

A DEEPER DIVE

2 Peter 2
September 14, 2025

Micah 6:8—He has shown you, oh mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God. – NIV.

Monday: Reading – 2 Peter chapter 2

Consider this – 2 Peter 2: 17-22; Matthew 7:13.

Read through chapter 2 again. As you do, pay attention to two things. First, Peter says that “many will follow.” Does this remind you of Jesus’ words (read Matthew 7)? Secondly, Peter spends a lot of time writing about the judgement of the false teachers, but also the preservation of those who are faithful. Contemplate what these contrasts mean.

Prayer Focus – Spend today in personal prayer. What are you in need of? What is weighing on your heart? Health concerns? Financial issues? Dealing with sin? Are there family members and friends who are lost? Pray for them by name and ask the Lord to give you more opportunities to act in love and speak with grace to them. Lay everything you are dealing with before the Lord. Put 1 Peter 5:7 into purposeful practice.

Tuesday: Reading – 2 Peter chapter 2; John 4.

Consider this – 2 Peter 2:17-22

What figures of speech does Peter use in verse 17? Why do you think Peter uses these images? Are these images effective for you as you read this verse? Peter ends the verse by saying that “the gloom of utter darkness” is what awaits the false teachers. The NKJV adds the word “forever,” which is not in other versions. Do you think that added word makes a difference? People in droughts look at a cloudy sky with hope, but what good are storm clouds that bring no rain? There is a spiritual drought all around us. This can lead to violent behavior and people searching for “answers.” We as the church should bring the needed rains. Peter is saying that the false teachers sound good and many will follow, but they are empty clouds, and bring no relief.

Contrast what Peter says about these teachers with what Jesus says in John 4. Do you have this “spring of living water welling up” in your life? If you’re not sure, pray that the Lord will give you this living water.

Prayer Focus – Keep it local. Spend today in local prayer. Remember the prayer requests and needs from Sunday (refer to your prayer list if you keep one on Sundays). Lift up the fellowship. Pray for your pastors and elders. Pray for the workers at the church and the ministries. Pray for financial blessing so that the reach of the church can increase. Remind the Lord about what you prayed for yesterday.

Wednesday: Reading – 2 Peter chapter 2

Consider this – 2 Peter 2:17-22

Peter, in verse 2, says that there will be “false teachers among you.” In verse 18 he tells his readers the danger of these false teachers. They, says Peter, will “entice...those barely escaping from those who live in error” (ESV). What does he mean by this phrase? How can we defend ourselves, and protect others in our fellowship, from being enticed by these teachers?

Prayer Focus – Pray for our nation. We are having tough times right now. School has started, and so have school shootings. Charlie Kirk is murdered. Minnesota Reps were shot in June. Be a peacemaker, and pray that the Lord would bless and spare our nation. Pray that in each community the churches can come together to show the grace and love of God through helping the recovery. Remember to pray for your personal needs, and the local needs.

Thursday: Reading – 2 Peter chapter 2; Galatians 5:1; 2 Corinthians 3:12-18.

Consider this – 2 Peter 2: 17-22

In verse 19 Peter says that these teachers promise freedom (some versions say liberty). Why is this idea so attractive to people? Think about this. Freedom, or liberty, from what? To do what? Read the verses above (and do some related searching on your own). Contrast the idea of Freedom that is in Christ, and the idea of freedom that the false teachers talk about.

Prayer Focus – Spend today in prayer for the world. Pray for those in war zones like Ukraine and Russia, Israel, Gaza, Lebanon, Sudan, and any other place you know of. Pray for our missionary partners. Pray for those in disaster areas. Pray for a united, active, and gospel preaching church all around the world. Remember to pray for your personal needs, the local needs, and our country.

Friday: Reading – 2 Peter chapter 2

Consider this – 2 Peter 2:17-22

In verses 20-22, Peter tells us that these teachers will be held accountable for what they do. These teachers will be among us, they will hear the gospel message, and they will pretend to be one of us. But, no matter how they act, they will return to their deceitful ways. How does Peter, through his striking imagery, show an understanding of human psychology (that is the psychology of the unredeemed human)?

Prayer Focus – Spend today praying for the soon return of Christ. Pray that while Christ's coming is still in the future, God will use you to expand His kingdom. Lift up all of the needs from the week and pray for wisdom and readiness.

Saturday: Reading – 2 Peter chapter 2

Consider this – 2 Peter 2: 17-22

Think for a moment about the "Lord's Prayer." Recite it from memory if you can, or look at Matthew chapter 6. At the end, we pray, "lead us not into temptation." Another way to word that is, "do not put us to the test (or trial)." In what way can hearing the words of a false teacher be a test or a temptation? N.T. Wright says, "Ask God for wisdom to discern false teachers from true messengers of the gospel. Thank God for the freedom you have found in Christ. Pray for people you know who are misled, that they will see and accept the truth." Peter says that the false teachers will "entice," or "seduce," believers with their honeyed words. Scripture and prayer are you two defenses against these teachers, don't neglect them!

Prayer Focus – Spend today praying for your Pastors and the people who are making things happen on Sunday. Include the teachers, the behind-the-scenes workers, the worship team, the regular attendees, and that there will be new people who come to the service and maybe meet Jesus for the first time.

Sunday: Go to church with the anticipation of hearing from the Lord.

Questions? Comments? Email me, Steve Callaway, at stvcal13@gmail.com.