

Recap of 3/6/16 (2 Peter 2:1-3):

1. Peter says that these false teachers “deny the sovereign Lord who bought them.” In what sense do they deny Jesus? There can be a number of possibilities:

- they deny Him by their immoral, impure lives**
- they deny Him by denying or corrupting His teaching**
- they deny His deity or His humanity**
- they deny His atonement**
- they deny salvation by grace through faith**
- they deny His bodily return (the subject of Chapter 3)**

2. A second question arising from their denial is: in what sense does He “buy” (or redeem) them? He redeemed them in the sense that He paid the price for their redemption but they had not appropriated it to themselves and so were lost. Kenneth Gangel explains: “Christ’s death is ‘sufficient’ for all (1 Tim 2:6; Heb. 2:9; 1 Jn 2:2) but is ‘efficient’ only for those who believe. This is a strong argument for unlimited atonement (the view that Christ died for everyone) and against limited atonement (the view that Christ died only for those He would later save).”

3. False teachers would seem to be successful because they would gain a good following. That should be a warning to us today to not view success as a measure of whether a gospel teacher is teaching God’s truth. False teachers will be fabulously successful.

4. The false teachers would not only pervert the Biblical truth but there would be an element of immorality in their teaching and lifestyle. This is seen in vs. 2 “shameful ways,” vs. 7 “filthy lives,” and vs. 10a “corrupt desires.” All of which refers to sexual immorality, licentiousness and sexual perversion.

5. The NLT One-Year Study Bible makes an astounding statement which should cause us all to consider our lifestyle choices especially in the area of morality. “We tend to make a clear distinction between God’s spiritual laws and the laws of nature. For example, the law of gravity prohibits us from jumping off a 10-story building. The reason is obvious. However, we don’t believe that God’s spiritual laws work the same way. Instead, we believe that somehow we can fly.” ‘Enuf said!