—eventually making it equal in authority to Scripture.

6. What do we mean when we say the modern, western, evangelical church treats the Bible as insufficient? They view it as outdated and distasteful to the modern culture. We must feed them what they want. They cannot handle strong, sound, or deep doctrine. Entertain them to keep them with secular music.