

## 2 Peter Intro

10-13-21

### Poison in the Pews

#### I. Slide1 Announce:

A. Slide2-4 Harvest. C@R (Brenda Navarette). Fostering a Hope Comm.

B. Slide5 Prayer:

#### II. Slide6 Intro:

A. The famous coach *Vince Lombardi* classic line in the start of a new season would say, *Gentlemen, this is a football*. It was his way of showing them to never forget the **fundamentals**.

1. Coach Peter is going to *remind* us of the same things, the basics of the faith, the fundamentals. (1:12, 3:1 *remind*. Think 4 Gospels, *overlap*)

B. Slide7 It's important to know also that as Peter is writing this, he would continue to **suffer** for his own faith and not give up. *He preached 37 years, died at 70 yrs old*.

1. Peter's writing *from Rome*. **To the same audience**. At the end of his life (1:14)

2. According to tradition Peter was murdered/martyred for his faith.

[prophesied by Christ] **Crucified upside down**, because he *wasn't worthy* of his Lord's death.

a) Peter endured **suffering** and remained **holy**. He lived out his own letter *in his death*. These are *Peters Last Words*, read his *very last words* 2 Pete.3:18.

C. So these are Peter's last words. (read 3:18)

#### III. Slide8 POISON IN THE PEWS (2 Peter 1:1,2)

A. (1,2) **All** = !

B. **Equal standing** - Gentiles are not second class citizens. **Do you realize we are as righteous as Billy Graham or Peter?** (by *Jesus' rt*)

C. Peter explains the *more fully confirmed* truth of the gospel as an antidote to heresy. The gospel is like *a lamp shining in a dark place*. (1:19)

- D. Slide9 Peter's audience is the same, **but** his **theme** and **purpose** are different.
1. **1 Peter**, **Persecution** from **unbelievers** can be hard for Christians to bear.
  2. **2 Peter**, **Defection within the community** of believers can be even more devastating. [title: *Poison in the Pews*]
    - a) 1 Peter dealt w/*Pain w/a Purpose*; 2 Peter deals w/*Poison in the Pew*.
    - b) 1 Pet, Problems from the *outside*; 2 Pet, problems from the *inside*. [without/within]
      - (1) **Persecution** has always *cleansed and strengthened the church*; **False Teaching** *weakens the church and ruins its testimony*.
    - c) **The only weapon** to fight false teaching **and** the devil's lies is *the Word of God*, which is why Peter emphasizes *spiritual knowledge*.
      - (1) Not only is *knowledge* used **11 times** in these 3 ch's, **but** it is also **bookended** with it. The Gk technical term for this is **inclusio**, aka *bracketing or framing similar material at the beginning and end of a section*. (see 1:2, 3:18)
      - (2) Heb.2:1 says, *Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it*.

E. Peters exhortation is for them/us to **continue growing towards *Christian maturity***.

F. Slide10 **Outline** is by chapter break:

1. Ch.1 - Cultivation of *Christian Character*.
2. Ch.2 - Condemnation of *False Teachers*.
3. Ch.3 - Confidence of *Christ Return*.

#### IV. Slide11a **INSPIRATION (2 Peter 1:19-21)**

- A. We have here the clearest definition in the relationship *between God and man* on the issue of **Inspiration** in chapter 1:19-21.
- B. Slide11b **3 Principles Surface:** (19-21)

1. **#1** (19) The interpretation of Scripture is *not limited to* a favored elect **but** is open for all who *rightly divide the word of truth*. 2 Tim.2:15
  - a) Oct.31st we commemorate the **Reformation**. (the day ML nailed the *95 theses*)
  - b) **2 of the great legacies of the Reformation were:** the principle of **private interpretation** **and** the translation of the Bible into the **common language** of the people.
  - c) When Luther appeared before *the Diet of Worms* (a council charging him with heresy for his teaching) he declared, *Unless I am convicted by Scripture and plain reason - I do not accept the authority of popes and councils, for they have contradicted each other – my conscience is captive to the word of God. I cannot and I will not recant anything, for to go against conscience is neither right nor safe. God help me. Amen.*
    - (1) **Luthers translation of the Bible into his native tongue did 2 things:**
      - It** took from the RC Church it's sole right of interpretation.
      - It** put interpretation in the hands of the people. (this change of course became *problematic*. *i.e.* subjective interpretation of the text).
    - (2) **The principle of private interpretation does not mean** that God's people have the right to interpret the Bible in whatever manner they wish. **Because** along with the **right** to interpret scripture comes the **responsibility** to interpret it **properly**.
    - (3) A particular statement may have numerous possible personal **applications**, **but** it can only have one correct **meaning**.
2. **Slide11c #2** (20) The divinely inspired prophets/writers did not initiate the scripture **themselves**.
3. **#3** (21) The **Holy Spirit** (not the *emotion* or *circumstances* of the moment) **moved** holy men.

## V. Slide12 **INTERPRETATION**

- A. Any written document must be **interpreted** if it is to be **understood**.

1. It is why we have 9 highly skilled individuals whose daily task is to interpret the Constitution, *the Supreme Court*.<sup>1</sup>

B. Slide13 In **interpreting** the **Bible** it's a few things that we need to be reminded of.

1. The Bible is **its own** interpreter (the Bible is it be interpreted by the Bible).
2. We must interpret the Bible **literally**, as it is written (a noun is a noun, verb a verb, poetry is to be poetry, historical as history, Parables as a parable, hyperbole as hyperbole).
3. The Bible is to be **interpreted** like any other book.
4. **Obscure** parts of the Bible are to be interpreted by the **clearer** parts.
5. The **implicit** is to be interpreted in light of the **explicit**. (never the other way around).
  - a) If the text **implies** something, we don't accept the **implication** as correct if it goes against something **explicitly** stated somewhere else in Scripture.
6. The rules of **logic** govern what can reasonably be drawn or deduced from **Scripture**. (use common sense. Beware of illegitimate deductions)

## VI. Slide14a **VERBAL INSPIRATION** (2 Tim.3:12-17)

- A. 12 (sums up 1st Peter) **Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted,** 13 (sums up 2nd Peter) **while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.**
- B. **Then** vs.14-17 *sums up the whole purpose of the bible:* **Salvation** (14,15) & **Christian Living** (16,17).
1. Slide14b 14 **But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, 15 and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.**
  2. Slide14c 16 **All Scripture is breathed out by God, and profitable for teaching (what's right), for reproof (what's not rt), for correction (how to**

<sup>1</sup> R.C. Sproul, *Essentials of the Christian Faith*, pg.25

get rt), and for training in righteousness (how to stay rt), 17 **that** the man of God may be complete (for eternity), & equipped for every good work.

3. Spurgeon said, *The scriptures were not given for our **information**, but for our **transformation**.*

C. Slide 14d All – not some. *All Scripture is breathed out by God.* [Inspiration]

1. **Not Concept or Thought Inspiration, but Verbal Inspiration.**

a) **Concept, or Thought Inspiration** = only the concept, or thoughts, of men were given by inspiration. [Trouble w/this? pick & choose]

b) **Verbal Inspiration** = The very words were given by the HS (the writers weren't left absolutely to themselves in the choice of words they should use).

(1) **But** the each reflect *their own characteristic style of writing* (Lk spoke to eyewitnesses) which is all supervised by the HS.

2. **Not Partial Inspiration, but Plenary/Full Inspiration.**

a) **Partial Inspiration** = The bible only *contains* the word of God.

(1) **Partial** implies the bible contains much that is *not* inspired. **And then who decides which is, or isn't?**

b) **Plenary/Full Inspiration** = holds *All* Scripture to be inspired.

D. Ps.12:6,7 msg *God's words are pure words, Pure silver words refined 7 times In the fires of his word-kiln, Pure on earth as well as in heaven.*

E. **Next week Pastor Dan** will share on the first section of ch.1.

1. Here Peter will give us the **privileges** we have as Christians (3,4).

2. **Then** he will exhort us to **grow in our godliness** (5-11).

F. Peter will show us we have *standing, power, and resources* in order to *go live a certain way*.

1. We're not *earning* that standing. **And** we are not *powerless* to pursue godliness.

2. They are in the **indicative**, *statements of fact*. **And** the **imperative**, *how we are to live*.

a) And this **indicative** *precedes* the **imperative**, it empowers the imperative.

G. Keywords: God, grace, history, Holy Spirit, Jesus, prophet, remembrance, righteousness, Gospel.