A Study of the General Epistles
(NT Survey Lesson 203--2 Peter 2)

Introduction: In the first chapter Peter assures his readers that what they have heard from the apostles is eye-witness testimony and not cleverly devised fables (1:12-21). Thus, the word of God's true prophets is made "more sure". Now in contrast he warns of false teachers who will lead God's people astray, just like those false prophets did in times past.

Lesson aim: To know the dangers of false teachers and how they manifest themselves among God's people.

The danger of false teachers--2 Pet. 2:1-22

1. In contrast to God's prophets, who arose among the people in OT times? Who does Peter warn will arise among God's people?

2. What will these false teachers bring in? Who will they deny? What will result from this?

3. How many did Peter say would follow such false teachers? What will be the result?

4. What motivates these false teachers? (v. 4)

5. What examples does Peter give of wicked ones that God judged in the past? (v. 4-9)? Who did God save from those judgments? (v. 4-9) What does this demonstrate about God (v. 9)?

6. Make a list of the features of false teachers (v. 10-11). To what does Peter compare them? (v. 12) What does Peter say will happen to them?

7. How does Peter describe these false teachers in v. 13-14? What does it mean "they have gone the way of Balaam"? (v. 15) By what was Balaam rebuked for his sins? (v. 16)

8. What figures does Peter use to describe false teachers? (v. 17) What fate is reserved for them?

9. By what appeal do false teachers seek to persuade others to their teaching? (v. 18)

10. Of what does Peter say these false teachers are slaves? (v. 19) Yet, what do they promise their students? (v. 19)

11. What do such false teachers promise to those who listen to them? (v. 19) But what do they make of their converts? (v. 19) Why?

12. What is the condition of the man who has escaped sin only to captured by it again? (v. 20)

13. What does Peter say would be "better"?

14. What proverbs do apostates fulfill?