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| Slide # |  |
| 1 | **Preventing Apostasy - Being Watchful & Alert**  2 Peter Chapter 2 |
| 2 | **Why did Israel turn away in continual apostasy?** (Jeremiah 8:4-5)  **Peter warns of those who would lead Christians into apostasy in 2 Peter 2.** There **always have been** & **always will be** as long as our adversary fights us!  Jeremiah Chapter 8:4-5; cf., 2 Thessalonians 2:3  **What is apostasy?**   * Hebrew word means “**a turning away, a turning back**… a backsliding” (Thayer) through action or inaction. * Greek word “apostasia” meaning “**defection from truth**” (Strong), “**a falling away**”. “A defection or revolt”. (Vine) |
| 3 | **The need for fear & trembling**  **2 Peter 2:10-11**, *“****Daring, self-willed****,* ***they do not tremble when they revile angelic majesties…****”*  **Godly fear & trembling will help prevent apostasy**! **Without, it is unrestrained.** (Isaiah 66:1-2; Jeremiah 2:19; 5:24; 36:23-24; Deuteronomy 17:18-19; 31:10-13; 6:1-9 Psalms 36:1-4; Romans 1:18ff; 3:10-18) |
| 4 | **The need to Be watchful & alert**  2 Peter 2:1-3 warns *“****false teachers****… will* ***secretly******introduce******destructive*** *(damnable,* KJV*)* ***heresies****…”*   * ***“Heresies”*** - “**properly a choice**, i.e., disunion.” (Strong) “a body of men **separating themselves from others** and **following their own tenets** (a sect or party)… dissensions arising from **diversity of opinions and aims**.” (Thayer) |
| 5 | **Be watchful and alert**  2 Peter 2:1-3 warns *“false teachers… will* ***secretly introduce*** *destructive heresies…”*  **How do they operate?**  **They *“secretly introduce”* their alternatives to the gospel.**(Galatians 2:4-5, “**smuggled in**”; Jude 4, “**settle in alongside**”)  **Jesus warned** about *“****false prophets*** *who come to you in* ***sheep's clothing****, but are* ***ravenous wolves.****”* (Matthew 7:15) |
| 6 | **Take heed & beware**  **That’s why Paul warned the Ephesian elders** in Acts 20:29-30.  *“****Be on guard****…* ***yourselves*** (“***from among your own selves****”,* vs. 30) *&* ***all the flock****”*   * ***“Savage wolves”*** (in sheep’s clothing) will seek to devour. * *“****Be on the alert****…* ***admonish*** *with tears…* ***commend*** *to* ***God*** *and the* ***word*** *of His grace.”* |
| 7 | **Take heed & beware**  ***See to it that…”***   * Colossians 2:8*, “no* ***one takes you captive****…”* * Luke 21:8, “***you are not misled***…” * Because **it will spread if unchecked**: (Matthew 16:12; Titus 1:9-11; Galatians 2:5) * **What about what isn’t said?** (Acts 20:27; Jeremiah 26:2) |
| 8 | **Take heed & beware**   * **That’s why Paul spent so much time warning Timothy & Titus**! (1 Timothy 1:3; 6:3, 20-21; 2 Timothy 2:15-18; 4:2-4; Titus 2:1) |
| 9 | **Take heed & beware**  **Drifting is so subtle…** (Hebrews 2:1)  *“For this reason we* ***must pay much closer attention*** *to what we have heard,* ***so that we do not drift from it****.”*  **Out of “*neglect*”.** (Hebrews 2:3)  Must keep “**searching**” (Acts 17:11), “**examining**” (2 Corinthians 13:5), “**feeding**” on God’s word. (1 Tim. 4:6) |
| 10 | **Take heed, beware, Sober up**  ***“Be on the alert… watchful,*** ASV***”*** (Acts 20:31; 1 Corinthians 16:13)   * “Keep awake, i.e, watch” (Strong); “Spiritually alert” (Vine); “Give strict attention to, be cautious” (Thayer)   ***“Be soberminded…”*** (1 Corinthians 15:33-34; 1 Thess. 5:4ff; 1 Peter 1:13; 4:7; 5:8) |
| 11 | **Realize the consequences**  2 Peter 2:1-3, the nature of the “heresies” is that they are “***destructive or damnable,*** *(*KJV*)”* (“**Loss of well-being, not of being”,** Vine)   * **Defines the end of the “*broad way*”.** (Matthew 7:13-14; cf., 1 Timothy 6:9; Phil. 3:19) * **The judgment** Peter later referred to in 2 Peter 3:7. |
| 12 | **What must I do to be saved?** (Acts 2:37; 16:30; 22:10)  **Realize like all, I have sinned** and that my sins have separated me from God and I stand condemned. (Romans 3:23; 6:23; Isaiah 59:1-2)  **Believe** **Jesus Christ is the Messiah**, the Son of God who came to lay down His life for you! (John 8:24; Matthew 16:16; Acts 8:37)  **Confess** your faith before others. (Matthew 10:32; Romans 10:10 |
| 13 | **What must I do to be saved?** (Acts 2:37; 16:30; 22:10)  **Repent of your sins,** turning your heart from your sinful ways to God’s. (Acts 3:19; 26:18-20)  **Be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ** for remission/**forgiveness** of your sins, to have your **conscience cleansed**, to walk in **newness of life**, and to be *added to the Lord’s church*. (Acts 2:38-41; Romans 6:3-4; 1 Peter 3:21) |