

Text: 2 Peter 2:10-12a
Topic: Authority. Pride.
Series: Book of 2 Peter

Focal Point Radio Ministries

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part 1



The Sins Christians Tolerate

A Quest for Power

2:9 if this is so, then the Lord knows how to rescue godly men from trials and to hold the unrighteous for the day of judgment, while continuing their punishment. **10 This is especially true of those who follow the corrupt desire of the sinful nature and despise authority.**

Bold and arrogant, these men are not afraid to slander celestial beings; 11 yet even angels, although they are stronger and more powerful, do not bring slanderous accusations against such beings in the presence of the Lord. 12 But these men blaspheme in matters they do not understand.

They are like brute beasts, creatures of instinct, born only to be caught and destroyed, and like beasts they too will perish. 13 They will be paid back with harm for the harm they have done. Their idea of pleasure is to carouse in broad daylight. They are blots and blemishes, reveling in their pleasures while they feast with you. 14 With eyes full of adultery, they never stop sinning; they seduce the unstable; they are experts in greed—an accursed brood! 15 They have left the straight way and wandered off to follow the way of Balaam son of Beor, who loved the wages of wickedness. 16 But he was rebuked for his wrongdoing by a donkey—a beast without speech—who spoke with a man's voice and restrained the prophet's madness. (NIV)

1. Give _____

2. Be _____

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's message. It is recommended that you take time this week to write out your response to each of these questions. This will help to drive home the point of today's message and will help you apply the principles to your life situation.

1. All sin is offensive to God. Nevertheless, there are some sins that we Christians have learned to live with. Peter wants us to not only be aware of these sins, he wants them to become intolerable in our lives and in our church. The first sin that Peter addresses is the sin of pride that is showcased in the power-hungry attitudes of the false teachers. In what ways have you witnessed the insidious, stealthy nature of pride in your own life?

Read the second half of 1 Peter 5:5. How have you seen this principle enforced in your life?

2. Read 1 Peter 2:13-17. How do you think you are doing in maintaining this proper attitude toward the authority figures in the following areas of your life?

- Your government:

- Your workplace:

- Your church:

- Your family:

The power-hungry people in 2 Peter 2 are described as badmouthing authority figures. Review the four categories listed above. Read Titus 3:1-2. Are you guilty of "slandering" anybody in those areas of your life? If so, confess this sin to God. How will you initiate a new pattern of honor, support, and respect for these people?

3. What positions of authority do you hold? Who looks up to you as an authority?

What can you do to reflect the godly attitude that was discussed in the second half of this week's message?