

Let's begin the eleventh lecture on 1 and 2 Peter. /Today we will begin with 2 Peter 2:20. /Those who throw out the sacred command. Verses 20-22.

/When we know the command, we must obey. /However, if we know the command but turn away from it, it is meaningless. /Not only will it be meaningless, but we will also receive God's judgment.

/Read verse 20. /If they have escaped the corruption of the world by knowing our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and are again entangled in it and overcome, they are worse off at the end than they were at the beginning.

/What happens if someone knows the command but throws it out? /First, he will be worse off at the end than he was at the beginning. /Here, verse 20 says, /"they are worse off at the end than they were at the beginning."

/If anyone throws out the way of righteousness after recognition of it, /he will be worse off at the end than he was at the beginning. /He will be more debauched, /more drunk, /and fall deeper into sin and lewdness.

/Matthew 12:45 says, /there will be seven other spirits. /The condition will worsen when seven other spirits enter. /Hence, when a believer of Jesus falls, /he becomes worse than he was before he believed.

/What happens when we throw out the way? /Second, they will receive greater punishment. /Luke 12:47-48. /"From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded." /Those who know but do not act will be beaten with more blows than those who did not know and acted.

/Verse 21. /It would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than to have known it and then to turn their backs on the sacred command that was passed on to them.

/We must not turn our backs on the sacred command after we have known the way of righteousness. /It says that it is better to have not known. /There are great responsibilities for those who believe in the truth.

/People of the world receive judgment before God because they sinned without knowing. /However, we must know that we will receive greater judgment if we sin while knowing. /False prophets intentionally throw away God's word.

/Therefore, there is no hope of repentance for them, /and there is no hope of being upright. /They are arrogant, and they intentionally throw out the correct truth. /Those who threw away the truth without knowing can repent and return.

/However, those who say that the correct truth is "wrong" /claim that the wrong is "right," and they cannot return. /What must we do if we have learned the right way? /We

must stand firm on the way.

/Hebrews 2:1-3 says, /“We must pay more careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, /so that we do not drift away.” /If we do not stand firm on God’s word /after we have heard God’s word, /we will drift away.

/We will not simply drift away, /but we will not be able to avoid the way of God’s judgment. /Thus, when we have received God’s word, we must stand firm on it.

/What happens when we know the way but throw it out? /Third, we will return to the filthy lifestyle. /We can avoid returning to the filthy lifestyle only when we know and stand in the way.

/We will return to our filthy ways when we throw out the command. /Then, believers will see no change in their faith and there will be no progress.

/Verse 22. /Of them the proverbs are true: "A dog returns to its vomit," and, "A sow that is washed goes back to her wallowing in the mud."

/There is a dog and a pig. /Philippians 3:2. /Isaiah 56:10-12. /Here, the false prophets are compared to a dog. /Dogs have special traits, /and dogs /fight well. /Dogs bite and tear, /are dirty, /and eat their vomit.

/False prophets today have similar traits. /False prophets fight and quarrel. /They bite and tear. /They are lewd, /and they eat what they vomited. /We will be like them when we leave our faith.

/The verse also speaks of a pig, /and pigs are /greedy and gluttonous. /False prophets harbor greed. /They lie to fill their greed.

/At times, they steal God’s glory. /They curse others when they can’t fill their greed. /Thus, James 1:15 says, “Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; /and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.”

/When people give birth to sin, they reach death. /Therefore, we must get rid of greed. /We must get rid of materialistic greed, sexual desires, and selfish greed. /We must be content with what we have, /and we must give thanks in all circumstances.

/It says that a pig goes back to wallowing in the mud. /What does this mean? /It means that believers repent and then return to sin. /People of the world slander believers in the following ways.

/“It must be great to believe in Jesus.” /“You can sin all you want in the world, /go to church, and say, ‘God, forgive me.’ /It must be nice that you’re forgiven of everything you do.”

/However, /that is not repentance. /If we truly repent, /we will not commit the same sins again. /We will not wallow in filthy places. /This is repentance.

/People of the world slander us because we do not repent in this way. /God forgives us when we repent of our sins.

/We must truly repent /so that our lifestyles will change, /our lives will change, /and everything about us will change. /Then, all the glory will be given to God, /and we will be examples for the people of the world to follow.

/Now, let's move onto chapter 3. /Let's look at the title. /The title is, "The Second Coming." /First, faith in Jesus' Second Coming, /verses 1-7. /Second, time and state of the Second Coming, /verses 8-10. /Third, preparation for the Second Coming, /verses 11-13. /Fourth, encouragement for dear friends, /verses 14-18.

/First, faith in Jesus' Second Coming, verses 1-8.

/Read verse 1. /Dear friends, this is now my second letter to you. I have written both of them as reminders to stimulate you to wholesome thinking.

/Here it says, "Dear friends." /God calls believers of Jesus his dear friends. /In that sense, we are truly blessed. /It is a great joy that we can receive the Lord's love and also love the Lord.

/What type of people in this world are the unhappiest? /They are those who are not loved and do not have anyone to love. /Prisoners say the following.

/When asked, "Why do you keep committing crimes and come to prison?" /they answer, "Because no one loves me." /They commit crimes because their friends do not love them, /people in the world do not love them, /and even their parents do not love them.

/They also do not have anyone to love. /They cannot love their friends, /cannot love their parents, /and cannot love their nation. /Thus, commit crimes because they cannot love, and they are not loved.

/How sad is this? /However, we can love /and be loved, /and hence, we are truly blessed. /It also says, "this is now my second letter to you."

/The second letter is "2 Peter." /1 Peter was written first, /and Peter wrote 2 Peter second. /It says, "wholesome thinking."

/Wholesome thinking is a pure heart, /a clean heart. /This is the heart of the reborn soul. /This is the heart that serves God, /and is the heart of a clear conscience. /2 Timothy 1:3.

/However, when believers fall asleep, /they lose this heart and become dark. /Our spirits must always be awake /and in order to be awake, we must pray, /and good preachers must frequently awaken us.

/Verse 2. /I want you to recall the words spoken in the past by the holy prophets and the command given by our Lord and Savior through your apostles.

/It says, “the words spoken in the past by the holy prophets.” /The holy prophets refer to the prophets of the Old Testament times. /Prophets of the Old Testament times prophesied, and they prophesied about Jesus Christ.

/Daniel 7:13. /The apostles also prophesied. /Verse 2 says, “through your apostles.” /This means that Jesus’ Second Coming was not suddenly decided, /but was prophesied by prophets of the Old Testament times /and was taught by the apostles in the New Testament period. Thus, the Lord’s Second Coming is definite.

/Faith in the Lord’s Second Coming is /first, remembering the prophecy. /Verses 1-2. /There are many who deny the Second Coming of Christ, /there are many heretics and false prophets, /and many people deceive others.

/The purpose of 2 Peter /was to remind us of the Lord’s Second Coming /so that we would not be deceived /but stand firm in the right truth. /We are currently living in the last days.

/It says that there would be many false prophets in the last days. /There are indeed many false prophets in this generation. /Many heretics deceive people. /They deny the Second Coming of Jesus.

/Yet, we must firmly remember /the prophecies of prophets of the Old Testament /and the apostles’ teachings of the Lord’s Second Coming in the New Testament, /must not be deceived /but stand in the right truth.

/Second, regarding faith in Christ, /scoffers of the Second Coming. /Verses 3-4.

/Verse 3. /First of all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires.

/Here it says that false prophets will come and scoff at the Lord’s Second Coming. /Heretics say, “There is no such thing as the Second Coming of the Lord.” /Or “That is a story made up by men.” /Or “It is a myth.”

/These are all words of ridicule. /These people follow their own evil desires. /In verse 3, it says, “following their own evil desires.” /They chase after the evil desires of the flesh, and they ridicule the Lord’s Second Coming.

/There are different characteristics of heretics and false prophets in each generation. /Heretics and false prophets /act in accordance to their greed and humanistic ways. /They indulge in their desires, /are perverse, /and follow their fleshly and materialistic ways.

/Second, they mock and deny God's authority /and important doctrines. /Third, they mock true believers and servants, /and they do not hold back in slandering them. /What are the reasons for their mocking?

/There are three reasons, /and first, it is because their eyes have grown dark because they follow their sexual desires, /and they do not know God's spiritual world. /Second, it is because they want to fill their greed and their false doctrines.

/They mock believers because their false doctrines will be exposed /if they let true servants proclaim the truth. /Third, it is because the world and humanism are their priority. /They do not understand God's word.

/Verse 5. /But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens existed and the earth was formed out of water and by water.

/Verse 4 says, "everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation." /Verse 5 says, "But they deliberately forget that long ago /by God's word the heavens existed /and the earth was formed out of water and by water."

/Verse 4 also says, /"Ever since our fathers died, /everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation." /Heretics claim, "The earth exists, /and water exists. /Hence, there is no such thing as the Second Coming of the Lord."

/They say, "Everything exists," and they ridicule the Second Coming of the Lord. /They say, "There have not been any supernatural changes /since the creation of the universe."

/They also say, "It has been thousands of years /since the deaths of the forefathers /of Israel who received God's promise, /and the promises of Christ's Second Coming and judgment /have not been fulfilled."

/Today we say that we live in the "last days." /We say, "The Lord will return." /However, the Lord has not yet returned. /The world has not been judged.

/Heretics say, "Believers say, 'It is the last days.'" /"Believers speak of 'the Second Coming,'" /They claim, "There are no actual last days or the Lord's Second Coming." /Their excuses are in verses 5-6.

/Third, the validity of the Second Coming. Verses 5-7. /These people claim, "The earth has not changed, and although they speak of a Second Coming, nothing has changed." /However, verse 5 responds to this.

/It has never been said that the "heavens" would receive judgment by God's word, /and thus, it has existed since the past without any changes. /Why are the "heavens" unchanging? /It is unchanging because God's word says that the "heavens" are unchanging.

/Then, why were there changes in the “earth”? /There were changes in the “earth” because God said that he would judge the earth. /The earth received judgment during Noah’s time /just as God said would happen.

/God judged the people of Noah’s time with a flood /as is written in Genesis 6-7. /False prophets say that there is no judgment. /However, there will surely be judgment.

/Therefore, it is wrong to say that all of creation has remained exactly the way it was when it was created. /Water flowed out of the ground /when the waters were formed at creation. /The ground was appeared. /Genesis 1:9-10.

/This happened as God’s word said it would. /Heretics claim that the earth has not changed from the beginning, /but the earth has indeed changed.

/The earth received judgment by water in the time of Noah. /God also separated the water under the expanse from the water above it. /The waters gathered in the lowest places. /God did all this and accomplished it.

/Verse 7. /By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.

/In verse 5, the people deliberately forgot. /If we believe that the universe was created by God’s word, /we must also believe that God will judge this world.

/We must also believe God’s word that Christ will return, and God’s word will be fulfilled. /Matthew 24:30-51.

/Verse 6. /By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed.

/The people of Noah’s time were judged by a flood. /They were judged by water, /which testifies to the fulfillment of God’s word.

/False prophets claim that there is no judgment. /However, there clearly was God’s judgment in the Bible. /For example, the people of Noah’s time received the judgment of water. /This is proof that God’s word was fulfilled.

/God said that he would judge with fire in the last days, and God will judge with fire in the future. /However, false prophets say that there is no judgment. /They also ridicule the truth of the Lord’s Second Coming.

/We must not be fooled by this. /There will surely be God’s judgment and the Lord’s Second Coming. /We must prepare for the Lord’s Second Coming. /Of course, we do not know the date of the Lord’s return.

/Verse 7. /By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.

/Verse 6 says that they were destroyed by water, /and verse 7 says that ungodly men will be destroyed by fire. /It is clear that ungodly men will be destroyed by fire in the last days. /We learned through God's word that the Lord will surely return.

/Hence, we must prepare to receive Jesus at His Second Coming.

/With this we will conclude the eleventh lecture on 1 and 2 Peter. /Thank you.