

2 Peter 2:10-12

Conduct of False Teachers

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- If \rightarrow then

- ▶ vs.4-8 are “if” statements
 - ★ v.4 – *if God did not spare angels*
 - ★ v.5 – *[if God] did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah*
 - ★ v.6 – *if He condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah*
 - ★ v.7 – *if He rescued righteous¹ Lot*
- ▶ v.9 – *then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from temptation, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment for the day of judgment,*
 - ★ God punishes the sinful, but protects the righteous
 - ★ i.e. God knows how to be just, and to execute justice
- ▶ Why does it say *the Lord knows how to* rather than something like *the Lord does*?
 - ★ v.1. – *bringing swift destruction upon themselves*
 - ★ Is their judgment the natural wages of their deeds?

¹really? “righteous” Lot

It's in their nature

10a and especially those who indulge the flesh in its corrupt desires and despise authority.

Actions of those chiefly² under punishment for the day of judgment

- ① *indulge the flesh in its corrupt desires*
- ② *despise authority*
- ③ *they revile angelic majesties*
- *indulge the flesh in its corrupt desires*
 - ▶ *indulge* – lit. follow after
 - ▶ *the flesh*
 - ★ Peter³ uses *flesh* to refer to our physical body⁴
 - ★ Notice the additional clause *in its corrupt desires*
 - ★ consistent with v.2 – *follow their sensuality*
 - ▶ Compare with Jude 16 & 18

²*especially* – chief of all

³as opposed to Paul

⁴See 1 Peter 1:24; 3:18,21; 4:1,2,6

Authority? What authority?

10b Daring, self-willed, they do not tremble when they revile angelic majesties,

- *despise authority*
 - ▶ *despise* – to hold in contempt; to think lightly of⁵
 - ▶ Note: the opposite of this is not blind, unquestioning obedience⁶
- *they revile angelic majesties*
 - ▶ Their attitude:
 - ★ *Daring* – bold; audacious
 - ★ *self-willed* – arrogant and stubborn; pleased with themselves⁷
 - ★ *they do not tremble* – stems from the other two⁸
 - ▶ *revile* – blaspheme or malign
 - ★ See also 2:2 – *the way of truth with be **maligned***
 - ★ It would seem they see nothing but themselves as sacred

⁵Zodhiates

⁶in fact, these false teachers need such submission from their followers

⁷contrast with Titus 1:7

⁸either don't care about the consequences, or don't think they apply to them

Boldly reviling

10b Daring, self-willed, they do not tremble when they revile angelic majesties,

- *they revile angelic majesties* (cont.)
 - ▶ *angelic majesties*
 - ★ specific word is *doxa* – glory, splendor, brilliance; honor, praise
 - ★ Alt. translations: the glorious ones, dignities/dignitaries, supernatural/celestial beings
 - ▶ Why/why not *angelic majesties*?
 - ★ Angels are mentioned in previous verses and in the next verse⁹
 - ★ Point 1: they despise any/all glory/authority¹⁰
 - ★ Point 2: they despise anything greater than themselves
- Jude 8 – *Yet in the same way these men, also by dreaming, defile the flesh, and reject authority, and revile angelic majesties.*

⁹So there is contrast (which we will see in a moment)

¹⁰they are blasphemers, concerned only with their own interests

Where angels fear to tread

11 whereas angels who are greater in might and power do not bring a reviling judgment against them before the Lord.

- *angels*

- ▶ Not same word as v.10, but same as in v.4
- ▶ *are greater in might and power*
 - ★ Reiterates that man was made *a little lower than the angels*¹¹

- *reviling judgment*

- ▶ *reviling* - blasphemous
 - ★ compare with the blasphemy of these false teachers
- ▶ *judgment*
 - ★ Same word as in 2:4,9 & 3:7
 - ★ Do angels have the authority to pronounce judgment?

- Jude 9 – *But Michael the archangel, when he disputed with the devil...did not dare pronounce against him a railing judgment...*

¹¹Hebrews 2:7

Living like an animal

12a But these, like unreasoning animals, born as creatures of instinct to be captured and killed, reviling where they have no knowledge,

- *unreasoning animals*
 - ▶ *unreasoning* = *alogos*
 - ▶ They are acting like creatures, rejecting the Imago Dei
- *creatures of instinct* – their natural characteristics
 - ▶ See Romans 1:26-27
- *born...to be captured and killed*
 - ▶ See Philippians 3:17-19 – *their end is destruction*
- *reviling where they have no knowledge* – ignorant, uninformed, unaware
 - ▶ They have no knowledge because they are not walking in Christ¹²
- Jude 10 – *But these men revile the things which they do not understand; and the things which they know by instinct, like unreasoning animals, by these things they are destroyed.*

¹²maybe?

Dying like a animal

12b But these...will in the destruction of those creatures also be destroyed,

- *destruction* – corruption, destruction, perishing
 - ▶ Same word as *killed* previously in verse
 - ▶ Galatians 6:8 – *For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption*
 - ▶ *destroyed* is the verb form of the word
- Alt. translations:
 - ▶ NIV – *like animals they too will perish*
 - ▶ ESV – *will also be destroyed in their destruction*
 - ▶ KJV – *shall utterly perish in their own corruption*
 - ▶ ASV – *shall in their destroying surely be destroyed*
 - ▶ Young's literal – *in their destruction shall be destroyed*
- These people will receive the fruits of the nature they follow
 - ▶ If they act like animals they'll be destroyed like animals