

Text: 2 Peter 2:12b-14a
Topic: Lust. Pleasure.
Series: Book of 2 Peter

Focal Point Radio Ministries

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The Sins Christians Tolerate

A Thirst for Pleasure

Part 2

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. Ponder _____

2. Teach _____

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. Some people teach that physical desires are never to be truly gratified. Read 1 Timothy 4:1-4 and Proverbs 13:12. What do these verses tell us about that perspective? Based on these two passages what is God's view of our physical desires?
2. According to our passage in 2 Peter 2 our desires can easily become a problem as they fight for a position of preeminence in our lives. How can the two passages from the previous question be used as an excuse for letting this happen?
3. We were exhorted in the message to identify the desires that are mavericks in our lives. Which desires fit this description in for you?
4. Read Romans 6:16-18. This passage teaches us that our commitment to Christ is key to being freed from the tyranny of maverick desires. Are you sure that you can point to a time in your life when you did what is described in Romans 6:17?
5. The incredible thing about our new life in Christ is that God transforms us from the inside out (2Cor.5:17). According to the Bible if you are a genuine Christian then your core desires have been rewired. If this is an unfamiliar concept to you, you might want to acquire tape #98-08 ("The Art of Controlling Yourself" – 2Pt.1:6a). Read Galatians 5:16-24. Why is the distinction between our spiritual desires and fleshly desires so important?
6. Part of what Peter is concerned about in our passage is the problem of these people "baiting the hook" for the indulgence of other people's desires. Is there anything you can identify in your life that might possibly feed the maverick reign of someone else's desires?
7. Who will be an Apostle Peter in your life, providing that all-important accountability about the proper control of your desires?