

USING SCRIPTURE TO DESTROY ONE'S SELF
II PETER 3:15-16

Introduction:

- A. The misuse of that which is good may bring tragic results.
 - 1. The sun's rays.
 - 2. Salt. 3. Water. 4. Chemicals.

- B. To misuse, wrongly interpret, mis-apply the Word of God will bring tragedy.
 - 1. Peter refers to Paul's writings.
 - 2. These teach facts about the "Day of the Lord."
 - a. "speaking in them of these things."
 - b. v15b

I. THE BIBLE IS NOT EASY TO UNDERSTAND.

- A. "Some things hard to be understood."
 - 1. Peter means there are difficulties in putting together an exact chronology of end time events.
 - 2. They were "according to wisdom given unto him."

- B. Peter does not exclude understanding.
 - 1. "Some things," not all things.
 - 2. We must, "study to show ourselves approved."

II. SOME PEOPLE TAKE ADVANTAGE OF SUCH PASSAGES.

- A. unlearned = untaught, uninstructed.
 - 1. This means unlearned in scriptures, not other things.
 - 2. Not unlearnable but not learned.

- B. unstable = not set fast, not firmly fix, not established
 - 1. These are "tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine."
 - 2. The only way to be stable is to learn the Bible

- C. "wrest as they do also the other scriptures."
 - 1. wrest = from strebia; a windlass, a winch, or an instrument of torture by twisting or turning, hence to pervert.
 - 2. The people "pulled" scripture out of its setting.

- D. They did other scriptures the same way.
 - 1. II Cor. 2:17. "For we are not as many, which corrupt [deal deceitfully with] the word of God; but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God speak we [in] Christ. (of)"
 - 2. Mark 7:6-13.
 - 3. Matt. 22:29 "Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God."
 - 4. Acts 13:27 (Paul at Antioch) "For they that dwell at Jerusalem, and their rulers, because they knew Him not, nor yet the voices of the prophets which are read every Sabbath day they have fulfilled them in condemning him."

III. SUCH ACTIVITY BRINGS DESTRUCTION.

- A. "unto their own destruction."
 - 1. destruction = of persons = death by violence, perdition.
 - 2. False teachers are not laughing matters!

- B. To believe the Bible is not enough to be saved, you must trust in the Jesus of the Bible.
 - 1. John 5:39 "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life; and they are they which testify of me."
 - 2. Jesus said, I am the way, the truth, and the life.

- C. Examples; 1. Catholics - O. T. 2. Ch. of Christ - Acts 2:38. 3. Jehovah's Witness - Eccles. "The dead know not anything." 4. Seventh Day Adventists - O.T. Sabbath Day