

(STILL) LIVING IN EXILE

— A SERIES IN SECOND PETER

“THE FREEDOM THAT ENSLAVES”

2 PETER 2:17-22

STEVE KELLY • OCTOBER 18TH, 2026

Big Idea: False teachers promise endless freedom, but their teaching only leads to slavery.

I. False Teachers Offer Empty Promises (2 Peter 2:17-18)

- A. “Waterless Springs”
- B. “Mists Driven by a Storm”

The apostle Peter is describing teachers who appear to offer spiritual _____ but ultimately only offer profound _____.

Sometimes false teaching succeeds because it tells people something they already _____ want to believe!

II. The Freedom They Promise Is Actually Slavery (2 Peter 2:19)

John 8:34 - Romans 6:16 - Romans 6:17-18 - Romans 6:22

The main question is: who is your _____?

Biblical _____ is liberation from the _____ of sin so that we can now live in _____ to God.

III. Coming Close to the Truth is Not Necessarily the Same as Being Transformed by the Truth (2 Peter 2:20-21)

The sin of "Apostasy" - the falling away or departure from the faith

Can a person who has truly been regenerated/born again by God finally and permanently abandon Christ?

John 10:27-28 - Romans 8:30 - Philippians 1:6

A person can change his _____ behavior or become morally _____ without receiving a new regenerated heart by the Spirit.

EXTREME DANGER!!!

Matthew 7:23

They have escaped the defilements of the world....but then they become _____ again!

IV. The Final Direction of a Person's Life Reveals Something Profound About the Heart (2 Peter 2:22)

Two Memorable Proverbs!

Nicodemus and John 3:3

The gospel of Jesus Christ is not a _____ program of _____ modification.

V. What Does This Mean For Us?

- A. What has mastery over me?
- B. What do I mean when I say that “I want to be free.”?
- C. Is my faith in Christ merely external - just something on the outside?

Conclusion:

If you have questions or comments about today's message, I would love to hear from you!



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