

2 Peter 1

Jesus

- **1 Peter:** Encourage persecuted believers
- **2 Peter:** Warn believers of false-teachers
 1. **Ch. 1** Knowing and Growing in Truth
 2. **Ch. 2** Recognizing False-Teachers
 3. **Ch. 3** Coming Judgment for Deceivers

Our best defense against deception is to know the Truth

- **Ch.1 Knowing and Growing in Truth**
 1. **Benchmarks** of Spiritual Growth
 2. **Reliability** of the God's Word

I. Greeting

1 Simon Peter, a **bondservant** and **apostle** of Jesus Christ,

- **Simon Peter**
 1. Bondservant of Jesus
 2. Apostle sent by Jesus

1b ...To those who have obtained **like precious faith** with us by the righteousness of our **God and Savior Jesus Christ...**

To all who received the same precious saving faith as we have
Obtained for us/Given to us by **God our Savior Jesus Christ**

2 Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord [Plural], **3 as His** [Singular] divine power has given to us all things that *pertain* to life and godliness...

May Grace and Peace be Multiplied in the Knowledge of Jesus

3 ...As His **divine power** has given to us **all things** that pertain to life and godliness, through the **knowledge of Him** who called us by glory and virtue, **4** by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the **divine nature**, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

The Power of God provides all we need for an Abundant and Godly life
Access/Key to this Power: Knowing the person of Jesus

Philippians 3:9 [He not it. I want to] be **found in Him...**¹⁰ that I may **know Him** and the power of **His resurrection**

2 Timothy 1:12b ... I am not ashamed, for I know **whom I have believed** and am persuaded that **He is able** to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.

Access to God's Power is found in our Knowledge of Jesus found in His Word
Trusting His Great/Precious Promises

- **Promises:** re. Forgiveness, Salvation, Sanctification, Glorification...everyday life
- **Knowledge** of Jesus/Trust in His promises allows us to...
 1. **Partake** in His Divine nature. Lit. Partner w/Him in His attributes
 2. **Power** to escape the worlds corrupting/Destructive influences

To the extent we are willing to yield our sinful nature to the authority of the Word of God
Will be the same extent we will partake in the nature/attributes of God

- **God's Divine Nature/Power** are readily available to us as we...
 1. **Yield** to His Word Don't doubt His inerrant Word
 2. **Yield** to His Spirit Don't resist His Spirit of Truth

Romans 12:1b ... present [yield] your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable [rational] service. 2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind...

V3 **Jesus called us by His Glory and Virtue** with His desire being that His glory and virtue would *rub off* on us as we draw near to Him just as Moses face shown with light after being in the presence of God. IOWs we should be changing for the better. [NJC]

II. Benchmarks

5 But also **for this very reason...**

Since the power to change is readily available to us as we draw near
We should be drawing near/Noticing Spiritual Growth/Benchmarks in our Lives...

5b... giving all diligence, add to your **faith virtue**, to virtue **knowledge**, 6 to knowledge **self-control**, to self-control **perseverance**, to perseverance **godliness**, 7 to godliness **brotherly kindness**, and to brotherly kindness **love**. 8 For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful [useless] in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Precious Faith is the Beginning of the Journey. **Now add..**

- **Virtue** Moral excellence. Excellence in general no matter what others are doing

...the courage to excel in life. You don't have to live a little mousy Mr. milk toast life and be a Yes Man in everything that comes along. [JV McGee]

- **Knowledge** Deeper knowledge of Jesus/Word of God. To participate in truth
- **Self-Control** Master our desires/passions/Vessel. Sin crouches master. Slow to anger
- **Patience** Steadfastness/Endurance. rt. suffer.
- **Godliness** Fear of God demonstrated in holiness. Love good hate evil
- **Bro Kind** gr. *Philadelphia*. Cherish one another. David called them excellent ones
- **Love** gr. *Agape*. Affection/Good will/Song of Solomon first mention

The nature of God will manifest in our lives as we yield our will to God's will.
We should see it...

2 Corinthians 3:18 [We behold...] as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as **by the Spirit of the Lord.**

We can hinder our transformation by taking the credit for it...

9 For he who lacks these [attributes of God] is shortsighted, even to **blindness**, and has **forgotten** that he was **cleansed from his old sins.**

When we forget where God has brought us from and begin to imagine we've arrived... we lose sight of our need for change. When we forget that God alone [with no help from us] pulled us out of our filth and depravity, we will hinder our spiritual growth; i.e. manifesting the attributes of God. [NJC]

10 Therefore, brethren...

Since it is possible to hinder our growth by prideful thinking...
We are to humbly yield to the Holy Spirit and...

10b... be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will **never stumble**; **11** for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Peter is not saying to diligently try harder for Jesus, but to...
Strive to enter His rest and these attributes will naturally/supernatural manifest

Growth is a sign of life. If there has been no spiritual growth in virtue, knowledge, self-control, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love then you're probably still spiritually dead and need to be born-again. [NJC]

2 Corinthians 13:5 Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you are disqualified.

Growth/Change are signs of life
Without signs of life we will not walk in the assurance of our Salvation
But stumble through life doubting/unusable

There are many Christians who believe in the security of the believer, but they do not have the assurance of their salvation. [JV McGee] Assurance comes when we hear/do [NJC]

1 John 3:18 ...let us not love in word or in tongue, **but in deed and in truth.** **19** And by this we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before Him. **20** For **if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart**, and knows all things.

When I don't feel saved I put I trust in what Jesus did for me...

Jude:1:24 Now to Him who is able to **keep you from stumbling**, And to present you faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, 25 To God our Savior.

An Entrance to Heaven is open to all who trust in the blood of Jesus but...
A Grand Entrance to Heaven is open to those who Hear/Do/Grow/Change

III. Reminder

12 For this reason...

Since we all want a Grand Entrance into Heaven...

12b ...I will not be negligent to remind you always of these things, though you know and are established in the **present truth**. 13 Yes, I think it is right, as long as I am in **this tent**, to **stir you up** by **reminding you**, 14 knowing that shortly I must put off my tent, just as our Lord Jesus Christ showed me. 15 Moreover I will be careful to ensure that you always have a **reminder of these things after my decease**.

- Peter reminds us of basics. Draw close to Jesus/Word and you will grow
- Peter knew he was going to die and how...

John 21:18b ...when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will gird you and carry you where you do not wish." **...19** This He spoke, signifying by what death he would glorify God..." **Follow Me.**"

Peter would follow Jesus to his own cross proclaiming the same message
We want to finish well by Fighting for/Keeping/Proclaiming the faith to the end...

2 Timothy 4:6 [Paul was ready] For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have **fought the good fight**, I have **finished the race**, I have **kept the faith**.

2 Corinthians 5:1 [Trade up]...we know that if our earthly house, **this tent**, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens... **4** For we who are **in this tent groan**, being burdened, not because we want to be unclothed, but **further clothed**, that mortality may be swallowed up by life... **6** So we are always confident, knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord. **7** For we walk by faith, not by sight. **8** We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be **absent from the body** and to be **present with the Lord**.

- I will continue to remind you of fundamentals: Draw close to Jesus/Word/And Grow
 1. To Stir you up now. Lit wake you up. Prepare you for false-teachers of Ch. 2
 2. To Have written record when I am gone knowing that...

In the midst of coming deception you can completely trust the Word of God...

IV. Word

16 For we **did not follow cunningly devised fables** [myths] when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, **but**

were eyewitnesses of His majesty. 17 For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." 18 And **we heard this voice** which came from heaven when **we were with Him on the holy mountain.**

- **End Times:** Gravitate to fables 2 Tim 4:4
- **Some say the Bible is a fable.** Challenge to you...

If you are truly sincere and want to give up your sins
God *will* make the Bible real to you

Peter will die proclaiming he was an eyewitness of God's fulfilled Word

Matthew 17:2 [Peter, James, John] ...[Jesus] was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as **white as the light**. 3 And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him. 4 Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, let us make here three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." 5 While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "**This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!**"

19 And so we [also] have the [more sure] prophetic word confirmed, which you **do well to heed as a light that shines** in a dark place, until the day dawns and the **morning star** [*phōsphoros*. Light bringer] rises in your hearts...

Q. What is more reliable than what we see/hear? **A.** Word of God

- **Peter saw the Prophetic Word Confirmed:** God promised a Savior. God sent a Savior

Psalms 138:2b...For You have **magnified Your word above all Your name.**

Prophecy is the mold in which history is poured...

There are at least 332 distinct Old Testament predictions regarding the Messiah that Jesus fulfilled perfectly. The combination of this evidence together, from a simple statistical perspective, is absolutely overwhelming ... the probability of any one man fulfilling eight of these prophecies is one in 100,000,000,000,000,000 (10 to the 17th power i.e. One in One Hundred Quadrillion). That number of silver dollars would cover the state of Texas two feet deep... if you consider 48 of the prophecies, the odds become one in **10 to the 157th power**...yet there are 332 prophecies that have been fulfilled.

God's Perfect Written Word is here as a bright shining Light in a dark world
God's Living Word is Coming to shine His Light forever

The Daystar/Light bringer/Living Word Himself Jesus reign over all and for all Time

- **For now:** Written Word validated by fulfilled prophesy

20 ...know this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation [origin]

IOWs No portion of the Scripture is to be interpreted apart from other references in Scripture on the same subject

21 ...for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke [spoke from God] as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.

It is as if the writers of Scripture "raised their sails" in cooperation with God and the Holy Spirit carried them along in the direction He wished. [Guzik]

IOWs The prophecy of Isaiah is not something that the prophet Isaiah thought up. [JV McGee]

66 Books/40 authors/Thousands of years/Three continents/Perfect Agreement

2 Timothy 3:16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,

- **Chapter 1:** Know the Truth by the Word
 1. **Benchmarks:** Knowledge of Jesus leads to Spiritual Growth
 2. **Reliability** of the Written Word: Validated by fulfilled Prophecy
- **Chapter 2:** How to Recognize False-Teachers by inerrant Word of God

The best defense against Deception is to know the Truth
Truth is found in the Word of God