

**Progressive Attack on Christianity: Prophecies of False Teachers Infiltrating the Church with Destructive Heresies of Illicit Behaviors, 2 Pet 2:1-2**

11. The present attitude toward God, Christ, the Bible, Christianity, churches, pastors, and Christians is one of dismissal as though we were involved in fables, myths, and voodoo. Those who hold these views are described by Peter in:
- 2 Peter 2:1** - [NET] False prophets arose among the people, just as there will be [future active indicative of εἰμί, *eimi*] false teachers [φευδοδιδάσκαλος, *pseudodidaskalos*] among you. These false teachers will infiltrate [future active indicative of παρεισάγω, *pareisagō*] your midst with destructive heresies, even to the point of denying the Lord, the One Who bought them. As a result, they will bring swift destruction on themselves.
12. I want to amplify what Peter is teaching us here. There are two prophecies in this verse that apply to our passage in Roman 1. The first is the future active indicative of the verb *eimi*:
- future: Predictive of an event which is expected to occur in future time: “there will be false teachers among you.”
- active: False teachers produce the action of infiltrating the souls of believers with false doctrines.
- indicative: This is a statement of future historical fact from the time Peter wrote this prophecy and which has been fulfilled throughout the Church Age.
13. The manner by which these false teachers convey their messages of deception is explained next with a second future active indicative, this time of the verb *pareisagō* which means “to infiltrate”:
- future: Predictive of the future infiltration of the church and the souls of believers with false doctrines. Once the church is infiltrated with the lie then these cosmic ideas are spread among the community at large.
- Today this prophecy is being fulfilled by the cultural downtrend in this country manifest primarily by Progressive ideology.
- active: False teachers produce the action of seductively communicating false doctrine to targeted audiences.
- indicative: This is a statement of future historical fact from the time Peter wrote this prophecy and which has been fulfilled throughout the Church Age.
14. These two prophecies give us warning about the continuous presence of false teachers throughout the Church Age and their propensity to infiltrate themselves into the culture of their host countries.
15. Once ensconced in various positions of influence, e.g., the clergy, politics, academics, or media, they will effectively cast doubt on the truthfulness of Jesus Christ as Savior and the validity of doctrines taught by His followers.

16. The end result of “destructive heresies” – *ἀπωλείας, apōleias* – taught by these false teachers is that they will ultimately be “swiftly destroyed” – *ἀπόλειαν, apōleian*. This is a paronomasia and its message is an important piece of information to have.
17. The perversions taught will initially be accepted and practiced by their willing followers who, according to Romans 1:26, will be delivered over to “passions of dishonor.”
18. Teachers of corruption propagandize willing listeners into becoming practitioners of corruption. Both meet tragic ends.
19. Peter uses a paronomasia in this verse to demonstrate the cause and effect that occurs when false teachers successfully recruit willing lemmings.
- 2 Peter 2:2 - And many will follow after [ ἐξακολουθέω, *exakoloutheō* ] their perverted and illicit behaviors [ ἀσέλγεια, *aselgeia* ] because of whom the way of truth [ ὁδὸς τῆς ἀληθείας, *hodos tēs alētheias: wheel-tracks of righteousness* ] is maligned.**
20. The phrase “will follow after” is the future active indicative of the verb *exakoloutheō*.
- future: Predictive; connotes an event which is expected to occur in future time.
- active: Those whose volition is submissive to the desires of their sinful nature will become followers of the false teachers.
- indicative: Such a process is prophesied to be a typical historical occurrence.
21. *Exakoloutheō* is a compound word. The prefix *ex-* means “out” or “away from” while the root word *akoloutheō* is the word for following after truth. It is the word used by our Lord in His many admonitions in the Gospels, “Follow Me.”
22. These Peter describe follow to the beat of a different drummer – the false teachers – and having done so take on their behavior patterns, indicated by the feminine plural dative of disadvantage of the noun *aselgeia*: “perverted and illicit behaviors.”
23. Emphasis on the use of this word in Scripture is important to the context of our passage. For this we consult:
- Goldstein, Horst. *Exegetical Dictionary of the New Testament*. Horst Balz and Gerhard Schneider (eds.). (Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1978-80), 1:169:**
- ἀσέλγεια, aselgeia.* In the New Testament *ἀσέλγεια* normally has a sensual meaning and refers especially to *sexual debauchery*. In addition the word describes behavior in which sexual debauchery is only *one* element among many. *Ἀσέλγεια* is thus a comprehensive expression for evil and perversion. It is one of the vices that destroy [*sic*] an individual from within (Mark 7:22). The perversity of Sodom and Gomorrah (2 Peter 2:7) consisted of it.
- Characteristic of the New Testament usage of the word is its use in vice catalogs (Romans 13:13; Galatians 5:19; 1 Peter 4:3) which have their models both in Judaism and in the ethic of pagan antiquity. These forms agree not only in the introductory warning against an evil lifestyle, but also in the listing of vices. They are like a cascade of charges, which become a single accusation against paganism.
24. The volitional decisions of these antidisciples are prophesied to become submissive to a false authority and in doing so are not following the mandate of the Lord to “Follow Me.”

25. Because of this defection into perversion the antidisciples will become disciples for the lie and perform the behaviors that it solicits.
26. Therefore, they will malign the “way of truth”: wheel-tracks of righteousness which include restraint, abstinence, and respect for the sexual privacy of others.
27. The doctrine of right man-right woman presents the principle that each person has been provided with a lifetime partner. Once introduced to each other they begin a three-sage period of romance – attractiveness, compatibility, and rapport – resulting in marriage.

NOTE: This concludes the last Bible class taught at Chesterfield Day School.