

THE SECOND EPISTLE GENERAL OF PETER

2 Pet. 2:20-22

2 Pet. 2:20 For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning.

21 For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known *it*, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them.

22 But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog *is* turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.

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(a) The trap, 2:19a

(b) The truth, 2:19b

2 Pet. 2:1 But **there were false prophets also among the people**, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

3. An exposure of their converts, 2:20-22

a. Truth revealed to them, 2:20

(1) Their deliverance, 2:20a “For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ...”

2 Pet. 2:20 For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning.

2 Pet. 1:8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make *you that ye shall* neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of **our** Lord Jesus Christ.

(2) Their danger, 2:20b-c

(a) A further entanglement, 2:20b "...they are again entangled therein, and overcome..."

Mark 1:24 Saying, Let *us* alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God.

Acts 16:17 The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation.

Acts 19:15 And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye?

Jas. 2:19 Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.

(b) A fearful entanglement, 2:20c "...the latter end is worse with them than the beginning."

Mt. 12:43 When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none.

44 Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth *it* empty, swept, and garnished.

45 Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last *state* of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation.

b. Truth rejected by them, 2:21

(1) A preferable condition, 2:21a "For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness..."

(2) A precarious condition, 2:21b "...than, after they have known *it*, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them."

1 Jn. 3:23 And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment.

c. Truth related about them, 2:22

(1) They are foul within, 2:22a "But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog *is* turned to his own vomit again..."

Prov. 26:11 As a dog returneth to his vomit, so a fool returneth to his folly.



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Mt. 7:6 Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.

(2) They are filthy without, 2:22b “...and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.”



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The hog did not become a lamb, and then went back to being a hog. It was always a hog, just being true to its own nature.

Conclusion

Mt. 23:15 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for **ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves.**

Psa. 1:1 **Blessed is the man** that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

2 But his delight *is* in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

3 And **he shall be like a tree** planted by the rivers of water, that **bringeth forth his fruit in his season**; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

4 **The ungodly are not so**: but *are* like the chaff which the wind driveth away.

5 Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

6 For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.