

Wednesday, February 28, 2024  
THE WRITINGS OF PETER  
PART 9

We continue our study of the writings of Peter, the apostle tonight but enter a brand-new letter – the letter called, 2 Peter. This letter was probably written around 65-68 AD since it is believed that Peter was martyred by Nero in about 68AD. In this letter, Peter refers to his first letter which we have studied. While Peter focused on three primary themes in his first letter:

1. Sacrifice
2. Submission
3. Sanctification

His primary focus in the second letter is false teachers and the Day of the Lord. But first, Peter reminds the reader that the revelation of Jesus as Messiah is confirmed and therefore, we must make our calling and election sure.

2 Peter 1:1-11 (NKJV)

Peter celebrates our “precious” faith by reminding us that God has withheld nothing we need to live a godly life. Because of His goodness and glory, He has given us: *Great and precious promises: Costly and valuable; very greatest or ultimate; voluntarily or spontaneously made.* Through these promises, we participate in the divine nature and escape corruption. We turn our attention to the work of the Spirit within us as it brings the Word to pass. We are transformed through the “pipeline of glory”. If we say we believe and no transformation is taking place, we are blind. Our calling and election as believers is confirmed by the supernatural transformation of the Holy Spirit by the Word of God. Knowing his readers have heard these things from him before does not keep Peter from reminding them of the truth.

2 Peter 1:12-21 (NKJV)

Peter knows that his time upon the earth is short. He remembers what Jesus told him:

John 21:18-19 (NKJV)

Since history refers to Peter's mode of death as being crucifixion (upside down) in about 68AD, we see Jesus' words come true. Peter wrote his letters as a way of keeping the truth before the believers. Peter reminds us that he was with Jesus when Jesus was transfigured. It was there that they heard the voice of the Father in heaven affirm to them that Jesus was God's Son. All the prophetic messages regarding Jesus' birth, death, and resurrection and Second Coming are sure and serve as a guarantee to all who believe and serve as a light until His Second Coming dawns and the morning star rises in our hearts.

*The morning star: the bright star that at certain periods of the year leads on the day, and which is a pledge that the morning is about to dawn.  
(Compare Revelation 2:28; Revelation 22:16)*

Peter ends his talk about prophecy by speaking of the Scripture.

*Scripture: graphé – properly, writing. (graphé) is used 51 times in the NT – always of holy Scripture, i.e. the inspired, inerrant writings of the Bible (the 66 books of Scripture, 39 in Hebrew, 27 in Greek).*

The writings of Scripture are recognized as not coming from man but from the Holy Spirit. One of the basic beliefs of prophecy is that Scripture is considered the highest revelation of God to man. All other revelation should be measured by it. What Peter is sharing with them is from God.

Today's Scriptures:

- 2 Peter 1:1-21 (NKJV)
- John 21:18-19 (NKJV)