

FINISHING YOUR FAITH

Lesson Eleven • 2Peter 2:17-22

Learn to Discern False Believing

A Finishing Faith Is a Discerning Faith

*that learns to discern **false teachers** (1-3) who promise a **false hope** (4-10a) that produces **false living** (10b-16) that is often proof of **false BELIEVING** (17-22).*

- True believers **are preserved** by God's grace and, therefore, **will persevere** in the fight to demonstrate an obedient faith in Jesus and His lordship over their lives.
- False believers **may profess** faith in Christ and His lordship but over time **will not persevere** in their faith and often openly deny His lordship doctrinally and/or morally, suffering eternal judgment for it.

Learn to Discern the Recipe for False Believing

One Part ~ UNESTABLISHED Professing Believers. 2:14, 18

Unestablished due to...

- 1) Not being **saved** for very long. (2:18)
- 2) Not being **taught** very much. (3:18)
- 3) Not being **diligent** to grow very deep. (1:5, 10; 3:14, 18)
- 4) Not being **vigilant** to remind everyone. (1:12-13; 3:1-2)

Two Parts ~ Successful, Seducing APOSTATES. 2:17-18

Three Parts ~ EMPTY Promises of Freedom. 2:19

- 1) Freedom to sin as you please without eternal consequences!

- 2) Freedom to deny Christ's lordship over specific areas of your life of your own choosing.
- 3) Freedom to pick and choose what parts of the Bible you are going to trust and obey.

Learn to Discern the Results of False Believing (= Apostasy)

- 1. A false freedom that lacks true LIBERATION. 2:19**

- 2. A false profession that lacks true SALVATION. 2:20-21**

- 3. A false nature that lacks true REGENERATION. 2:22**

True believing results in a PERSEVERING faith that is growing and discerning until the second coming of the Jesus Christ our Lord!

FINISH Your FAITH with a DISCERNING FAITH!

Don't Let the False Believing of Others Fool You into Not Persevering to the End!

You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, take care that you are not carried away with the error of lawless people and lose your own stability. But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen. 3:17-18 ESV

- Commit to a **growing faith** that knows Jesus Christ as Lord ~ Chapter 1
- Commit to a **discerning faith** that detects and rejects false teachers who deny the lordship of Christ ~ Chapter 2
- Commit to a **persevering faith** in the lordship of Christ until the day you die or He returns ~ Chapter 3
- Finish your faith with the confidence that **true believing** is the root of a **growing, discerning, persevering faith** in Jesus Christ as Lord.