<u>2 Peter 2</u>

V1-3 False teachers and what they are like

What does Peter want his readers to know about false teachers? (Think about their location, their attitude to Jesus and other people, their lifestyle.)

What will the results of their choices be A) for others? B) for themselves?

V4-9 The Scriptures assure us of their coming judgement

Verse 4 starts with a 'for' or because, so it's explaining what Peter has just said in verse 3. What is the conclusion of his argument in v9 (note the 'For....if' construction)? How do his Old Testament examples back that up?

Look now at the two examples of righteous people, Noah and Lot. What does their righteousness look like in practice?

How do their examples challenge and encourage us as we too live in a world hostile to God?

V10-16 So recognise the portrait of a false teacher

What are the attitudes (10-12) and behaviour (13-16) that Peter outlines here? Why do you think he uses such strong language?

V17-22 And see the results of their ministry

However impressive or scary false teachers might look, what is really true of them?

What does v22 make clear about their real state, as opposed to what they say about themselves?

Thinking it through

Try to sum up what we have learned about false teachers?

Where will we find them? What are their attitudes and lifestyle? What can we be sure about as far as their future is concerned?

How would we know if there were people like this at Highfields?

As we consider the examples of Noah and Lot, how can we learn from them so that we grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus and don't get carried away by the error of false teachers (cf 3:17-18)?