2 Peter 2 • Characteristics of False Prophets & Teachers

1. (v.1-3) **General** characteristics of false prophets/teachers:
   1. They introduce destructive **heresies**. (v.1)
   2. They deny the **Master**. (v.1)
   3. They are **sensual** rather than **spiritual**. (v.2)
   4. They malign the **truth**. (v.2)
   5. They are **greedy** and **exploitative**. (v.3)
2. (v.4-16) **Specific** behaviors of false prophets/teachers:
   1. They are “***daring***” meaning that they are reckless (v. 10)
   2. They are “***self-willed***” (NT equivalent of OT “*iniquity*”; v. 10)
   3. “...***revile*** *angelic majesties*” and seem to have no qualms about doing so (v. 10)
   4. Do not exercise good **reasoning** (v. 12)
   5. Do things without **knowledge** (v. 12)
   6. Revel in the **daytime** and count it as pleasure (v. 13)
   7. They are **deceived** (v. 13)
   8. They **carouse** with believers (v. 13)
   9. They commit **adultery**, either openly or with their eyes (v. 14)
   10. They never cease from **sin** (v. 14)
   11. They gravitate toward **unstable** people (v. 14)
   12. They have hearts shaped by years and years of **greed** (v. 14)
   13. They forsake the right way and follow the way of **Balaam** (v. 15)
3. (v.17-22) The sum of their spiritual condition: They are again entangled in the defilements of the **world**, in a worse state than before they initially knew **Christ**.