

2 Peter 2

1. Is it bad to be a slave of Christ?

-No.

-To be a slave of Satan is bad, but to be a slave of Christ is good.

2. What does it mean to be a slave of Christ?

-Christ protects us from Satan.

-Christ cares for us.

-Christ saves us from our own bad decisions.

-Christ leads us through this world of sin.

-Christ brings us to eternal life in heaven.

-Either we are slaves of God or slaves of Satan.

3. What is the most precious gift from God that we will ever have?

-Our faith in Christ.

4. Instead of praying for more, what should we pray for?

-That we would understand that God has already given us everything we need.

-That we would allow God to use in our lives everything that He has already given us.

5. Why do all Christians need to be reminded of the truths of God?

-Because we forget some of what we have learned.

6. How should all Christians look at the end of their lives on earth?

-Rather than thinking about dying, we should know that we will be departing earth, and arriving in heaven to be with our God forever.

7. Is there anything else on earth that is more sure than God's Word?

-No.

-Nothing else on earth is more sure than God's Word.

Let's read 2 Peter 2:1-3

1-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.

2-Many will follow their depraved conduct and will bring the way of truth into disrepute.

3-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.

-Just as there were false prophets and false teachers during the days of Peter, there are false prophets and false teachers today.

-What is the difference between a false prophet and a false teacher?

-A false prophet says that he is proclaiming God's truths,

but is rather proclaiming Satan's lies.

-A false teacher takes the Word of God and twists it so that it means something differently.

-A false teacher may add something or take away something that is not in the Word of God.

-At the end of the Bible, in Revelation 22, God says this:

18-"I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this scroll: If anyone adds anything to them, God will add to that person the plagues described in this scroll.

19-And if anyone takes words away from this scroll of prophecy, God will take away from that person any share in the tree of life and in the Holy City, which are described in this scroll."

-In 2 Peter 2:1, there are people may say that God has bought them, but they are not saved because they have denied Him.

-No one who denies God can be saved.

-These false prophets and false teachers will only bring destruction on themselves.

-In 2 Peter 2:2, the Word of God says that many people will follow these false prophets and false teachers.

-This is happening today.

-We can know who these false prophets and false teachers are because of their greed.

-All of these false prophets and false teachers will be condemned and destroyed.

Let's read 2 Peter 2:4-6

4-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;

5-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;

6-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;

-There are three groups who are being judged for their sins—the angels, the people in the time of Noah, and the people of Sodom and Gomorrah.

-Who are these angels whom God sent to hell?

-They are either some of the demons who followed Satan at the beginning, or the demons in Genesis 6:1-2 who were called "sons of God" and married the daughters of humans to deceive them.

-God has chained these demons in darkness until the end when they will be judged.

-Even though the angels were important and lived with God, God still punished those angels who disobeyed.

-Even though the people during Noah's day were many, God still punished all of the world, and only eight people were saved.

-Even though the people of Sodom and Gomorrah may have been rich, God still punished all of the people in both of the cities, and only three people were saved.

-Because our God is extremely holy, He must punish every sin with death.

-If God does not punish every sin with death, He would lose His holiness.

-This is why God must protect His holiness by punishing every sin with death.

Let's read 2 Peter 2:7-9

7-and if he rescued Lot, a righteous man, who was distressed by the depraved conduct of the lawless

8-(for that righteous man, living among them day after day, was tormented in his righteous soul by the lawless deeds he saw and heard)—

9-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.

-In these verses, we learn that Lot was righteous even though he lived in Sodom and Gomorrah.

-God rescuing Lot from Sodom and Gomorrah is a picture of God saving Christians from this world.

-This world is like Sodom and Gomorrah, but God knows how to rescue us who repent and cry out to Him.

-All who reject God, however, will be destroyed like the people of Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed.

Let's read 2 Peter 2:10-11

10-This is especially true of those who follow the corrupt desire of the flesh and despise authority. Bold and arrogant, they are not afraid to heap abuse on celestial beings;

11-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.

-The desires of the flesh and disobedience to God will lead us to eternal death.

-Even angels have reverence for God, yet there are people who have no reverence for God or others.

Let's read 2 Peter 2:12-14

12-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.

13-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.

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

-The Word of God teaches us that some non-Christians are like animals, and are only good to be destroyed.

Let's read 2 Peter 2:15-16

15-They have left the straight way and wandered off to follow the way of Balaam son of Bezer, who loved the wages of wickedness.

16-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.

-These people love wickedness and are like Balaam who was rebuked by a donkey.

Let's read 2 Peter 2:17-19

17-These people are springs without water and mists driven by a storm. Blackest darkness is reserved for them.

18-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.

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

-These people say that they are free, but instead, they are slaves to their own sin and Satan.

Let's read 2 Peter 2:20-22

20-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.

21-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.

22-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.”

-For these false teachers and false prophets, they are like Judas, and it would have been better if they had not been born.