

Profiling False Teachers Pt. 1

2 Peter 2:10-16

and especially those who indulge in the lust of defiling passion and despise authority. Bold and willful, they do not tremble as they blaspheme the glorious ones, whereas angels, though greater in might and power, do not pronounce a blasphemous judgment against them before the Lord. But these, like

irrational animals, creatures of instinct,
born to be caught and destroyed,
blaspheming about matters of which
they are ignorant, will also be
destroyed in their destruction,
suffering wrong as the wage for their
wrongdoing. They count it pleasure to
revel in the daytime. They are blots
and blemishes, reveling in their

deceptions, while they feast with you.

They have eyes full of adultery,

insatiable for sin. They entice

unsteady souls. They have hearts

trained in greed. Accursed children!

Forsaking the right way, they have

gone astray. They have followed the

way of Balaam, the son of Beor, who

loved gain from wrongdoing, but was

rebuked for his own transgression;
a speechless donkey spoke with
human voice and restrained the
prophet's madness.

and especially those who indulge in
the lust of **defiling passion** and
despise authority.

then the Lord knows how to rescue
the godly from trials, and to keep
the unrighteous under
punishment until the day of
judgment

Bold and willful, they do not tremble
as they **blaspheme the glorious
ones**, whereas angels, though greater
in might and power, do not pronounce
a blasphemous judgment against them
before the Lord.

Jude 1:8-9

Yet in like manner these people also, relying on their dreams, defile the flesh, reject authority, and blaspheme the glorious ones. But when the archangel Michael, contending with the devil, was disputing about the body of Moses, he did not presume to pronounce a blasphemous judgment, but said, **“The Lord rebuke you.”**

This contrast shows how incredibly puffed up the false teachers are. Even angels yield to the authority of God to pass just judgment. But the false teachers despise all authority and rise above the angels to scorn the glories of the holy God, probably by denying the second coming.

– John Piper

But these like **irrational animals**,
creatures of instinct, born to be
caught and destroyed,
blaspheming about matters of
which they are ignorant

Psalm 73:21-22

When my soul was embittered,
when I was pricked in heart, I was
brutish and ignorant; I was like
a **beast** toward you.

As animals are trapped through
their eagerness to satisfy their
appetite, so self-indulgence betrays
these men to their ruin.

– W. H. Bennett

These false teachers are put in the category of instinctive animals who have no ability to reason, who don't understand what they're doing but who, like brute beasts, irrational creatures who operate only on the passion of their own impulses and the passion of their own instinct and serve man best when dead, they are in the same category.

– John MacArthur

They count it pleasure to **revel in**
the daytime.

Romans 13:13

Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy.

1 Thessalonians 5:7-8

For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober...

They are **blots and blemishes**,
reveling in their deceptions, while they
feast with you.

2 Peter 3:14

Therefore, beloved, since you are
waiting for these, be diligent to be
found by him **without spot or
blemish**, and at peace.

They have eyes **full of adultery,**
insatiable for sin. They **entice**
unsteady souls.

They lust after every girl they see;
they view every female as a
potential adulteress.

– Michael Green

They have hearts **trained in
greed.**

And in their **greed** they will exploit
you with **false words**.

Since these verses directs our attention to sexual sin and greed, perhaps the teachers enticed people to sin by promising them that they could live for sexual pleasure and material comforts without any thought of judgment. Such a theology seemed too good to pass up for the unstable, and they swallowed the bait quite eagerly.

- Thomas Schreiner

They have followed the way of **Balaam**, the son of Beor, who **loved gain from wrongdoing**, but was rebuked for his own transgression; a speechless donkey spoke with human voice and restrained the prophet's madness.

Joshua 13:22

Balaam also, the son of Beor, the one who practiced divination, was killed with the sword by the people of Israel among the rest of their slain.

No person, no matter how clever and deceitful, can indefinitely hide a character that is rotten and out of tune with God. Calvin said, "Nothing is more difficult to counterfeit than virtue." It demands too much. It demands more than any person has in himself, and when God's divine provision and power are absent the charade cannot last long.

– John MacArthur