

Bethel Bible Series

False Teaching

NT Study 18

Not Faith and Works. Not Faith or Works. But Faith that Works. - PK

Welcome

Opening - Identify some obstacles and side paths that interfere with our walk on the narrow road.
Prayer Requests and Opening Prayer

Review of Last Week - 1 Peter

Peter

Brought to Jesus by brother Andrew; Named Peter, Cephas (rock)
From Bethsaida; Married; Partner in fishing business with James and John
Walked on water; With Jesus at Transfiguration; Prepared for Last Supper
Feet washed by Jesus; Used sword at Jesus' arrest; Denied Jesus 3 times
Ran to see the empty tomb; Reinstated by Jesus after resurrection
Led believers; Proposed replacing Judas; Gave Pentecost speech
Healed crippled beggar; Witnessed to onlookers; Arrested by Sanhedrin
Condemned Ananias and Sapphira for lying to the church; Witnessed to Samaria
Baptized first Gentile; Freed from prison by angel on eve of execution
Argued against circumcising Gentiles; Opposed by Paul for avoiding Gentiles

Background of Peter's First Letter

To Christians in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia
From *Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ*; a fisherman helped by Silas
Written in Babylon (code name for Rome); Mark was present

Nero's Persecution (64-67 AD)

64 AD - Nero set fire to Rome to be able to rebuild a new and grander Rome
Nero blamed Christians; had them arrested, tortured and killed
Crucified, thrown to lions or dogs, burned at the stake
Tradition says that Peter and Paul were arrested and brought to Rome as criminals
Silas took letter and word of Paul's death; Peter later crucified upside-down

1 Peter

Discarded Dark Garment

Be aliens in the world ... you have spent enough time doing as the pagans

Figure Wears Light Garment

He has given us new birth into a living hope ... of imperishable seed

Narrow Road With Obstacles

Obedience to Christ implies denial of self

Dark Forest

The devil prowls looking for someone to devour. Resist him.

Burning Log

If you suffer as a Christian, praise God; Your faith is proved genuine

Paths Leading off Road and Broken Tablets

Be self-controlled ... do not conform to evil desires

Shaft of Light

God gives gifts and strength; God will make you strong, firm and steadfast

Road Leads to Light

An inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade

Always be prepared to give an answer...for the hope you have

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Lesson - *False Teaching*

Backgrounds of Remaining New Testament Letters

Philippians

- . Philippians 1:1
- . Philippians 1:12-14
- . Philippians 4:14-18
- . Philippians 2:25-30
- . Philippians 3:2, 18-19

Colossians

- . Colossians 1:1-2
- . Colossians 4:3, 10, 18
- . Colossians 1:7-8
- . Colossians 4:7-9

Philemon

- . Philemon 1-2
- . Philemon 9-10
- . Philemon 10-16
- . Philemon 12, 17

James

- . James - Brother of Jesus; Overseer of Judean church
- . Written around 60 AD; Filled with words of guidance
- . James 1:1

2 Peter

- . 2 Peter 1:1, 3:1
- . 2 Peter 1:13-15
- . 2 Peter 2:1-3 (1-22)

1 John

- . John moved to Ephesus after destruction of Rome; Probably a tract ~ 90 AD
- . 1 John 2:26, 3:7

2 John

- . Short enough to fit a single sheet of Papyrus
- . 2 John 1-2

3 John

- . 3 John 1, 5

Jude

- . Jude 1
- . Jude 3-4

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Reversion - Lesson 10

Figures Walking Away From Light
Figures Stopped and Pointed Back to Light
Three Scrolls

Scroll Over Dead Tree

Scroll Over Man in Pit
Man in Pit
Green Robe
Scroll
Stone Block
Lamb

Scroll Over Second Man in Pit
Scrolls in Arm
Grain Sheaf in Arm

Gnosticism

Dualism - Spirit and Body are two separate entities

The material universe is inherently evil, including our earthly bodies
Created by an inferior being (the Old Testament Creator), not God
The spiritual (immaterial) universe is good
A spark of God exists in all living human bodies (spirit)

Dualism started when a lesser god (Sophia) lusted for the Ultimate Depth

Sophia (Greek for Wisdom) represented Greeks' quest for human wisdom
The Ultimate god exiled Wisdom to a lower heaven to prevent distortion in the godhead
Wisdom created the world, considering herself and her subordinate gods (fates) to be ultimate
The Ultimate god deviously led Wisdom to create humans containing the breath of life (spirit)
This enabled the Ultimate god to send a savior (Jesus) with the true knowledge
Those who die with this true knowledge free their spirit to climb through the fates to heaven

Since God is Spirit, he can have no contact with material mankind

Hierarchy of angel intermediaries provides God/man interface
Christ was a Phantom, a Man in Appearance Only
God cannot co-exist with evil Flesh

Since flesh is evil, man's spirit is suffocated from true spiritual values

The spirit must be "awakened" by a special knowledge (*gnosis*)
Those awakened will escape to the spirit realm at death

Asceticism - Subdue the flesh by self-denial, punishment and law-keeping

Doing so will prompt the spirit-rulers to guide *gnosis* into the spirit

Sensuality - Actions of the body cannot affect the spirit within it

Salvation is only a matter of the spirit, the body is irrelevant
It is therefore okay to do whatever you want

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*Six Manuscripts
Lamp and Smoke
Figure's Face*

Greek Column

Colossians 1:28; 2:2-3
Colossians 2:4, 8
Colossians 2:9-10
Colossians 2:16-17
Colossians 2:18-23
Colossians 3:5
Colossians 1:9

Battered Trumpet

Jude 3
Jude 4
Jude 5-8, 11
Jude 14-15
Jude 20-23

2 Peter 2:1-3
2 Peter 2:4-9
2 Peter 2:10-12
2 Peter 2:13, 21
2 Peter 3:17-18

Damaged Crib and Crown

1 John 2:21-23
2 John 9-11

1 John 4:1-3
2 John 7

1 John 5:13
2 John 8

Dead Wreath

James 2:14-19
James 2:20-26
James 3:13-17

Closing Prayer

Distribute Materials

Next Week - *Sanctification*