

## 2Ti 3:1-5

6-21-20

1. This morning we will continue the study of Second Timothy where Paul from prison writes to Timothy in Ephesus.
2. For a written and/or audio presentation of this lesson go to *westbankbiblechurch.com* and *click-on streaming audio of services*.
3. Before we continue, I want to give you opportunity to use 1Jo 1:9 as may or may not be necessary.
4. When the clock tolled 11:30 last week I was about to teach 2Ti 3:1-5.

### KJV

2Ti 3:1 This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

2Ti 3:2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

2Ti 3:3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,

2Ti 3:4 Traitors, heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

2Ti 3:5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

### NIV

2Ti 3:1 But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days.

2Ti 3:2 People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy,

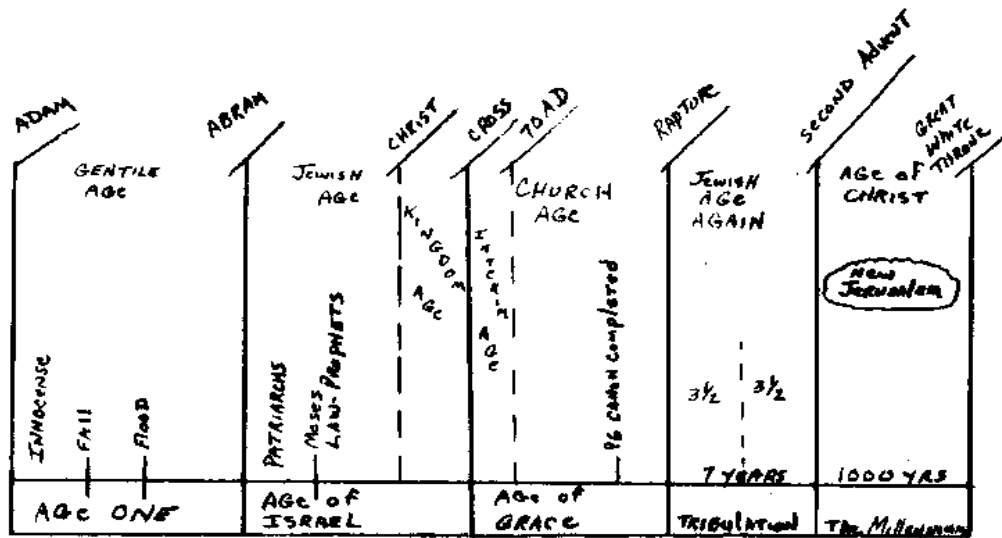
2Ti 3:3 without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good,

2Ti 3:4 treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God --

2Ti 3:5 having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with them.

5. I think the best way to teach these verses is to review the ***Doctrine of False Communicators***.

6. There were many false teachers actively resisting the Lord during the Kingdom Age.



1. They were primarily the religious heirarchy consisting of the Scribes, Pharisees and Sadducees. Mat 15:1-3, 16:1-4, 19:3-8; Mar 11:15-18
2. The Scriptures are replete with teachings about false communicators called: false prophets, wolves in sheep's clothing, Satan's ministers, wells without water, hiring prophets, profane and vain babblers.

### 2.1 False Prophets:

Jer 14:14 Then the LORD said unto me, The prophets prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake unto them: they prophesy unto you a false vision and divination, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart.

Mat 7:15 Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are rapacious wolves.

Mat 24:11 And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.

Mat 24:24 For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.

Mar 13:22 For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect.

Luk 6:26 Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you! for so did *your forefathers; they even spoke well of the false prophets of their day.*

**Footnote: Compare this verse with 1Jo 4:1-5:**

**1Jo 4:1** Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

**1Jo 4:2** This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God,

**1Jo 4:3** but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world.

**1Jo 4:4** You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.

**1Jo 4:5** They are from the world and therefore speak from the viewpoint of the world, and the world listens to them.

2Pe 2:1 But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

## 2.2 Wolves in Sheep's Clothing

Mat 10:16 Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.

Luk 10:3 Go your ways: behold, I send you forth as lambs among wolves.

Acts 20:29 For I know this, that after my departing from Ephesus shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.

## 2.3 Satan's Ministers

2Co 11:4 For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him ...

2Co 11:13 For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, masquerading as apostles of Christ.

2Co 11:14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

2Co 11:15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

#### 2.4 Wells Without Water

2Pe 2:17 These are wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved forever.

2Pe 2:18 For when they speak great swelling words of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through much wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error.

2Pe 2:19 While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.

2Pe 2:20 For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning.

2Pe 2:21 For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them.

2Pe 2:22 But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.

#### 2.5 Hirelings

Joh 10:12 But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep.

Joh 10:13 The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep.

#### 2.6 Profane and Vain Babblers

1Ti 6:20 O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called:

2Ti 2:16 But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness.

## 2.7 Ship wreckers of the faith

1Ti 1:18 Timothy, my son, I give you this instruction in keeping with the prophecies once made about you, so that by following them you may fight the good fight,

1Ti 1:19 holding on to faith and a good conscience. Some have rejected these and so have shipwrecked their faith.

1Ti 1:20 Among them are **Hymenaeus** and **Alexander**, whom I have handed over to Satan to be taught not to blaspheme.

2Ti 4:14 **Alexander the metalworker** did me a great deal of harm. The Lord will repay him for what he has done.

2Ti 4:15 You too should be on your guard against him, because he strongly opposed our message.

## 3. Several Old Testament examples:

3.1 Satan convinced one-third of the angels to follow him in his rebellion and terrible act of pride.

Isa 14:12 How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!

Isa 14:13 For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:

Rev 12:4 And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.

3.2 Satan was a deft false communicator when he possessed the snake, a creature originally created as a thing of beauty but later cursed to its present state because of his seduction of Eve.

Gen 3:1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

Gen 3:2 The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden,

Gen 3:3 but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'

Gen 3:4 "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman.

Gen 3:5 "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

Gen 3:6 When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

3.3 Satan, as with all sin, was also a major player in the slaying of Abel.

Gen 4:2 Later she gave birth to his brother Abel. Now Abel kept flocks, and Cain worked the soil.

Gen 4:3 In the course of time Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the LORD.

Gen 4:4 But Abel brought fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The LORD looked with favor on Abel and his offering,

Gen 4:5 but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor. So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast.

Gen 4:6 Then the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast?"

Gen 4:7 If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it."

Gen 4:8 Now Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's go out to the field." And while they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.

Joh 8:44 "Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it."

3.4 There were false communicators who no doubt tried to dissuade Noah in building the ark. As John Grey Barnhouse has said in his book entitled *Genesis*:

"We must realize it had never rained upon the earth. Rain was one of the things not seen as yet. What a fool Noah must have seemed to those who lived around him, when he warned of a change in nature that was one of the greatest in geological history."

3.5 There were false communicators who rose up against Moses.

3.5.1 At Horeb - No Water

Exo 17:2 Wherefore the people did chide with Moses, and said, Give us water that we may drink. And Moses said unto them, Why chide ye with me? wherefore do ye tempt the LORD?

Exo 17:3 And the people thirsted there for water; and the people murmured against Moses, and said, Wherefore is this that thou hast brought us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our cattle with thirst?

Exo 17:4 And Moses cried unto the LORD, saying, What shall I do unto this people? they be almost ready to stone me.

Exo 17:5 And the LORD said unto Moses, Go on before the people, and take with thee of the elders of Israel; and thy rod, wherewith thou smotest the river, take in thine hand, and go.

Exo 17:6 Behold, I will stand before thee there upon the rock in Horeb; and thou shalt smite the rock, and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.

3.5.2 Korah – Open Rebellion

Num 16:2 Now Korah and his men rose up against Moses, with certain of the children of Israel, two hundred and fifty princes of the assembly, famous in the congregation, men of renown:

Num 16:3 And they gathered themselves together against Moses and against Aaron, and said unto them, You take too much upon you, seeing all the congregation are holy, every one of them, and the LORD is among them ...

Num 16:4 And when Moses heard it, he fell upon his face:

Num 16:5 And he spake unto Korah and unto all his company, saying, Even tomorrow the LORD will show who are his, and who is holy; and will cause him to come near unto him: even him whom he hath chosen will he cause to come near unto him.

Num 16:6 This do; Take your censers, Korah, and all his company;  
Num 16:7 And put fire therein, and put incense in them before the LORD tomorrow: and it shall be that the man whom the LORD doth choose, he shall be holy: ye take too much upon you, ye sons of Levi.  
Num 16:8 And Moses said unto Korah, Hear, I pray you, ye sons of Levi:  
Num 16:9 Seemeth it but a small thing unto you, that the God of Israel has separated you from the congregation of Israel, to bring you near to himself to do the service of the tabernacle of the LORD, and to stand before the congregation to minister unto them?  
Num 16:10 And he has brought you near to him, and all your brethren the sons of Levi with you: and seek you the priesthood also?  
Num 16:11 For which cause both you and all your company are gathered together against the LORD: and what is Aaron, that you murmur against him?

### 3.5.3 Korah and Followers Executed

Num 16:33 They, and all that appertained to them, went down alive into the pit, and the earth closed upon them: and they perished from among the congregation.  
Num 16:34 And all Israel that were round about them fled at the cry of them: for they said, Lest the earth swallow us up also.  
Num 16:35 And there came out a fire from the LORD, and consumed the two hundred and fifty men that offered incense.

3.6 Aaron could not handle the Exodus generation in Moses' absence. He became a false communicator forsaking his "responsibilities as High Priest."

Exo 32:1 When the people saw that Moses was so long in coming down from the mountain, they gathered around Aaron and said, "Come, make us gods who will go before us. As for this fellow Moses who brought us up out of Egypt, we don't know what has happened to him."  
Exo 32:2 Aaron answered them, "Take off the gold earrings that your wives, your sons and your daughters are wearing, and bring them to me."  
Exo 32:3 So all the people took off their earrings and brought them to Aaron.



Exo 32:4 He took what they handed him and made it into an idol cast in the shape of a calf, fashioning it with a tool. Then they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of Egypt."

Exo 32:5 When Aaron saw this, he built an altar in front of the calf and announced, "Tomorrow there will be a festival to the LORD."

Exo 32:6 So the next day the people rose early and sacrificed burnt offerings and presented fellowship offerings. Afterward they sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in revelry.

3.7 In Numbers chapters 22 through 25 we find the terrible example of Balaam. So evil was this man, he became the New Testament example for all false teachers; especially those with improper motivations.

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