A Warning To Save Our Soul

our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you, 16 as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures. You therefore, beloved, since you know this beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness 2 Peter 3:15-16

- Paul's wisdom was given to him.
- Given by the Holy Spirit <u>Eph 3:3-4</u>
- how that by revelation was made known unto me the mystery, as I wrote before in few words, 4 whereby, when you read, you can perceive my understanding in the mystery of Christ;

- Some things are hard to understand
- Given by the Holy Spirit 1Cor. 2:9-13
- Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. 13 These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.
 Hard to understand because inspired by the Spirit

- Ignorant and Unsteadfast twist to their own destruction
- Given by the Holy Spirit <u>1 Cor 14:37</u>
- If any man thinks himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him take knowledge of the things which I write unto you, that they are the commandment of the Lord.
- If you twist the Lord's commands ...

- As they do the rest of the Scriptures
- Given by the Holy Spirit 1Th. 2:13
- For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe.
- All Paul's writings (13 books) are word of God
- So also are Peter, John, James, Matthew, Luke...

- Since you know this beforehand
- A direct warning from the Holy Spirit to us
- You therefore, beloved, since you know this beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked; 2Pet. 3:17-18
- We know it is going to happen
- Just have to see where it is happening today.
- Every Generation is Different

The Error of the Wicked

- We did not follow cunningly devised fables <u>2Pet 1:16-18</u>
- We are of God <u>1Jn 4:6</u>
 The word I spoke <u>Jn</u> <u>12:48</u>
- To us God revealed ... <u>1Cor 2:10-13</u>
- Objective Measure

- Those who go beyond..
- 2Jn 9
- 2Tim 4:1-4
- Gal 1:6-9
- Mt 7:21-23
- Knowing these things beforehand be on your guard and beware!

Knowing This Beforehand!

- But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction. 2 And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be evil spoken of. 2Pet. 2:1-3
- Today ... We are not here ...

They Secretly Bring In

- The more liberal we become the harder they are to see!
- Doesn't matter what you believe
- God's love and mercy more important than strict adherence to Scripture.
- If we accept such thinking there is no longer any such thing as a false teacher.
- We are already under their spell.

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Reject Even Jesus Warning

"Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. 14 Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it. 15 "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. 16 You will know them by their fruits. <u>Matt 7:13-16</u>

They Secretly Bring In

• Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; 4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. <u>2 Tim 4:2-5</u>

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