**SERMON OUTLINE**

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| **SERMON TITLE:** | Sick Dogs and Dirty Hogs |
| **SERMON REFERENCE:** | 2 Peter 2:17-22 |
| **LWF SERMON NUMBER:** | #1623 |
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1. INTRODUCTION
   1. There is joy in authentic Christianity.
   2. Sound doctrine and authentic Christianity are what 2 Peter is about.
   3. There was a problem in Peter’s day, as there is in our day.
      1. 2 Peter 2:1, 3
         1. The word “false” in verse one is the Greek word that we get our English word “pseudo” from.
         2. “Feigned” in verse three is the word we get our word “plastic” from.
         3. There were “pseudo” prophets and “plastic” preachers who were making merchandise of the Gospel.
            1. They were hucksters of the Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
   4. Plastic preachers produce counterfeit Christians.
      1. Counterfeit money may do some good.
         1. It may be used to buy groceries or school supplies.
         2. When it comes before the authorities, it is recognized for what it is.
            1. It is money that has no authority behind it; therefore, it is sentenced to be destroyed.
      2. Counterfeit Christianity, on the surface, may seem to do some good, but it does not have the authority of Jesus Christ behind it.
         1. It is destined for divine destruction.
   5. 2 Peter 2:17-22
      1. In this passage, Peter described “plastic” preachers and “pseudo” prophets.
      2. Peter knew the destructive power of a lie.
         1. It is bad to tell a lie, it is worse to teach a lie, but it is monstrous to teach a lie about God.
            1. That is what had Peter so upset; these lies were not mere mistakes.
      3. These were not people who may have been wrong in some doctrine, as we all are sometimes.
         1. Peter was talking about those who were apostates.
         2. They were willfully wicked.
   6. The world is full of apostates, and unstable souls are beguiled by them.
   7. In today’s message, we will look at four dangers that Peter points out as he describes apostates, or false teachers.
2. the endangerment of false teachers (2 peter 2:17-18)
   1. 2 Peter 2:17
   2. They are waterless or dry wells.
      1. A dry well speaks of disappointment.
         1. We have a God-given, innate thirst.
         2. We go to a well for a drink of water.
      2. The word “well” in the Greek language is literally a “stream.”
         1. We expect it to have water.
            1. But it is dried up, and there is no water.
            2. We are disappointed.
      3. Apostates offer much, but they give little to a thirsty soul.
      4. John 4:14
         1. We will never be disappointed in the Lord Jesus Christ.
   3. They are like dusty clouds.
      1. 2 Peter 2:17
         1. The word “cloud” in this verse is the word “mist.”
         2. They are like particles of dust that make a mist.
            1. They are driven with a storm; the tempest was pushing them on.
         3. Peter was contrasting this to the water of life and the glory cloud (the Shekinah glory).
            1. There is no glory with these dusty clouds.

They are just particles in the air carried along with the wind.

* + 1. There is a deception with these dusty clouds.
       1. They are nothing but pompous windbags.
       2. They teach splendid nonsense.
       3. 2 Peter 2:18
  1. They are headed for deep darkness.
     1. 2 Peter 2:17
        1. This means that they are going to Hell.
        2. The darkness is Hell.
     2. Matthew 8:12
     3. Not only disappointment and deceptions, but this speaks of damnation.

1. the enticement of false teachers (2 Peter 2:14, 18)
   1. 2 Peter 2:18
      1. The apostates, or false prophets, get their following by alluring and enticing others.
      2. The word “allure” in this verse is a Greek word that means “to catch things with bait.”
         1. We hear the word “lure” in the word “allure.”
            1. A fisherman has a tackle box full of lures to beguile or to trick.
   2. 2 Peter 2:14
      1. The word “beguile” here is exactly the same word in the Greek language, just translated a different way in verse 18 as “allure.”
      2. Peter is talking about the way they win their converts.
   3. Apostates win their converts like a fisherman who goes fishing.
      1. The bait:
         1. 2 Peter 2:18
         2. Always in apostate Christianity, the bait is sensual lust.
            1. That is what the devil baits his hook with.
         3. A false teacher knows the power of the flesh and the appetite of the old nature.
         4. Galatians 5:19-21
            1. These are the lusts of the flesh that catch unstable souls.
      2. The tackle:
         1. They deliver the bait with “great swelling words.”
            1. 2 Peter 2:18
            2. They always try to hide the hook.
         2. They are masters of manipulation.
         3. They know how to talk and how to hide what they are doing.
            1. 2 Peter 2:3
            2. They are good speakers.
         4. When Paul preached, he preached to express, not to impress.
            1. Paul preached for communication, not manipulation.
            2. 1 Corinthians 2:4

There were no “great swelling words” with the apostle Paul.

* + - * 1. When he preached, the Holy Spirit of God took the Word of God and brought it home to human hearts.
    1. The fish:
       1. 2 Peter 2:18
          1. Some translations say, “Those who are just escaping,” or “Those who have barely begun to escape from their heathen environment.”
       2. The poor fish who are the most susceptible to the devil’s fishermen are unstable souls.
          1. They are perhaps brand-new Christians.
          2. The apostate never bothers with the out-and-out sinner.

The apostate’s message has no real power.

* + - * 1. Apostates will generally go to evangelistic crusades to see who goes forward.

After the service, they will approach them.

* + - * 1. 2 Peter 2:14
        2. These fish are just beginning to get out of the old way and into the new way.

The devil sees these unstable souls, and he knows that they are not stabilized in the faith.

Therefore, it is very important that when we bring someone to Jesus Christ that we continue to stabilize the saints.

We need to help them grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

* 1. How important it is that we grow in Christ and not just get saved.
     1. If not, we are liable to get a hook in our jaw.

1. the enslavement of false teachers (2 peter 2:19)
   1. 2 Peter 2:19
   2. There is an endangerment that begins with an enticement that leads to an enslavement.
   3. All apostates, plastic preachers, and pseudo prophets come with a message of freedom.
   4. But the devil is not trying to set anyone free; he is trying to enslave them.
      1. The devil doesn’t want casualties; he wants converts.
         1. He really wants slaves.
      2. 2 Peter 2:3, 14
         1. They are slaves to money.
      3. 2 Peter 2:10, 14
         1. They are slaves to the lust of the flesh.
            1. Almost always there is some sort of sexual immorality.
      4. 2 Peter 2:10-12
         1. They are slaves to pride.
   5. Sin always promises freedom, but it brings bondage.
      1. The deceitfulness of sin is such that those who are in the deepest bondage think that they are free and that we are bound.
         1. They are the ones that are bound, but Jesus has given true freedom.
            1. John 8:36
   6. There is a difference between the freedom that Jesus gives and the freedom the devil promises:
      1. The devil gives freedom to do what we want.
         1. People think this is freedom, but it is the worst kind of bondage.
      2. The freedom that Jesus gives is not the freedom to do as we want but the freedom to do as we ought.
      3. Those who do as they want are not free at all.
         1. They are actually servants of corruption and slaves of bondage.
   7. We are free to choose, but we are not free to choose the consequences of our choice.
      1. We are free to jump out of a window, but we are not free to negate the law of gravity.
      2. While we are free to choose, we are not free not to choose.
         1. We must make a choice.
         2. If we refuse the Lord Jesus Christ, then in a very real sense, we have already chosen the devil.
   8. John 8:36
2. the entanglement of false teachers (2 peter 2:20-22)
   1. 2 Peter 2:20-21
      1. The word “entanglement” in this passage is the combination of two words which literally mean “to weave into,” like a person would weave something into a piece of cloth.
      2. These people were weaving themselves deeper and deeper into bondage.
         1. They were entangled.
         2. They were worse off than if they had never heard the Gospel.
   2. What is an apostate?
      1. Someone who has known the Gospel.
      2. In a sense, he has tried the Gospel, although he has never been saved.
      3. He refuses the Gospel.
      4. He opposes the Gospel.
      5. He tries to replace the Gospel.
   3. An apostate has known the way of righteousness.
      1. 2 Peter 2:21
         1. Notice the word “turn” in this passage of Scripture.
            1. This is not just simply someone who has drifted away.
            2. This is a person who deliberately made an anti-Gospel decision.
            3. This person willfully turned.
      2. They are not merely mistaken; they are willfully wicked.
   4. When we live by the truth of God, God gives us freedom.
      1. The longer we study and the more we learn, the more freedom we enter into.
   5. But when we choose against the truth as we know the truth, we go deeper and deeper into bondage.
      1. We are worse off than the man who has never heard the truth.
      2. It would be better for us never to have known the way of truth.
   6. Many of these are people who have tried Christianity, but they have never been born again.
   7. Matthew 12:43-45
      1. In this passage, “unclean spirit” means “demon spirit,” and “house” is referring to the “man.”
      2. Reformation without transformation leads to greater degradation and final condemnation.
   8. The reason that many people are apostates is that they have never met Jesus.
      1. They never have reality, but they reform.
         1. They get religion, join the church, get baptized, and turn over a new leaf; but they have never met Jesus and been born again.
         2. They never have a change of nature and a new birth.
            1. They have religion, but they don’t have reality.
            2. They have culture, but they don’t have Calvary.
            3. They have a creed, a code, a cause, and a church but not Christ.
         3. They try all of these, and they don’t work.
            1. They turn from the way of righteousness and go the other way.
      2. They are the hardest of all to reach.
         1. It would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness.
   9. They did not lose their salvation because they never had it.
      1. 2 Peter 2:21-22
         1. God calls His people sheep, but He has never called one of His children a hog or a dog.
            1. The Jewish people didn’t think about dogs as we think about dogs.

We think about dogs as nice household pets.

When someone was called a “dog” in that day, that was about as low as a person could get.

They called Gentiles and Sodomites dogs.

* + - 1. Here was a sick dog that went back to his own vomit and ate it.
      2. Here was a pig that someone was going to change.
         1. The pig was washed and perfumed, but the pig went back to the mire again.
      3. The dog felt better, and the pig looked better.
         1. But the dog was still a dog, and the pig was still a pig.

Never saved; never born again.

* 1. Peter talked about those who are saved as becoming partakers of the divine nature.
     1. 2 Peter 1:4
     2. When someone is saved, he doesn’t have the nature of a hog or a dog.
        1. He has the nature of a sheep.
     3. Before someone is saved, he runs “to” sin; after someone is saved, he runs “from” sin.
        1. If you still want to sin, then you need to be born again.
     4. There is still that residual part of the old Adam in all of us.
        1. A child of God can slip.
        2. The difference between an unsaved person and a child of God is this:
           1. The child of God lapses into sin, and he loathes it.
           2. The child of the devil leaps into sin, and he loves it.

2 Peter 2:2

1. CONCLUSION
   1. 2 Peter 1:10
      1. Make your calling and election sure.
   2. It is not enough to be a member of a church.
   3. It is not enough to be able to recite the plan of salvation.
   4. You need to be saved.
   5. You need to make certain that you have authentic Christianity and that you know Christ as your personal Savior and Lord.
   6. Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
   7. Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
      1. Romans 3:23
      2. Romans 10:9-10
      3. Romans 10:13
      4. Acts 16:31
      5. John 3:16