The Christian's Nemesis; The War of False Teachers

The Fifth Column, part 2

2 Peter 2:1-9*

It now becomes evident why the readers needed to be reminded about the importance of a godly life and why they needed to maintain the truth of Jesus' future coming. False teachers had arisen within the church who denied the former and questioned the latter. If there is no future coming of the Lord, the foundation for ethics vanishes, and the way is opened for a dissolute lifestyle. The words in chapter one do not represent an abstract thesis on Christian growth. Peter urgently responded to a threat to the churches, to false teaching that was inevitably accompanied by an evil lifestyle.[2]

- The description of false teachers (1-3a)
  1. They are deceivers (1)
  2. They are deniers (1)
  3. They are destroyers (1)
  4. They are degenerates (2)
  5. They are desirous (3a)

- The destruction of false teachers (3b-6, 9b)

- The deliverance of the righteous (5b, 7-9a)

*These notes are prayerfully prepared to aid, not replace, your personal study of God's Word.

[2] Thomas R. Schreiner, *1, 2 Peter, Jude*, vol. 37, The New American Commentary (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2003), 325.