

July 28, 2019

**Seek God and Truth**  
**2 Peter 2**  
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### Using This Study

#### ❶ EXAMINE His Word

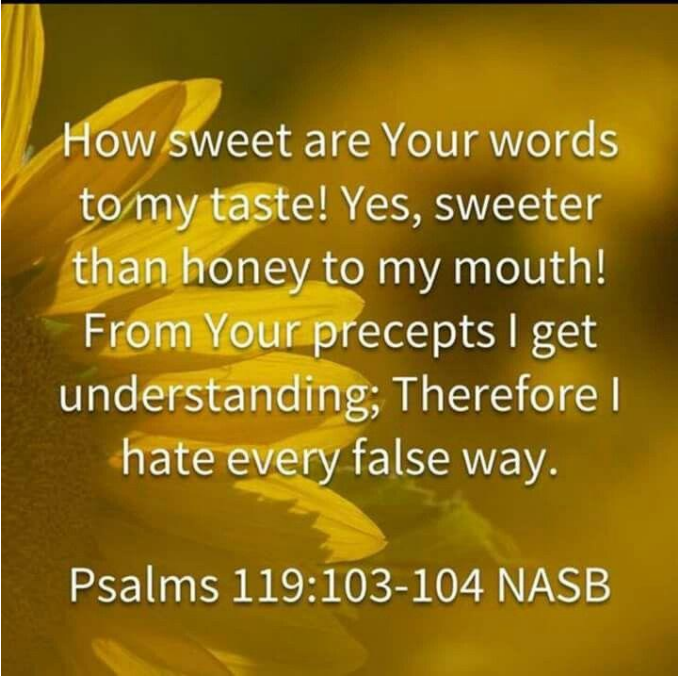
What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

#### ❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

#### ❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



How sweet are Your words  
to my taste! Yes, sweeter  
than honey to my mouth!  
From Your precepts I get  
understanding; Therefore I  
hate every false way.

Psalms 119:103-104 NASB



In chapter two of 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter we read about the false prophets and teachers. Peter warns that there are false prophets that have come and false teachers that will come in the future. These false teachers will even deny Jesus as they introduce their destructive heresies. God has shown in the past that these unrighteous people will be judged and destroyed. Therefore, we must be on guard so that the false teachers do not entice us with the desires of the flesh or corruption. We must make sure that we seek to be obedient to the authority of God. Join us this week as we learn how to guard ourselves against the false teachings and lustful desires of this world.

## 2 Peter 2 (NASB)

### The Rise of False Prophets

**2** But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will also be false teachers among you, who will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves. <sup>2</sup> Many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of the truth will be maligned; <sup>3</sup> and in *their* greed they will exploit you with false words; their judgment from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep.

<sup>4</sup> For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to pits of darkness, reserved for judgment;<sup>5</sup> and did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a preacher of righteousness, with seven others, when He brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly; <sup>6</sup> and *if* He condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to destruction by reducing *them* to ashes, having made them an example to those who would live ungodly *lives* thereafter; <sup>7</sup> and *if* He rescued righteous Lot, oppressed by the sensual conduct of unprincipled men <sup>8</sup> (for by what he saw and heard *that* righteous man, while living among them, felt *his* righteous soul tormented day after day by *their* lawless deeds), <sup>9</sup> *then* the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from temptation, and to

keep the unrighteous under punishment for the day of judgment, <sup>10</sup> and especially those who indulge the flesh in *its* corrupt desires and despise authority.

Daring, self-willed, they do not tremble when they revile angelic majesties, <sup>11</sup> whereas angels who are greater in might and power do not bring a reviling judgment against them before the Lord. <sup>12</sup> 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, <sup>13</sup> 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, <sup>14</sup> having eyes full of adultery that never cease from sin, enticing unstable souls, having a heart trained in greed, accursed children; <sup>15</sup> forsaking the right way, they have gone astray, having followed the way of Balaam, the *son* of Beor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness; <sup>16</sup> but he received a rebuke for his own transgression, *for* a mute donkey, speaking with a voice of a man, restrained the madness of the prophet.

<sup>17</sup> These are springs without water and mists driven by a storm, for whom the black darkness has been reserved. <sup>18</sup> For speaking out arrogant *words* of vanity they entice by fleshly desires, by sensuality, those

who barely escape from the ones who live in error, <sup>19</sup> promising them freedom while they themselves are slaves of corruption; for by what a man is overcome, by this he is enslaved. <sup>20</sup> For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world by the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and are overcome, the last state has become

worse for them than the first. <sup>21</sup> For it would be better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn away from the holy commandment handed on to them. <sup>22</sup> It has happened to them according to the true proverb, "A DOG RETURNS TO ITS OWN VOMIT," and, "A sow, after washing, *returns* to wallowing in the mire."

**🕯 EXAMINE His Word (Observation)** (For personal preparation)

**What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details and terms emphasized in the foregoing passage.**

1. Who is involved in the text? Author, audience, main characters.
2. Where and when is this taking place? Geography and timeline.
3. What actions are carried out or commanded? Look for the verbs.
4. Is there anything repeated?
5. What is emphasized?
6. Is there anything in these passages that is related to other areas of scripture?

7. Are there things to be noted that are alike or unlike such as similes and metaphors?

**2 EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation)** (For Community Group discussion)  
**What does God MEAN?**

8. Who might the false teachers deny?

9. Will God punish the false prophet and false teachers on the day of judgement? What has He done to demonstrate this?

10. What are the characteristics of the false prophet found in verses 10-22?

11. Why is challenging authority a characteristic of a false teachers?

12. What does the false teacher promise?

**③ EMBRACE His Word (Application)** (For Community Group discussion)  
Why does this MATTER to me?

13. How can we identify the false teacher?

14. How does God respond to the false teacher? How should we respond to the false teacher?

15. What does the proverb “a dog returns to his own vomit” mean? How does this apply to the false prophet and false teacher?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

**Write about what God wants you to KNOW, to FEEL, and to DO...**

*Sermon Notes*