

2 PETER 2:1-3 | THE FALSE PROPHETS AND THEIR SNARE

- Verses 1-2 – see session 5
 - Note: I inadvertently taught verse 1 as “the Lord that brought them.” However, the text says, **the Lord that bought them**.
 - What other people did the Lord purchase? (Ex. 15:16, Ps. 74:2)
- Verse 3 – *also included on session 5*
 - The heart of the sentence: **they** (the false teachers) will **make merchandise of you**.
 - The verb **make merchandise** is ἐμπορεύομαι [emporeuomai], of the same root as our English *emporium*.
 - In the scripture, it is only used elsewhere in James 4:13, translated as **buy and sell**.
 - The false teachers will *buy and sell* the Jewish people.
 - How will this *merchandising* of the people be carried out?
 - It will be **through covetousness**.
 - The grammar leans toward the covetousness being *on the part of the false teachers* but could also be *on the part of the fooled*.
 - It is a truth that *power-hungry-politicians*, hungry for the allegiance of the masses, have used the hungers of those same people as a *quid-pro-quo*.
 - It will be with **feigned words**.
 - The word **feigned** is πλαστός [plastos].
 - The related Greek word is *plastikos*, from which we get *plastic*.
 - The Greek carries the idea of *mold-ability*.
 - With these *ways and means* of last-days false-teachers being revealed, it would serve present-day believers well to remember that *greed* and the loss of objective meaning to words as *a sign of great danger*.
 - Of these coming false teachers, Peter says that their **judgment now of a long time lingereth not**.
 - The words mean that the judgment of these men has been **now for a long time**.
 - Be sure to put the pause after **time** rather than **now**. It is the **judgment..of a long time that now...lingerteth not**.
 - The judgment is *of old* (YLT) and *is not idle* (YLT).
 - Peter emphasizes this by saying **their damnation slumbereth not**. In summary, Peter says, “don’t worry, they will get what is coming to them.”

2 PETER 2:4-8 | THE FALSE PROPHETS AND THEIR DOOM

- Verse 4 – Illustration of Doom #1: The Angels that Sinned
 - There were **Angels that sinned** that were **spared not** but sent **down to hell** and are **reserved unto judgment**.

- It seems this can refer to only one event: Genesis 6:1-4. Only these angels are in **chains of darkness**.
- The word **hell** is translated from the Greek *ταρταρω* [tartaroo].
 - This is the only place in the Bible the word is used. See Appendix 131 for *Synonymous Words for "Hell" in The Companion Bible*.
 - While the modern English word *hell* is basically equivalent with the Lake of Fire, in 1611 the word meant *a hidden place* and was used for places other than the Lake of Fire.
 - Since the place of eternal punishment is the Lake of Fire, these angels are not yet there, but rather **reserved unto judgment**.
 - Interestingly, this Greek word [tartaroo] is only from Greek mythology, found in *Homer* and is the name of "the place of punishment of the Titans." These titans had sought to overpower Zeus and were sentenced to Tartarus awaiting punishment.¹
 - It is my believe that Greek mythology mimics and mirrors accurate theology, with many perversions added. Most Greek mythology centers around the Nephilim of Genesis 6, including the titans.
- Note that most of our Nephilim theology comes from revelations in the New Testament books of 2 Peter and Jude.
- Verse 5 - Illustration #2: The Flood
 - Peter speaks of the **old world**, referring to the earth before the flood.
 - Note that I do not accept the Gap theory but am open to persuasion. This reference to the *ἀρχαῖος κοσμος* [archaios kosmos] as the pre-flood world seems to work *against* the Gap theory since *archaios* (from which we get *archaic*) is from *arche*, "the beginning."
 - From this **old world** God destroyed **the world of the ungodly**, which is why Peter uses the illustration here, reminding the reader that *as God has destroyed the ungodly before, He will do it again*.
 - In this verse, we learn two things about Noah.
 - He was **the eighth person**. This is a reference to the eight people on the ark. Most modern translations make this something like "Noah and seven others." One must ask, however, why God inspired Peter to refer to him as **the eighth** (clearly using the adjective). I think it is because *eight* is the number of *beginning again*. Those translations that "dumb down" the text cause the reader to miss this number.
 - He was **a preacher of righteousness**. Contrary to popular opinion, this does *not* mean that Noah gave an invitation for people to repent and enter the ark. God had created the ark to destroy the Nephilim and the pervasive destruction of an un-tainted DNA and only for Noah and his family (see Gen. 6:18).

¹ James Hope Moulton and George Milligan, *The Vocabulary of the Greek Testament* (London: Hodder and Stoughton, 1930), 626.