

2 Peter 2:4-16

Peter provides three examples of God's previous judgment of false reality and the immorality that follows. But, these examples also demonstrate God's ultimate deliverance of the faithful. These are used to emphasize the fact that God's judgment is NOT sleeping.

Peter seems more focused on the promise of deliverance than the surety of the judgment of the false teachers. He is writing this letter to encourage the faithful, not threaten the false teachers.

Jude 5-7 is similar

1. The angels had pride in their own will and rebelled against God's word...just like the false teachers present their own ideas and reject God's word.
2. The men of Noah's day disregarded Noah's teaching and warnings of the Lord's coming...just like the false teachers disregard Apostolic revelation and warnings of Jesus' return.
3. The men of Sodom where sensual since they had rejected Truth...just like the false teachers who had separated themselves from Truth were sensual.

2:4-10 is one sentence. 2:4-8 are the conditional statement; 2:9-10 is the conclusion of the statement. The point of the conditional statement and conclusion is that if God dealt with falsehood in the past he will again in the future.

In the past God judged:

1. Glorious angels! (no article; not "the angels", but just "angels")... prominent positions and recognition did not save the angels, nor will it save the false teachers.
2. The entire world system, sparing only eight people!... vast numbers of people and a virtual 100% agreement in the public opinion poll did not save the world, nor will it save the false teachers.
3. The entire population of Sodom and Gomorrah, sparing only Lot and his daughters.

2:4

1487-1063 ει γαρ For if 3588 ο 2316 θεός God 32 αγγέλων of angels
264 αμαρτησάντων sinning 3756-5339 ουκ εφείσατο spared not 235 αλλά but
4577 σειραίς in chains 2217 ζόφου of the infernal 5020 ταρταρώσας region
3860 παρέδωκεν delivered them up 1519 εις for 2920 κρίσιν judgment
5083 τετηρημένους being kept for.

"For" or gar means Peter is providing evidence for his belief that:

1. Condemnation is hanging over false teachers
2. God's judgment is NOT sleeping.

Peter refers to 1 Enoch's account of the events in Genesis 6. Jude quotes from 1 Enoch.

Hamartesan ton means "when they sinned". Much of the detail is missing concerning this event. If it is Satan's rebellion it would refer to the original sin of Satan and the angels that followed him. If it is Genesis 6 then all three of Peter's (and, Jude's) examples come from the first chapters of Genesis (Genesis 6 and 19)

Ouk epheisato means "spared not". God did not withhold his judgment.

Point to modern Christendom: God's love, mercy, patience did NOT stop him from judging sin.

God's love does not neutralize God's justice.

The characteristics of God are NOT in conflict with each other.

Seirois (sirois) means “underground pits” where we get the English word “silo”
...other manuscripts have ...

Seirais, a rare word that means “chains” which matches Jude and Enoch 10:4.

Tartaros is translated as “sent them to hell” and means “to consign to Tartarus.”

- Tartarus was a place in Greek mythology where the rebellious gods were punished.
- In Greek thought Tartarus was “a subterranean place lower than Hades where divine punishment was meted out.” (Arndt and Gingrich’s Lexicon)
- Josephus speaks of the pagan gods that are chained in Tartarus.

Paredoken means “committed” or “committed”. In Acts 8:3 and Acts 12:4 **paredoken** refers to handing over someone for imprisonment.

- Acts 8:3, “But Saul was ravaging the church, and entering house after house, he dragged off men and women and **committed** them to prison.”
- Acts 12:4, “When he had seized him, he put him in prison, **delivering** him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending after the Passover to bring him out to the people.”

There in Tartarus these angels wait for judgment.

2:5

2532 και and 744 αρχαίου the ancient 2889 κόσμου world
3756-5339 ουκ εφείσατο he spared not 235 αλλά but 3590 όγδοον the eighth * Νώε
Noah 1343 δικαιοσύνης of righteousness 2782 κήρυκα proclaimer
5442 εφύλαξε kept 2627 κατακλυσμόν (cataclysm) the flood 2889 κόσμω
world 765 ασεβών to the impious 1863 επάξας having brought

Ouk epheisato (ουκ εφείσατο) “he spared not” is used a second time indicating that God’s love and grace did not prevent God’s judgment of error and sin.

The Lord overthrew the entire “world system”, **cosmos**, of the ancient world. Why would the Lord NOT do that again? The entire population of the earth was damned and only eight were spared!

Peter refers to the Flood of Noah here, chapter 3 and in 1 Peter 3:20.

- The false were judged.
- Noah was delivered
- Deliverance available for all
- Few were saved; the vast multitude was deceived and destroyed.
- The deciding factor for judgment was the choice of Truth or deception, which is now for Peter’s readers to choose between Apostolic Truth or the popular, contemporary heresy.

Note the contrast:

The World System in rebellion to reality and Truth was destroyed
-BUT-
Noah a proclaimer of righteousness was “kept”.

κατακλυσμόν *katalusmon* (where we get our word “cataclysm”) “the flood”

2:6
2532 και and 4172 πόλεις *the cities* * Σοδόμων of Sodom 2532 και and
 * Γομόρρας Gomorrah 5077 τεφρώσας having reduced to ashes
2692 καταστροφή by a final event 2632 κατέκρινεν he condemned
5262 υπόδειγμα an example 3195 μελλόντων for *the ones* being about
764 ασεβείν to be impious 5087 τεθεικώς having set

tephrosas means “burning to ashes”, “turning to ashes” or “covering with ashes” is used by Dio Cassius (Roman historian who wrote in Greek around 200 AD) when he describes Pompeii and Herculaneum being destroyed by Mount Vesuvius in 79 AD.

Point false teaching always results in suffering and judgment.

Katekrinen κατεκρινεν means “condemned” is used in Greek to refer to judgment being passed on criminals with a sentence being handed down.

The destruction was so complete that the undisputed location of Sodom and Gomorrah has not been located.

Hupodeigma υποδειγμα means “example” (not the same word as 1 Peter 2:21) refers to an model that should be, depending on the context, copied with full effort or avoided at all cost

2:7 – Lot’s Character:

2532 και and 1342 δίκαιον righteous Λωτ Lot
2669 καταπονούμενον being harassed 5259 υπό by 3588 της the
3588 των 113 αθέσμων unlawful ones 1722 εν in
766 ασελγεία lewdness 391 αναστροφής of behavior 4506 ερρύσατο he rescued

The use of “and” makes Sodom destruction and Lot’s deliverance parallel examples.

Abraham prayed for the righteous people who could be found in Sodom in Genesis.
 Lot is called “righteous” three times by Peter.

Kataponoumenon καταπονουμενον means “tormented”, “being harassed,” or “distressed” is a Greek word that refers to Lot being worn down and exhausted as if by toil as he continued to live among the wicked. This is passive in the Greek meaning their lives weighed on

καταπονούμενον **being harassed** υπό **by** της **the** των αθέσμων **unlawful ones**
 εν **in** ασελγεία **lewdness**

2:8 - Lot’s Experience:

990-1063 βλέμματι γαρ for by sight 2532 και and 189 ακοή hearing
3588 ο the 1342 δίκαιος righteous *man* 1460 εγκατοικίων dwelling
1722 εν among 1473 αυτοίς them 2250 ημέραν day

2:10

3122-1161 μάλιστα δε and especially

4561 σαρκός *the flesh*

3394 μiasμού for defilement

2532 και and

2706 καταφρονούντας ones disdainning

1391 δόξας glories

tremble

987 βλασφημούντες *in* blaspheming

3588 τους the ones

1722 εν in

4198 πορευομένους going

2963 κυριότητος lordship

5113 τολμηταί daring

3756 ου they do not

3694 οπίσω after

1939 επιθυμία a desire

829 αυθάδεις self-willed

5141 τρέμουσι

2:10 is a transition verse from 2:4-9 which identified two sins of the false teachers:

a) **Sexual sins**

b) **Rebellious** towards authority (towards the revealed Word of God)

Now in the verses 2:10-16 these two sins of the false teachers are explained in detail:

a) 2:10-13 – **rebellion**

b) 2:13-16 – **sensuality** or sexual sin

In 2:1-3 there were three sins identified by Peter when the subject of false teachers was introduced:

a) 2:1 – **rebellion** against the Word of God, when they “introduce heresies” and “deny the Lord who bought them”

b) 2:2 – **sensuality** that seduces others, when “many follow their shameful ways.”

c) 2:3 – **greed** for money, power and gain, when the false teachers “exploit you.”

2:11

3699 όπου Where

2532 και and

1510.6 όντες being

2596κατ’against

2962 κυρίω the Lord

32 άγγελοι angels

1411 δυνάμει power

3756 ου do not

1473 αυτών them

989 βλάσφημοι blasphemous

2479 ισχύϊ in strength

3173 μείζονες greater

5342 φέρουσι bring

3844 παρά before

2920 κρίσιν case.

2:12

3778-1161 ούτοι δε But these

2226 ζώα living creatures

1519 εις for

5356 φθοράν corruption

50 αγνοούσι they know not

3588-5356-1473 τη φθορά αυτών their corruption

2704 καταφθαρήσονται shall be laid waste;

5613 ως as

5446 φυσικά physical

259 άλωσιν conquest

1722 εν in

987 βλασφημούντες blaspheming

249 άλογα illogical

1080 γεγεννημένα engendered

2532 και and

3739 οις what

1722 εν in

2:13

2865 κομιούμενοι carrying 3408μισθόνα wage 93αδικίας of unrighteousness;
2237 ηδονήν satisfaction 2233 ηγούμενοι esteeming 3588 την the
1722-2250 εν ημέρα daily 5172 τρυφήν delicacy
4695 σπίλοι Stains 2532 και and 3470 μώμοι blemishes
1792 εντρυφώντες reveling 1722 εν in 3588 ταις
539-1473 απάταις αυτών their deceptions 4910 συνευωχούμενοι feasting together
1473 υμίν with you

2:14

3788 οφθαλμούς eyes 2192 έχοντες having 3324 μεστούς full
3428 μοιχαλίδος of an adulterous one 2532 και and
180 ακαταπαύστους ceaseless 266 αμαρτίας of sin 1185 δελεάζοντες entrapping
5590 ψυχάς souls 793 αστηρίκτους unstable 2588 καρδίαν heart
1128 γεγυμνασμένην being exercised 4124 πλεονεξίας for a desire for wealth
2192 έχοντες having 2671 κατάρας of curse 5043 τέκνα children

2:15

2641 καταλιπόντες Leaving behind 3588 την the 2117 ευθείαν straight
3598 οδόν way 4105 επλανήθησαν they wandered,
1811 εξακολουθήσαντες following after 3588 τη the 3598 οδώ way
3588 του * Βαλαάμ of Balaam 3588 του the son of
* Βοσόρ Bosor 3739 ος who 3408μισθόν the wage
93 αδικίας of unrighteousness 25 ηγάπησεν loved

2:16

1649 έλεγξιν rebuke 1161 δε but 2192 έσχεν had

2398 ιδίας of his own 3892 παρανομίας unlawfulness --
5268 υποζύγιον beast 880 άφωνον a voiceless
1722 εν in 444 ανθρώπου a man's 5456 φωνή voice
5350 φθεγγόμενον uttering a sound 2967 εκώλυσε restrained 3588 την the
3588 του of the 4396 προφήτου prophet 3913 παραφρονίαν ranting