

ENSLAVED BY FALSE FREEDOM *from* 2 PETER 2:17-19

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The false teachers in 2 Peter not only taught false doctrine, but lived like reprobates. They were after the Christians, to draw them into their own sinfulness. In verses 17-19, Peter shines more light on the destructive lifestyle and methods of these charlatans.

The core issue was a distorted view of Christian liberty. Freedom in Christ was turned on its head. Peter warns the believers to reject this false freedom. Unfortunately, notions of false freedom still circulate today. Many Christians in our generation promise fraudulent liberty and turn the free grace of Christ promised in gospel into a greenhouse for sin.

We too must reject false freedom. Peter gives four reasons to do so:

1. False freedom vainly dazzles us toward rejecting right doctrine (v17-18a).
2. False freedom sensually draws us toward abusing saving grace (v18b).
3. False freedom carefully deceives us into living like unbelievers (v18c).
4. False freedom powerfully dominates us by shackling us in our broken chains (v19).