

**NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH BIBLE STUDY INSTITUTE**

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**“MARKED MEN” PART I**

**2 PETER 2:10-16**

**INTRO:** PETER WAS 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 WANTED TO WARN THE CHURCHES ABOUT THEM, REMEMBER, HOWEVER, THAT PETER OPENED THIS LETTER WITH POSITIVE TEACHING ABOUT SALVATION, CHRISTIAN GROWTH, AND DEPENDABILITY ON THE WORD OF GOD. HE HAD A BALANCED MINISTRY, AND IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE MAINTAIN THAT BALANCE TODAY. WE NEED TO HAVE TWO TOOLS WHILE WE DO MINISTRY

1. **SWORD**- TO FIGHT
2. **TROWEL** – TO BUILD

NOTE: SOME PEOPLE HAVE A PURELY NEGATIVE MINISTRY AND NEVER BUILD ANYTHING. THEY ARE TOO BUSY FIGHTING THE ENEMY! OTHERS CLAIM TO BE “POSITIVE” BUT THEY NEVER DEFEND WHAT THEY BUILT. PETER KNEW THAT IT WAS NOT ENOUGH ONLY TO ATTACK THE APOSTATES; HE ALSO HAD TO GIVE SOLID TEACHING TO THE BELIEVERS IN THE CHURCHES.

IN THIS SECTION OF HIS LETTER, PETER CONDEMNED THE APOSTATES FOR THREE SPECIFIC SINS.

**I. THEIR REVILING** (2:10-12) THE PICTURE HERE IS OF PROUD PEOPLE WHO TRY TO BUILD THEMSELVES UP WHILE THEY TRY TO TEAR DOWN EVERYBODY ELSE. THEY SHOW NO RESPECT FOR AUTHORITY AND ARE NOT AFRAID TO ATTACK AND DEFAME PEOPLE IN HIGH POSITIONS.

GOD HAS ESTABLISHED AUTHORITY IN THIS WORLD AND WHEN WE RESIST AUTHORITY WE ARE:

A. **RESISTING GOD** (ROMANS 13:1)

DIFFERENT FORMS OF AUTHORITY

1. **PARENTS** OVER CHILDREN (EPH 6: 1-4)
2. **EMPLOYERS** OVER **EMPLOYEES** (EPH 6:5-8)

AS CITIZENS, CHRISTIAN RESPONSIBILITY TO AUTHORITIES:

1. **PRAY FOR THOSE IN AUTHORITY** (1 TIM 2:1-4)
2. **RESPECT THOSE IN AUTHORITY** (1PETER 2:11-17)
3. **SEEK TO GLORIFY GOD IN OUR BEHAVIOR**

AS A MEMBER OF A LOCAL CHURCH

1. **HONOR THEM** (HEB13:7, 17)
2. **ENCOURGE THEM** (1PETER 5:1-6)

HUMAN GOVERNMENT IS, IN ONE SENSE, GOD'S GIFT TO HELP MAINTAIN ORDER IN THE WORLD, SO THAT THE CHURCH MAY MINISTER THE WORD TO WIN THE LOST (1 TIM 2:1-8). WE SHOULD PRAY DAILY FOR THOSE IN AUTHORITY SO THAT THEY MIGHT EXERCISE THAT AUTHORITY IN THE WILL OF GOD. IT IS A SERIOUS THING FOR A CHRISTIAN TO OPPOSE THE LAW, AND HE MUST BE SURE HE IS IN THE WILL OF GOD WHEN HE DOES. HE SHOULD ALSO DO IT IN A MANNER THAT GLOIFIES CHRIST, SO THAT INNOCENT PEOPLE (INCLUDING UNSAVED GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES) MIGHT NOT BE TO SUFFER.

A. **THE REASON FOR THEIR REVILING** – (VS 10) IF WE HAD ONE WORD THAT WOULD EXPLAIN THE REVILING OF THE FALSE TEACHERS IT WOULD BE.

**FLEASH** – THE DEPRAVED NATURE OF MAN DOES NOT WANT TO SUBMIT TO ANY KIND OF AUTHORITY. "DO YOU OWN THING?" IS IT INSIDENT MESSAGE AND MANY PEOPLE FOLLOW IT. IN RECENT YEARS THERE HAS BEEN AN EPIDEMIC OF BOOKS THAT ENCOURGE PEOPLE TO SUCCEED AT ANY COST, EVEN AT THE EXTENT OF HURTING OR THE INTIMIDATION OF OTHERS. THE IMPORTANT THING ACCORDING TO THESE BOOKS, IS TO TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF- "NUMBER ONE" – AND TO USE OTHER PEOPLE AS TOOLS FOR THE ACHIEVEMENT OF YOUR OWN SELFISH GOALS. MANS FALLEN NATURE ENCOURAGES.

- **PRIDEFUL** – A HIGH OR INORDINATE OPINION OF ONE'S OWN DIGNITY, IMPORTANCE OR MERIT
- **PRESUMPTUOUS** – VERY DARING AND BOLD IN THE WAY THEY SPEAK ABOUT PEOPLE IN POSITION OF DIGNITY (HEROIC, BOLDNESS, SATANIC BOLDNESS)
- **SELF-WILLED** – LIVE TO PLEASE THEMSELVES
- **ARROGANT** – NOT AFRAID TO SPEAK EVIL OF DIGNITARIES

B. **THE SERIOUSNESS OF THEIR REVILING** – (VS11) THE ANGELS ARE REVILED BY THE APOSTATES, BUT THE APOSTATES ARE NOT REVILED BY THE ANGELS THOUGH GREATER IN STRENGTH AND POWER, WILL NOT INTRUDE IN THE SPHERE THAT IS NOT THEIR OWN. THE ANGELS REMEMBER THE REBELLION OF LUCIFER AND KNOW HOW SERIOUS IT IS TO REVOLT AGAINST GOD'S

AUTHORITY. IF GOD JUDGED THE REBELLIOUS ANGELS, HOW MUCH MORE WILL HE “**JUDGE REBELLIOUS MEN!**”

SUGGESTION OF VERSE 11..... IS THAT GODLY ANGELS DO NOT EVEN SPEAK AGAINST FALLEN ANGELS, THEY HAVE LEFT ALL JUDGEMENT TO THE LORD.

**NOTE:** SPEAKING EVIL OF OTHERS IS GREAT SIN, AND THE PEOPLE OF GOD MUST AVOID NOT RESPECTING THE PEOPLE IN OFFICE, BUT WE MUST RESPECT THE OFFICE, FOR ALL AUTHORITY IS GOD GIVEN, THOSE WHO REVILE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN THE NAME OF CHRIST OUGHT TO READ AND PONDER TITUS 3:1-3- “REMINDED THEM TO BE SUBJECT TO RULERS, TO AUTHORITIES, TO BE OBEDIENT, TO BE READY FOR EVERY GOOD DEED, MALICIOUS NO ONE, TO BE UNCONTENTIOUS, GENTLE, SHOWING EVERY CONSIDERATION FOR ALL MEN.

EXAMPLES OF WISE/GODLY REFUSAL TO AUTHORITY:

1. **DANIEL** – REFUSAL OF FOOD (DAN 1)
2. **APOSTLES** – REFUSAL TO SANHEDRINS

C. **THE JUDGEMENT OF THEIR REVILING** – (VS 12) PETER COMPARED THESE FALSE TEACHERS TO “UNDERSTANDING ANIMALS” WHOSE ONLY DESTINY IS TO BE SLAUGHTERED! AT THE END OF THIS CHAPTER THEY ARE PICTURED AS PIGS AND DOGS! ANIMALS HAVE LIFE, BUT THEY LIVE PURELY BY INSTINCT. THEY LACK FINER SENSIBILITIES THAT HUMANS POSSESS. JESUS WARNS US IN (MAT 7:6) NOT WASTE PRECIOUS THINGS ON UNAPPRECIATED BRUTE BEAST.

**DOG EX.** (BEREAVEMENT VISIT) MAKING A LOT OF NOISE ABOUT SOMETHING HE KNEW NOTHING ABOUT-(IGNORED THREATS) 2 PETER 2:12

**NOTE:** IT IS SAD WHEN THE MEDIA CONCENTRATES ON THE “BIG MOUTHS” OF FALSE TEACHERS INSTEAD OF THE “STILL SMALL VOICE” OF THE LORE AS HE MINISTERS THROUGH THOSE WHO ARE TRUE TO HIM. IT IS SADDER WHEN INNOCENT PEOPLE BECOME FASCINATED BY THESE “GREAT SWELLING WORDS OF VANITY” (2 PETER 2:18) AND CAN NOT DISCERN BETWEEN TRUTH AND FALSE. THE TRUTH OF GODS WORD LEADS TO SALVATION, BUT THE ARROGANT WORDS OF THE APOSTATES LEAD TO:

### **CONDEMNATION**

**CLOSE:** THESE “BRUTE BEASTS” ARE DESTINED FOR DESTRUCTION, A TRUTH PETER MENTIONED OFTEN IN 2 PETER 2:2-4, 9, 12, 7, and 20). AS THEY SEEK TO DESTROY THE FAITH, THEY THEMSELVES SHALL BE DESTROYED. THEY WILL BE “CORRUPTED IN THEIR OWN CORRUPTION”. THEIR VERY NATURE WILL DRAG THEM DOWN INTO DESTRUCTION, LIKE THE PIG RETURNING TO THE MIRE AND THE DOG TO HIS VOMIT (2 PETER 2:22) UNFORTUNATELY BEFORE THE EVENT TAKES PLACE, THESE PEOPLE CAN DO A GREAT DEAL OF MORAL AND SPIRITUAL DAMAGE.

