

*The Christian's Nemesis; The War of False Teachers***The Fifth Column, part 3**

2 Peter 2:10b-16\*

Peter is not yet finished with the apostates! Unlike some believers today, Peter was disturbed by the inroads the false teachers were making into the churches. He knew that their approach was subtle but their teachings were fatal, and he warns the churches about them.<sup>1</sup>

... the profiles of the kinds of people who will try to lead us astray and the kinds of error they will try to introduce are strikingly contemporary. Peter's abhorrence of the errorists produces some of the most colorful and shocking language in the New Testament. But before we become too embarrassed, we should remember our twentieth-century tendency to assume that all positions are right, rather than some being 'damnable heresies' (as AV translates 2:1)<sup>2</sup>

- Apostates are disrespectful (10b-13a)
- Apostates are dissolute (13b)
- Apostates are depraved (14a)
- Apostates are desirous (14b-16)

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

<sup>1</sup> Warren W. Wiersbe, *The Bible Exposition Commentary*, vol. 2 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1996), 451.

**2 Peter 2:10-16 (NASB95)**

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| 10 | and especially those who indulge the flesh in <i>its</i> corrupt desires and despise authority. Daring, self-willed, they do not tremble when they revile angelic majesties,                       |
| 11 | whereas angels who are greater in might and power do not bring a reviling judgment against them before the Lord.   |
| 12 | But these, like unreasoning animals, born as creatures of instinct to be captured and killed, reviling where they have no knowledge, will in the destruction of those creatures also be destroyed, |
| 13 | suffering wrong as the wages of doing wrong. They count it a pleasure to revel in the daytime. They are stains and blemishes, reveling in their deceptions, as they carouse with you,              |
| 14 | having eyes full of adultery that never cease from sin, enticing unstable souls, having a heart trained in greed, accursed children;   |
| 15 | forsaking the right way, they have gone astray, having followed the way of Balaam, the <i>son</i> of Beor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;   |
| 16 | but he received a rebuke for his own transgression, <i>for</i> a mute donkey, speaking with a voice of a man, restrained the madness of the prophet.   |

**Jude 8-13 (NASB95)**

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| 8  | Yet in the same way these men, also by dreaming, defile the flesh, and reject authority, and revile angelic majesties.  |
| 9  | But Michael the archangel, when he disputed with the devil and argued about the body of Moses, did not dare pronounce against him a railing judgment, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!"                                    |
| 10 | But these men revile the things which they do not understand; and the things which they know by instinct, like unreasoning animals, by these things they are destroyed.   |
| 11 | Woe to them! For they have gone the way of Cain, and for pay they have rushed headlong into the error of Balaam, and perished in the rebellion of Korah.  |
| 12 | These are the men who are hidden reefs in your love feasts when they feast with you without fear, caring for themselves; clouds without water, carried along by winds; autumn trees without fruit, doubly dead, uprooted; |
| 13 | wild waves of the sea, casting up their own shame like foam; wandering stars, for whom the black darkness has been reserved forever.  |

<sup>2</sup> R. C. Lucas and Christopher Green, *The Message of 2 Peter & Jude: The Promise of His Coming*, The Bible Speaks Today (Leicester, England; Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1995), 103.