



Terrorists in the Church: The Description, Danger and Doom of False Teachers (Part 5)

10112Pe2.5-6(24)

2 Peter 2:5-6



3b . . . their judgment from long ago is not idle and their destruction is not asleep. **4** For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into Tartarus and delivered them to chains of darkness, reserved for judgment; **5** and did not spare the ancient world but protected Noah, the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, when He brought a flood upon the ungodly world; **6** and if by reducing the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to ashes He condemned them to ruin, making them an example of what will happen to the ungodly; **7** and if He rescued

righteous Lot, oppressed by the sensual conduct of lawless men **8** (for by what that righteous man saw and heard while living among, his righteous soul was tormented day after day with their lawless deeds), **9** then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from temptation, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment for the day of judgment.

– 2 Peter 2:3b-8, As translated from the Greek New Testament by Tony A. Bartolucci.

The Passage is Also Found on Page 184 of the New Testament Section of the Pew Bibles

Chapter Overview:

- ❶ The Commencement of False Teachers (1-3a)
- ❷ The Condemnation of False Teachers (3b-9)
- ❸ The Character of False Teachers (10-22)

II. The Condemnation of False Teachers (3b-9)

A. Their Judgment Declared (3b)

B. Their Judgment Described (4-9)

1. Described in Terms of the Past

a. Three Examples of God's Certain Judgment of the Unrighteous:

(1) The Fallen Angels of Genesis 6

Note the "if" / "then" (protasis / apodosis) form of argument in verses 4-9.

(2) The Great Flood of Genesis 7

- (a) Compare 1 Peter 3:18-20 and 2 Peter 3:6
- (b) Noah = "a preacher of righteousness" (cf. 1 Tim. 2:7)

"This is also a fearful example, the most horrible one in the Scriptures. One might almost despair in view of it, even if he were strong in faith. For when such language and judgment of God go to man's heart, and he thinks of it, that he too shall die. He must tremble and fear if he is not well armed, since among so many in the whole world no one but these eight only were saved." [Martin Luther]

(3) The Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah in Genesis 19

- (a) Genesis 12-19
- (b) The difficult account of Lot's offering to sacrifice his 2 daughters (19:8)
 - i. Some thoughts . . .
- (d) Concluding illustration: a PA ghost town

The word Peter uses - tephro - "to reduce to ashes, to cover with ashes" - is only found here in the NT- The same word is used by Dio Cassius (lxvi) in his account of the eruption of Vesuvius in AD 79 when the city of Pompeii was buried in lava

What's the point of all this and who are the "ungodly"?

b. Two Examples of God's Gracious Preservation of the Righteous (5,7)

- (1) Noah (5)
- (2) Lot (7)