

INSIGHTS ON 2 PETER: CONQUERING THROUGH CONFLICT

DISOBEDIENCE GONE TO SEED

2 PETER 2:12–19



The Heart of the Matter

Some scenes in Scripture are lovely beyond description. Like a flower-filled field, these scenes are imbued with colors and fragrances, gentle rolling hills and fleecy clouds—images that bring us needed comfort. Such visual feasts leave us encouraged and full of hope. And then there are other pen portraits so harsh we find them repulsive. They stab us awake, they make us frown, they disturb our peace. The verses of 2 Peter 2:12–19 fall in the latter category. Among the most severe in the Bible, these words hold nothing back. They vividly represent the ugliness of unbelief . . . disobedience gone to seed. Going through this passage is as distasteful as walking through a garbage dump, where rotting food and rotten animal corpses fill the air with their vile pungency. But God commanded Peter to lead us through this wasteland and learn from what we see, hear, and smell.



Discovering the Way

1. God Tells the Truth about Everything

God never sugarcoats the truth. He always gives it straight and strong.

2. Peter Wrote the Truth about Apostates (2 Peter 2:12–19)

False teachers look impressive but are really depraved (2:12–14). False teachers forsake truth and go astray (2:15–17). False teachers promise freedom but are enslaved themselves (2:18–19).



Starting Your Journey

We are to live the truth, no matter what. And the way we do that is to walk closely with God, to heed the counsel of His Word, and to respect the Holy Spirit as He prompts our hearts.

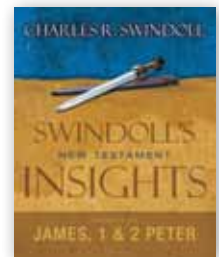


Tools for Digging Deeper



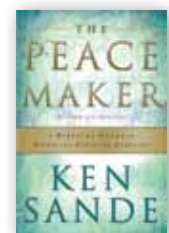
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