

## SERMON OUTLINE

**SERMON TITLE:** Sick Dogs and Dirty Hogs

**SERMON REFERENCE:** 2 Peter 2:17-22

**LWF SERMON NUMBER:** #1623

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) There is joy in authentic Christianity.
- b) Sound doctrine and authentic Christianity are what 2 Peter is about.
- c) There was a problem in Peter's day, as there is in our day.
  - i) 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.
      - (a) They were hucksters of the Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
  - d) Plastic preachers produce counterfeit Christians.
    - i) 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.
        - (a) It is money that has no authority behind it; therefore, it is sentenced to be destroyed.
    - ii) 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.
  - e) 2 Peter 2:17-22
    - i) In this passage, Peter described "plastic" preachers and "pseudo" prophets.
    - ii) 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.
        - (a) That is what had Peter so upset; these lies were not mere mistakes.
    - iii) 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.
  - f) The world is full of apostates, and unstable souls are beguiled by them.
  - g) 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)

- a) 2 Peter 2:17
- b) They are waterless or dry wells.
  - i) 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.
  - ii) The word "well" in the Greek language is literally a "stream."
    - (1) We expect it to have water.

- (a) But it is dried up, and there is no water.
      - (b) We are disappointed.
    - iii) Apostates offer much, but they give little to a thirsty soul.
    - iv) John 4:14
      - (1) We will never be disappointed in the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - c) They are like dusty clouds.
    - i) 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.
        - (a) 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).
        - (a) There is no glory with these dusty clouds.
          - (i) They are just particles in the air carried along with the wind.
    - ii) 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
  - d) They are headed for deep darkness.
    - i) 2 Peter 2:17
      - (1) This means that they are going to Hell.
      - (2) The darkness is Hell.
    - ii) Matthew 8:12
    - iii) Not only disappointment and deceptions, but this speaks of damnation.
- 3) THE ENTICEMENT OF FALSE TEACHERS (2 PETER 2:14, 18)
  - a) 2 Peter 2:18
    - i) The apostates, or false prophets, get their following by alluring and enticing others.
    - ii) 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.”
        - (a) A fisherman has a tackle box full of lures to beguile or to trick.
  - b) 2 Peter 2:14
    - i) The word “beguile” here is exactly the same word in the Greek language, just translated a different way in verse 18 as “allure.”
    - ii) Peter is talking about the way they win their converts.
  - c) Apostates win their converts like a fisherman who goes fishing.
    - i) The bait:
      - (1) 2 Peter 2:18
      - (2) Always in apostate Christianity, the bait is sensual lust.
        - (a) 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
    - (a) These are the lusts of the flesh that catch unstable souls.
  - ii) The tackle:
    - (1) They deliver the bait with “great swelling words.”
      - (a) 2 Peter 2:18
      - (b) 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.
      - (a) 2 Peter 2:3
      - (b) They are good speakers.
    - (4) When Paul preached, he preached to express, not to impress.
      - (a) Paul preached for communication, not manipulation.
      - (b) 1 Corinthians 2:4
        - (i) There were no “great swelling words” with the apostle Paul.
      - (c) When he preached, the Holy Spirit of God took the Word of God and brought it home to human hearts.
  - iii) The fish:
    - (1) 2 Peter 2:18
      - (a) 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.
      - (a) They are perhaps brand-new Christians.
      - (b) The apostate never bothers with the out-and-out sinner.
        - (i) The apostate’s message has no real power.
      - (c) Apostates will generally go to evangelistic crusades to see who goes forward.
        - (i) After the service, they will approach them.
      - (d) 2 Peter 2:14
      - (e) These fish are just beginning to get out of the old way and into the new way.
        - (i) The devil sees these unstable souls, and he knows that they are not stabilized in the faith.
        - (ii) Therefore, it is very important that when we bring someone to Jesus Christ that we continue to stabilize the saints.
          - 1. We need to help them grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
  - d) How important it is that we grow in Christ and not just get saved.
    - i) If not, we are liable to get a hook in our jaw.
- 4) THE ENSLAVEMENT OF FALSE TEACHERS (2 PETER 2:19)
- a) 2 Peter 2:19
  - b) There is an endangerment that begins with an enticement that leads to an enslavement.

- c) All apostates, plastic preachers, and pseudo prophets come with a message of freedom.
  - d) But the devil is not trying to set anyone free; he is trying to enslave them.
    - i) The devil doesn't want casualties; he wants converts.
      - (1) He really wants slaves.
    - ii) 2 Peter 2:3, 14
      - (1) They are slaves to money.
    - iii) 2 Peter 2:10, 14
      - (1) They are slaves to the lust of the flesh.
        - (a) Almost always there is some sort of sexual immorality.
    - iv) 2 Peter 2:10-12
      - (1) They are slaves to pride.
  - e) Sin always promises freedom, but it brings bondage.
    - i) 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.
        - (a) John 8:36
  - f) There is a difference between the freedom that Jesus gives and the freedom the devil promises:
    - i) The devil gives freedom to do what we want.
      - (1) People think this is freedom, but it is the worst kind of bondage.
    - ii) The freedom that Jesus gives is not the freedom to do as we want but the freedom to do as we ought.
    - iii) Those who do as they want are not free at all.
      - (1) They are actually servants of corruption and slaves of bondage.
  - g) We are free to choose, but we are not free to choose the consequences of our choice.
    - i) We are free to jump out of a window, but we are not free to negate the law of gravity.
    - ii) 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.
  - h) John 8:36
- 5) THE ENTANGLEMENT OF FALSE TEACHERS (2 PETER 2:20-22)
- a) 2 Peter 2:20-21
    - i) 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.
    - ii) 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.
  - b) What is an apostate?

- i) Someone who has known the Gospel.
- ii) In a sense, he has tried the Gospel, although he has never been saved.
- iii) He refuses the Gospel.
- iv) He opposes the Gospel.
- v) He tries to replace the Gospel.
- c) An apostate has known the way of righteousness.
  - i) 2 Peter 2:21
    - (1) Notice the word “turn” in this passage of Scripture.
      - (a) This is not just simply someone who has drifted away.
      - (b) This is a person who deliberately made an anti-Gospel decision.
      - (c) This person willfully turned.
    - ii) They are not merely mistaken; they are willfully wicked.
- d) When we live by the truth of God, God gives us freedom.
  - i) The longer we study and the more we learn, the more freedom we enter into.
  - e) But when we choose against the truth as we know the truth, we go deeper and deeper into bondage.
    - i) We are worse off than the man who has never heard the truth.
    - ii) It would be better for us never to have known the way of truth.
  - f) Many of these are people who have tried Christianity, but they have never been born again.
  - g) Matthew 12:43-45
    - i) In this passage, “unclean spirit” means “demon spirit,” and “house” is referring to the “man.”
    - ii) Reformation without transformation leads to greater degradation and final condemnation.
  - h) The reason that many people are apostates is that they have never met Jesus.
    - i) 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.
        - (a) They have religion, but they don’t have reality.
        - (b) They have culture, but they don’t have Calvary.
        - (c) 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.
        - (a) They turn from the way of righteousness and go the other way.
    - ii) They are the hardest of all to reach.
      - (1) It would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness.
  - i) They did not lose their salvation because they never had it.
    - i) 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.
        - (a) The Jewish people didn’t think about dogs as we think about dogs.

- (i) We think about dogs as nice household pets.
      - (ii) When someone was called a “dog” in that day, that was about as low as a person could get.
      - (iii) They called Gentiles and Sodomites dogs.
    - (2) Here was a sick dog that went back to his own vomit and ate it.
    - (3) Here was a pig that someone was going to change.
      - (a) The pig was washed and perfumed, but the pig went back to the mire again.
    - (4) The dog felt better, and the pig looked better.
      - (a) But the dog was still a dog, and the pig was still a pig.
        - (i) Never saved; never born again.
  - j) Peter talked about those who are saved as becoming partakers of the divine nature.
    - i) 2 Peter 1:4
    - ii) When someone is saved, he doesn’t have the nature of a hog or a dog.
      - (1) He has the nature of a sheep.
    - iii) 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.
    - iv) 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:
        - (a) The child of God lapses into sin, and he loathes it.
        - (b) The child of the devil leaps into sin, and he loves it.
      - (i) 2 Peter 2:2
- 6) CONCLUSION
- a) 2 Peter 1:10
    - i) Make your calling and election sure.
  - b) It is not enough to be a member of a church.
  - c) It is not enough to be able to recite the plan of salvation.
  - d) You need to be saved.
  - e) You need to make certain that you have authentic Christianity and that you know Christ as your personal Savior and Lord.
  - f) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
  - g) 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.
    - i) Romans 3:23
    - ii) Romans 10:9-10
    - iii) Romans 10:13
    - iv) Acts 16:31
    - v) John 3:16