

# Springs Without Water

## II Peter 2

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Curt Deming

Melbourne Community Church

November 15, 2015

# What will we learn?

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- ❖ Beware of false teachers.
- ❖ God knows how to rescue the godly / punish the unrighteous.
- ❖ Signs of false teachers.
- ❖ “Freedom” to sin = slavery to sin.
- ❖ It is risky to ignore the truth.

# II Peter

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- ❖ Letter
- ❖ Testament
- ❖ Apologetic

# II Peter

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- ❖ Greeting (1:1-2)
- ❖ God's grace and godly living (1:3-11)
- ❖ Farewell address to the churches (1:12-21)
- ❖ Evaluation of false teachers (2:1-22)
- ❖ The Coming Day of the Lord (3:1-13)
- ❖ Concluding exhortations (3:14-18)

## II Peter 1:3

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His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.

# Everything we need:

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- ❖ Knowing Jesus
- ❖ Understanding the Scriptures

## II Peter 1:20-21

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Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation of things. For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

## II Peter 2:1

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But there were also false prophets among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the sovereign Lord who bought them—bringing swift destruction on themselves.



# Jeremiah 23:17

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They keep saying to those who despise me,  
‘The LORD says: You will have peace.’  
And to all who follow the stubbornness of  
their hearts  
they say, ‘No harm will come to you.’

## II Peter 2:2-3

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Many will follow their depraved conduct and will bring the way of truth into disrepute. In their greed these teachers will exploit you with fabricated stories. Their condemnation has long been hanging over them, and their destruction has not been sleeping.

# The Lord knows (verses 4-9):

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- ❖ How to rescue the godly
- ❖ How to punish the unrighteous

## II Peter 2:4

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For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but sent them to hell, putting them in chains of darkness to be held for judgment;

## II Peter 2:5

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if he did not spare the ancient world when he brought the flood on its ungodly people, but protected Noah, a preacher of righteousness, and seven others;

## II Peter 2:6

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if he condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah by burning them to ashes, and made them an example of what is going to happen to the ungodly;

## II Peter 2:7-8

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and if he rescued Lot, a righteous man, who was distressed by the depraved conduct of the lawless (for that righteous man, living among them day after day, was tormented in his righteous soul by the lawless deeds he saw and heard)—

# Noah's day + Sodom = Evil!

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- ❖ Deuteronomy
- ❖ Isaiah
- ❖ Jeremiah
- ❖ Lamentations
- ❖ Ezekiel
- ❖ Zephaniah



## II Peter 2:9-10

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if this is so, then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials and to hold the unrighteous for punishment on the day of judgment. This is especially true of those who follow the corrupt desire of the flesh and despise authority.

# Examples of God's justice:

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- ❖ Angels who sinned
- ❖ Ungodly people of Noah's day
- ❖ Noah
- ❖ Sodom and Gomorrah
- ❖ Lot

## II Peter 2:10-11

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**Bold and arrogant, they are not afraid to heap abuse on celestial beings; yet even angels, although they are stronger and more powerful, do not heap abuse on such beings when bringing judgment on them from the Lord.**

## II Peter 2:12

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But these people blaspheme in matters they do not understand. They are like unreasoning animals, creatures of instinct, born only to be caught and destroyed, and like animals they too will perish.

## II Peter 2:13

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They will be paid back with harm for the harm they have done. Their idea of pleasure is to carouse in broad daylight. They are blots and blemishes, reveling in their pleasures while they feast with you.

## II Peter 2:14

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**With eyes full of adultery, they never stop sinning; they seduce the unstable; they are experts in greed—an accursed brood!**

## II Peter 2:15-16

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They have left the straight way and wandered off to follow the way of Balaam son of Bezer, who loved the wages of wickedness. But he was rebuked for his wrongdoing by a donkey—an animal without speech—who spoke with a human voice and restrained the prophet's madness.

# False teachers:

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- ❖ **Rebellious**
- ❖ **Animalistic**
- ❖ **Deceitful**
- ❖ **Chronic sinners**
- ❖ **Mercenary**



# Numbers 22:6

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[Balak to Balaam]: “Now come and put a curse on these people, because they are too powerful for me. Perhaps then I will be able to defeat them and drive them out of the land. For I know that whoever you bless is blessed, and whoever you curse is cursed.”

# Numbers 22:18-19

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But Balaam answered them, “Even if Balak gave me all the silver and gold in his palace, I could not do anything great or small to go beyond the command of the LORD my God. Now spend the night here so that I can find out what else the LORD will tell me.”

# Numbers 25:1-3

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While Israel was staying in Shittim, the men began to indulge in sexual immorality with Moabite women, who invited them to the sacrifices to their gods. The people ate the sacrificial meal and bowed down before these gods. So Israel yoked themselves to the Baal of Peor. And the LORD's anger burned against them.

# Numbers 31:7-8

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They fought against Midian, as the LORD commanded Moses, and killed every man. Among their victims were Evi, Rekem, Zur, Hur and Reba—the five kings of Midian. They also killed Balaam son of Beor with the sword.

# Revelation 2:14

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Nevertheless, I have a few things against you:  
There are some among you who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to entice the Israelites to sin so that they ate food sacrificed to idols and committed sexual immorality.

## II Peter 2:17-18

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These people are springs without water and mists driven by a storm. Blackest darkness is reserved for them. For they mouth empty, boastful words and, by appealing to the lustful desires of the flesh, they entice people who are just escaping from those who live in error.

# False hope:

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- ❖ “springs without water”
- ❖ “mists driven by a storm”

## II Peter 2:19

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They promise them freedom, while they themselves are slaves of depravity—for “people are slaves to whatever has mastered them.”



## II Peter 2:20

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If they have escaped the corruption of the world by knowing our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and are again entangled in it and are overcome, they are worse off at the end than they were at the beginning.

## II Peter 2:21

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It would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than to have known it and then to turn their backs on the sacred command that was passed on to them.

## II Peter 2:22

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Of them the proverbs are true: “A dog returns to its vomit,” and, “A sow that is washed returns to her wallowing in the mud.”

## John 10:27-29

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[Jesus]: “My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father’s hand.”

# Romans 8:38-39

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For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

# What have we learned?

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- ❖ Beware of false teachers.
- ❖ God knows how to rescue the godly / punish the unrighteous.
- ❖ Signs of false teachers.
- ❖ “Freedom” to sin = slavery to sin.
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# Are you being called?

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- ❖ To receive Christ
- ❖ To become a member of Melbourne Community Church
- ❖ To pray / to receive prayer
- ❖ To affirm or reaffirm a commitment
- ❖ To receive the LORD's Supper