

Recap of 2/14/16 (2 Peter 2:1):

1. What you must understand about 2 Peter 2. Peter warns believers to beware because false teachers will infiltrate the church, purporting to teach truth yet leading people away from God and away from righteousness, and they do it out of selfish greed.
2. “Heretical teachers make inroads in the church by preaching false doctrine and practicing immorality.” (The Daily Walk Bible)
3. “False teachers remain a threat to the Christian church. And 2 Peter 2 remains a source of insight into their teaching, their character, and their appeal.” (Lawrence Richards)
4. There were false prophets in Israel, as well as the true prophets Peter mentioned in 1:19-21. Even as false prophets were a problem in Israel, false teachers will be a problem for the church. They would arise from within the church, even as false prophets arose from within Israel.
5. Their stock in trade would be subtlety, deception. They would secretly introduce heretical teaching which would ultimately destroy believers because it would lead them away from Christ. They destroy the truth and are ultimately destroyed themselves.
6. Satan comes as an angel of light (2 Corinthians 11:13-15); and behind false teachers in the church are demons promoting a false system of doctrine (1 Timothy 4:1-5). Thus, Satan’s destructive work is more likely done in the seminary, the pew, and the pulpit, than in the bar or the gutter.
7. Charles Ryrie warns: “Satan’s plan is a counterfeit plan to God’s, and this is the most important fact to know about all of his purposes in this world. If you grasp this, then you will be well on the way to a successful defense against him. If not, it will be all the more easy for him to deceive you.” (from Balancing the Christian Life)