

Sick Dogs And Dirty Pigs -- II Pet. 2:20-22

- ***Introduction***

- II Peter is a book of reminders: (1:12,13,15)
 - Of what we have through Divine power and knowledge. (1:3)
 - Of exceeding great and precious promises. (1:4)
 - Of the necessity to grow. (1:5-11)
 - Of the source of revelation. (1:20-21)
 - Of the danger of false teachers. (2-3)
 - Of the danger of apostasy, departing from God. 2:20-22)
- Focus of our study: To be reminded, warned, exhorted of the danger of falling away.
- That teaching goes against the grain of popular theology.
 - Sam Morris, Baptist preacher in Stamford, TX wrote an article entitled, "Do A Christian's sins damn his souls"? Here is a quote from the article: "We take the position that a Christian's sins do not damn his soul. The way a Christian lives, what he says, his character, his conduct, or his attitude toward other people have nothing whatever to do with the salvation of his souls...And all the sins he may commit from murder to idolatry will not make his soul in any more danger."
- The false doctrine of Calvinism.

- ***Three points from II Pet. 2:20-22.***

- **Who Is Being Spoken Of In This Passage?**

- Those who had escaped the pollutions of the world. (II Pet. 2:20)
 - Having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. (II Pet. 1:4b; note a)
 - Those who had been washed/purified from their past sins. (Isa. 1:18; Rev. 1:5-6; Acts 22:16)
 - Those who were cleansed by the blood of Christ (I Pet. 1:18-19) upon obedience. (I Pet. 1:22-23)
- Those who had escaped through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. (II Pet. 2:20)
 - Those who had heard, learned, believed and obeyed the gospel. (Rom. 10:1-3; Jn. 6:44-45; Act 18:8)
 - More than just intellectual knowledge involved. The knowledge involves relationship. (II Thess. 1:8)
 - Must grown in knowledge to persevere. (II Pet. 1:6,8)
- Those who had known the way of righteousness. (II Pet. 2:21)
 - Were made righteous. (Rom. 1:16-17)
 - Walked the way that was righteous. (II Pet. 2:2; 15; Matt. 7:13-14)

- **What Had These Done?**

- They had become entangled. (II Pet. 2:20)
 - They had once again become meshed in the things from which they had escaped. (I Pet. 4:2-4; Lk. 8:14; II Tim. 2:4)
 - They are again in a lost condition.
- They had been "overcome". (II Pet. 2:20, cf. v-19) They had been defeated, overpowered by their own lusts. (I Pet. 5:8)
- They had turned from the holy commandment delivered unto them. (II Pet. 2:21)
 - That which had been delivered to them to make them holy. (Eph. 5:26; Jn. 17:17)
 - They had turned away from that which they had begun walking in. (II Tim. 5:10)
 - Warned again in II Pet. 3:17-18. cf. Acts 12:7; Gal. 2:5

- **What Then Was Their Condition?**

- Like the pig that was washed and then returned to the mud. (II Pet. 2:22)
 - They were washed by the blood of Jesus, now they are filthy again.
- Like the dog that returns to his own vomit. (Prov. 26:11)
 - They were like the dog that regurgitates impurity from its body, then goes back and eats it again. Returns to the life that has been abandoned. Illustrates the revolting nature of a return to sin.
- The latter end is worse than the beginning. (II Pet. 2:20)