

Feeding Your Soul

P a r a g r a p h S t u d y

2 Peter
2:10b-16
GQ

Observation What Do I See?

1 Mark up the paragraph below with colors and symbols about what you notice.

Daring, self-willed, they do not tremble when they revile angelic majesties, 11 whereas angels who are greater in might and power do not bring a reviling judgment against them before the Lord. 12 But these, like unreasoning animals, born as creatures of instinct to be captured and killed, reviling where they have no knowledge, will in the destruction of those creatures also be destroyed, 13 suffering wrong as the wages of doing wrong. They count it a pleasure to revel in the daytime. They are

stains and blemishes, reveling in their deceptions, as they carouse with you, 14 having eyes full of adultery that never cease from sin, enticing unstable souls, having a heart trained in greed, accursed children; 15 forsaking the right way, they have gone astray, having followed the way of Balaam, the son of Beor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness; 16 but he received a rebuke for his own transgression, for a mute donkey, speaking with a voice of a man, restrained the madness of the prophet.

Ideas for mark-up

- God
- Jesus Christ
- Holy Spirit
- Repeated Words/Ideas/Subjects
- Commands (e.g., put aside, pray without ceasing, etc.)
- Lists (e.g., characteristics, sins, promises, etc.)
- Connecting words (e.g., for, yet, therefore, nor/or, but, so, and)
- Actions/Verbs
- Comparisons (e.g., like or as)
- Contrasts (e.g., light or dark)
- Warnings or Promises

2 Write what you learned about the Father, Son, and/or Holy Spirit.

3 What did you learn about what you marked up? Write any questions you have about this text.

Interpretation What Does It Mean?

4 Compare translations highlighting any major differences in word choices.

NASB	ESV	NIV
<p>Daring, self-willed, they do not tremble when they revile angelic majesties, 11 whereas angels who are greater in might and power do not bring a reviling judgment against them before the Lord. 12 But these, like unreasoning animals, born as creatures of instinct to be captured and killed, reviling where they have no knowledge, will in the destruction of those creatures also be destroyed, 13 suffering wrong as the wages of doing wrong. They count it a pleasure to revel in the daytime. They are stains and blemishes, reveling in their deceptions, as they carouse with you, 14 having eyes full of adultery that never cease from sin, enticing unstable souls, having a heart trained in greed, accursed children; 15 forsaking the right way, they have gone astray, having followed the way of Balaam, the son of Beor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness; 16 but he received a rebuke for his own transgression, for a mute donkey, speaking with a voice of a man, restrained the madness of the prophet.</p>	<p>Bold and willful, they do not tremble as they blaspheme the glorious ones, 11 whereas angels, though greater in might and power, do not pronounce a blasphemous judgment against them before the Lord. 12 But these, like irrational animals, creatures of instinct, born to be caught and destroyed, blaspheming about matters of which they are ignorant, will also be destroyed in their destruction, 13 suffering wrong as the wage for their wrongdoing. They count it pleasure to revel in the daytime. They are blots and blemishes, reveling in their deceptions,[while they feast with you. 14 They have eyes full of adultery, insatiable for sin. They entice unsteady souls. They have hearts trained in greed. Accursed children! 15 Forsaking the right way, they have gone astray. They have followed the way of Balaam, the son of Beor, who loved gain from wrongdoing, 16 but was rebuked for his own transgression; a speechless donkey spoke with human voice and restrained the prophet’s madness.</p>	<p>Bold and arrogant, they are not afraid to heap abuse on celestial beings;11 yet even angels, although they are stronger and more powerful, do not heap abuse on such beings when bringing judgment on them from the Lord. 12 But these people blaspheme in matters they do not understand. They are like unreasoning animals, creatures of instinct, born only to be caught and destroyed, and like animals they too will perish. 13 They will be paid back with harm for the harm they have done. Their idea of pleasure is to carouse in broad daylight. They are blots and blemishes, reveling in their pleasures while they feast with you. 14 With eyes full of adultery, they never stop sinning; they seduce the unstable; they are experts in greed—an accursed brood! 15 They have left the straight way and wandered off to follow the way of Balaam son of Bezer, who loved the wages of wickedness. 16 But he was rebuked for his wrongdoing by a donkey—an animal without speech—who spoke with a human voice and restrained the prophet’s madness.</p>

Interpretation What Does It Mean?

These guided questions are used with permission from Scripture Paths Bible Studies on 2 Peter by Lisa Hughes. For the full study visit www.scripturepaths.com.

10. What further characteristics of a false teacher are introduced in verses 10- 11? How does Peter's example about the angels show the false teachers' rebellion?
11. List the characteristics of a false teacher from verses 12-22.
12. Peter compares false teachers to unreasoning animals in verses 12-13. Please explain the comparison between the two. Jude 10 and Phil. 3:18-19 will help you with your answer.
13. In verse 15 Peter refers to Balaam to give added insight into the motives of the false teachers. Who was Balaam and what role did he play in Israel's history? See Num. 22-24; 25:1-3 and 31:8, 16.
14. How are false teachers like Balaam?

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15. Verses 17-19 provide another insightful look at the false teachers. What succinct statement in verse 19 does Peter make that sums up their lives? How would remembering that truth help you avoid being deceived by a false teacher?

16. Verses 20-21 provide an accurate picture of an apostate. “Apostates,” John MacArthur explains in his commentary, “are those who move toward Christ, hear and understand His gospel, and are on the verge of saving belief, but then rebel and turn away.” Why is the last state worse than the first for an apostate? Why would it have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness? See verses 20-21 and Heb. 6:4-8; 10:26-27; 1 Jn. 2:19.

17. How do the proverbs of the dog and sow in verse 22 illustrate the false teachers’ lives?

Application What Does It Mean for Me?

12 Based on the principles you discovered in this passage, in what ways can you express love to God and to your neighbor? What truths must you personalize?

E x a m p l e s Are there any positive examples to follow or negative ones to avoid?

P r o m i s e s Are there any promises on which to meditate?

I d e n t i t y Are there any verses that remind me of who I am in Christ?

C o m m a n d s Are there any commands to follow?

S i n s t o A v o i d Are there any sins to avoid?

<i>Examples</i>	
<i>Promises</i>	
<i>Identity</i>	
<i>Commands</i>	
<i>Sins to Avoid</i>	

Implementation

What Steps Do I
Need to Take?

- 13 Write at least one step you will take in order to apply what you have learned.

Consultation

What Truths Did Others Find in
This Passage?

- 14 Write down anything you learned from a commentary you read or sermon you enjoyed.