

2 Peter

Sermon Notes – June 2, 2019

[#05] *We are People Under God's Book*

2 Peter 1:16–21

Children's Sermon: The Way That Leads to Life

You vs. Wild: The Swamp or the Razor Grass?
Easy Way to Eternal Death, Hard Way to Eternal Life



Matthew 7:13–14

¹³ “Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and *the way is easy that leads to destruction*, and those who enter by it are many. ¹⁴ For the gate is narrow and *the way is hard that leads to life*, and those who find it are few.

- Hebrews 12:2 – Joy, Cross... Throne // Luke 9:23 – Take Up Our Cross, Deny Self...

Diligently Pursue Virtue with Faith in God's Promises (1:3-11)
Remind, Remind & Recall! (1:13-15)

Notes:

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to **forgive** us our sins and to **cleanse** us from all unrighteousness.



Our Word is from God not Men (2 Peter 1:16-21)

Today's Biblical Bullet...

The Apostles' are speaking God's own Word,
and so this is where **true knowledge** is found. (1:5–8)



I. We are not Making this Up (1:16)

¹⁶ For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we **made known** to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ,

but

we were (made) eyewitnesses of his majesty. (inspires awe)

II. We Heard the Voice from Heaven on the Mountain (1:17-18)

¹⁷ For

when he received from **God the Father**

honor and glory,

a voice was borne to him by the Majestic (very wonderful, magnificent) Glory,

“This is **my Son**, my beloved, with whom **I am well pleased** (take pleasure in),”

¹⁸ we ourselves **heard** this very voice

borne from heaven,

for we were with him on the holy mountain.

III. Our Word More Fully Confirms the OT Prophets (1:19a)

¹⁹ And

we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed. (Cf. 3:1–2)

IV. Pay Attention (1:19b-21)

to which

you will do well

to pay attention

as to *a lamp* shining in a dark place, until *the day dawns* and

the morning star rises in your hearts. (lit. Venus)

To the Church in Thyatira

Revelation 2:26–28 (Cf. Num. 24:17; Isa. 60:3)

²⁶ The one who conquers and who keeps my works until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations... ²⁸ And I will give him **the morning star**.

Revelation 22:16

¹⁶ **I, Jesus**, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches. **I am** the root and the descendant of David, **the bright morning star**.⁷ (Jn 1 –light, life; 8:31–32 –truth...set free)



V. Every Scripture is from God not Men (1:19b-21)

²⁰ knowing this first *of all*, that **no prophecy of Scripture comes** (comes into existence)

from someone's own interpretation (explanation).

²¹ For no prophecy

was ever **produced** by the will of man,

but

men **spoke** from **God**

as they were carried along¹ by the **Holy Spirit**.

We are People Under God's Book

...Fired at our Life & Heart

God's will for our life and conduct
is found in God's Word alone.



I. Easy to Say, Hard to Practice (1 Jn. 1:9)



A. I get this wrong when...

1. I trust the opinion of men more than the word of God
(Often my own opinion)

Nadab, Uzzah, Ananias, 1 Cor. 11:29–31; Matt. 7:21–23

¹ "to so influence others as to cause them to follow a recommended course of action"

Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). *Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament: based on semantic domains* (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition., Vol. 1, p. 464). New York: United Bible Societies.

2. I am a **Functional Antinomian** (We don't know the Scriptures)
3. I don't think in biblical categories or use biblical terms

B. **Illustration: Sexual Ethics** (**Biblical Understanding of our body**)
 (Sensuality in 2 Peter 2:2, 7, 18; Relevance)

2 Peter 2:10a

¹⁰ and especially those who indulge in *the lust of defiling passion* and *despise authority*. ...

1. **Biblical baseline:** Sex is God's; Sex is good; Sex is designed for the one body union of one man with one woman for one lifetime (unity, procreation & glory).
2. **Sexual Revolution:** Sex is good, consent is the only standard, not having fulfilling sex is harmful.

U.S. News & World Report. "Is Abstinence Unhealthy?"

By Kristine Crane, July 7, 2014

Abstinence, unlike not eating, doesn't physically damage you, at least not directly.

"It's not a health crisis if you don't," Debra Herbenick, a research scientist and professor at Indiana University Bloomington School of Public Health, says. ...

Abstinence, however, can become unhealthy – psychologically – when you want to have sex but aren't. "People will say, 'I want to but I'm shy,' or 'I don't know how to approach people.' That's really hard for people and can make them feel awful about themselves."

And the anxiety of unfulfilled desire, coupled with the pressure to have sex – whether it's societal or self-inflicted – can become a vicious cycle, Herbenick adds.

NBC News.com "No sex may be no fun – but is it unhealthy?"

By Brian Alexander

Having sex is good for you. We here at [name of organization] have said so before and we will say so again partly because it's true, but also because we are enormously pleased about it. ...

What evidence there is indicates that it is possible to live a long, healthy, celibate life. But we here at [name of organization] think somebody ought to do a study on why anybody would want to.

3. **Secular Thinking Infiltrating the Church** ⁱ

Christian, single women in her 30s: *"With sexuality (and with singleness) could you look at masturbation from a theological perspective? I think it is something that maybe teenage guys hear about all the time, but rarely even gets whispered about among women. And it's not that I think there would be different rules, but rather I need a theological framework in which to think about it, and*

no one wants to even begin talking. I'm single and in my 30s and my non-Christian friends think 'contentment in singleness' is a euphemism for something. Are they right?"

1 Answer of 7 (only 2 had biblical understanding of the body):

I am sure others are better equipped to speak to the biblical/theological dimension of this conversation, so I'll just say that I do not see the Bible as giving any sort of indictment against masturbation, although a puritanical narrative of sexuality is often imposed upon the Bible to make it seem that way. I think that masturbation can absolutely be a healthy part of both married and unmarried sexuality. [**lust only issue; not sinful for me...**]

CCEF - New Growth Press Winston Smith *The Problem with Masturbation*

II. Biblical Knowledge Self-Control, Steadfastness, & Love

A. Sin Against God's Design (Biblical Understanding of our body)

1 Corinthians 6:13

"Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food"—and God will destroy both one and the other. *The body is not meant for sexual immorality*, but **for the Lord**, and the Lord for the body.

B. Sinning Against Our Own Bodies

1 Corinthians 6:18–20

¹⁸ Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person *sins against his own body*. ¹⁹ Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, ²⁰ for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

C. In Some Circumstances Celibacy is Better

1 Corinthians 7:36–38

³⁶ If anyone thinks that he is not behaving properly toward his betrothed, if his passions are strong, and it has to be, let him do as he wishes: let them marry—it is no sin. ³⁷ But whoever is firmly established in his heart, being under no necessity but having *his desire under control*, and has determined this in his heart, to keep her as his betrothed, he will do well. ³⁸ So then he who marries his betrothed does well, and **he who refrains from marriage will do even better**.

ⁱ <https://rachelheldevans.com/blog/christians-masturbation?>