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**LESSON 12**

**2 Peter 2:1-9**

1. What weakness or vulnerability in your grasp of Biblical truth came to light after our study of **2 Peter 1:12-21** or how did a truth, verse or insight give you a firmer foundation in the truth?

2. Before you read **2 Peter 2:1-9**, pray that the Word of God would expose any counterfeit teachers seeking to lure the unsuspecting away from the faith. Recall a time you or a loved one was scammed or duped by someone who seemed genuine. What feelings and/or thoughts were evoked regarding the deception and the deceiver?

3. From **V1-3a**:

1. Who does Peter expose? Develop a portrait of them, highlighting the characteristics of their life and message.
2. How do they compare to the reliable prophets Peter speaks of in **2 Peter 1:19-21**.

1. Scripture consistently addresses the problematic reality of how to recognize false teachers. What are some of the signs based on these passages:
* **Jeremiah 14:13-16**
* **Matthew 7:15-19**
* **Jude 1:4,8,10,16**

1. What is the ultimate fate of false teachers according to **2 Peter 2:3b**?How does this confirm the weight of their deception in God’s economy?

6. Review **V4-8**, where Peter gives several examples of how God treats the wicked (ungodly) as opposed to the righteous (godly).

1. Note each example of wickedness Peter selects. How were each of them treated?
2. Who are the righteous examples and what happened to each of them?

7. Peter comes to some important conclusions about God in **V9**. Restate these conclusions and identify the attributes of God that are evident to you.

8. With the whole passage in mind:

1. Read the following statements and meditate on the heartbreak expressed over the condemnation of the lost:
* **Jeremiah 9:1**
* **Luke 19:41-42**

* **Romans 9:1-4**
* **Philippians 3:18-19**
1. Use this opportunity to honestly assess whether you have grown cold or hard-hearted to the fate of those who have chosen to live as enemies of Jesus, rejecting His salvation. Write out a prayer of confession or conviction and ask that genuine tears might flow for the condemned.

9. **LIVING AS STRANGERS: CONFIDENT OF RESCUE**

The Lord knows how to rescue the righteous from trials (**V9**). Scripture assures us that He will rescue you and me from every evil attack and bring us safely into His heavenly kingdom (**2 Timothy 4:18**). From what trial or situation do you believe you need God’s rescue? How do the verses below alter or shift the scope of the rescue you desire?

* **Psalm 18:16-19**
* **Psalm 34:15-22**
* **1 Corinthians 10:12-13**
* **Colossians 1:13**

**NAME PRAYER REQUEST**