

INSIGHTS ON 2 PETER: CONQUERING THROUGH CONFLICT

WHICH IS WORSE? WHAT IS BEST?

2 PETER 2:20–3:2



The Heart of the Matter

Peter pounded pretty hard on false teachers throughout the second chapter of 2 Peter—

and deservedly so. As he came to the last three verses of that chapter, he concluded that it would have been better for them if they had never heard or known the truth about Christ than to have known and rejected the truth. Turning away from the false teachers, Peter then gave attention to true believers in 2 Peter 3:1–2, reminding them to keep their minds wholesome by sticking with the truth found in the Word of God. One set of individuals represents what is worse—to know and reject. Another set of individuals represents what is best—to know and accept. For us to be counted in the latter, we must stir up our minds by way of the Word.



Discovering the Way

1. A Brief Review: Which Is Worse? (2 Peter 2:20–22)

The context of these last three verses is the fallacy of false teachers. The consequence of their fallacy is they have knowledge without faith. And the question is which is better: head knowledge without heart knowledge or ignorance?

2. A Statement of Purpose: What Is Best? (2 Peter 3:1–2)

Peter wrote this letter to stir the already wholesome minds of his readers by reminding them that their responsibility is to remember the Word of God.



Starting Your Journey

So what? What is the practical response for us? Well, because knowledge brings responsibility, we should put into action what we know. Because responsibility means accountability, we should be able to endure examination. And because accountability is to be expected, we should return often to orthodox truth.

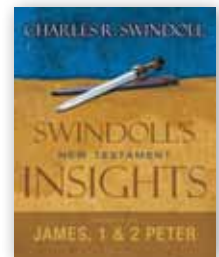


Tools for Digging Deeper



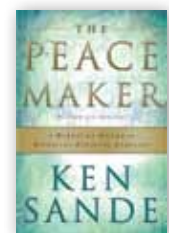
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