

# Note

## 2 Peter – Part 1 of 1

### Summary

2 Peter was written by Apostle Peter to remind the church of the importance of knowing and living their Christian identity during a time of an increase of false teachers in their midst who were driven by greed and lust. Peter also affirms to the believers that Christ will return again as The King and not to believe the false teachers who were claiming otherwise. The letter closes with Peter giving the church instructions for the church to follow, urging them to depend on the truth and to refuse the deception of the false teachers.

# Transcript

## 2 Peter – Part 1 of 1

Three years later, we come to the second letter, and times have changed somewhat, because now he sees the greater danger is false teachers. So you will find the word knowledge appears a lot. Let's look at Chapter 1, verses 2 and 3.

Chapter 1

verse 2:

May grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

You see straight away the word 'knowledge' and no more 'sufferings'. The word knowledge in the Bible is always experiential knowledge, not just head knowledge. A lot of people know things but never experience it. A lot of us talk about persecution, but haven't a clue what they're talking about.

verse 3:

His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence,

verse 4:

by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.

So he tells us, we have a new nature, reminding us you're born again. The Holy Spirit in you gives you a new nature.

Verses 5 to 8:

verse 5: For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge,

verse 6: and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness,

verse 7: and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love.

verse 8: For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

You see the word knowledge appears quite often. And you see that you have this new nature, you have a new potential to live a Christ-like life, but you must then use and build on this potential with what? With these things - virtue, knowledge, self-control, steadfastness, loyalty, godliness, brotherly affection, love. So, if you try to add acknowledge to it, work on love, work on steadfastness, patience, or endurance, work on a godly way of living, then you will be building on this potential. You have a new nature, but you also need to potentialize it.

So you see the word knowledge keeps popping up.

verse 10: Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall.

Let me confirm your election. You know, I'm called, I know I'm called, I know God has chosen me to be his child. But if I don't build on it, my faith will shake. I often begin to question, am I really a child of God?

But if you build on all these, and when the devil puts the question in your mind, Are you really a child of God? You say, of course I am. Why are you so sure? Because I can see my life is very different from the others. They are cursing, they are grumbling, I am not. They are rebelling, I am not; they are selfish, I am not. Then you must be a child of God, you confirm your call. It is not that you are confirming on God's behalf, you are confirming in your own mind about yourself. The devil likes to shake up your faith in God.

verse 13: I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to stir you up by way of reminder

verse 14: since I know that the putting off of my body will be soon, as our Lord Jesus Christ made clear to me.

verse 15: And I will make every effort so that after my departure you may be able at any time to recall these things.

Peter is expecting to die and he says I'm doing all this so that you will remember. And then in verse 16, you find him defending himself because people were attacking him.

verse 16: For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ,

People said the story about Jesus was made up by Peter. And then in Verse 19 of Chapter 1, he said, we are teaching you what is in the Scripture. And then he explained, what is inspiration.

verse 19: And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts,

verse 20: knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation.

verse 21: For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

This is an explanation of the inspiration of Scripture. Though they wrote with their own words but God was leading them to write Scriptures.

## Chapter 2

verse 1: But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction.

He is telling them they're going to have false teachers. Get ready for it. Just as there were false prophets.

verse 3: And in their greed they will exploit you with false words. Their condemnation from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep.

Why are there false teachers? Because they want to make money they tell you things you like to hear, and the more people come, more offerings, more tithes. It's very simple, it's called marketing in modern terms. The more customers, the more money you have, the bigger the congregation, the more love offerings you have. How do you get a bigger congregation? Give them false teachings they like to hear.

## Chapter 2

verse 4: For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to chains of gloomy darkness to be kept until the judgment;

God said they will be judged, just like angels will be judged. Then he goes on to say, Chapter 2 verse 5, God judged the world by the flood, and He also judged Sodom. In other words, God will also deal with the false teachers.

verse 7: and if he rescued righteous Lot, greatly distressed, etc.

So what is he saying? He will judge the evil teachers, but He will rescue you.

Verse 9: then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment until the day of judgment,

So he's telling them, don't worry about these false teachers, I will take care of them but you know that they are there among you and they're preaching false teachings.

Verses 14: They have eyes full of adultery, insatiable for sin. They entice unsteady souls. They have hearts trained in greed. Accursed children!

Sex and money are the 2 common ways these people operate. You'll find all these false teachers fall for these two things.

Verse 15:

Forsaking the right way, they have gone astray. They have followed the way of Balaam, the son of Beor, who loved gain from wrongdoing,

Balaam was the guy who in Numbers Chapter 22, was paid. He was a prophet of God, he was paid by King Balak to say what the King wanted him to say. But he was stopped by God.

Verse 19: They promise them freedom, but they themselves are slaves of corruption. For whatever overcomes a person, to that he is enslaved.

Verse 20: For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world through the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again

entangled in them and overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first.

They tell you if you believe in Jesus, you can do anything you like. But that freedom actually is not freedom. It brings you back to the slavery you had before because of your lust. Most of us are slaves of lust without knowing. We are slaves of our money, slaves of our pride. We are slaves but we don't know. So they promised you freedom-you can do what you like-but they sent you back to slavery. So you're exactly back in the same place where you were before because of this freedom to sin, which is slavery. And then he says, it is like the dog returning to its own vomit.

Verse 22: What the true proverb says has happened to them: "The dog returns to its own vomit, and the sow, after washing herself, returns to wallow in the mire."

These people supposedly bring you out of all these and then allow you to go back exactly to that.

### Chapter 3

verse 3: knowing this first of all, that scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires. They will say, "Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things are continuing as they were from the beginning of creation."

verse 8: But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

verse 9: The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

Why is the Lord taking so long? You know why it's taking so long because for you it looks long, for him it's not long. For him, one thousand years is not even one day in eternity. But more than that, there's a reason, he wants to give people time to repent. He is delaying it to give people time to repent so that you may be saved.

verse 10: But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned

up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

Every atom is held together by God. Jesus in Colossians 1:17 says, by me, all things consist. But on that day there will be a release.

Verse 13: But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

So why do you worry about what's happening on this earth. This is a temporary place. But there will be a new heaven and a new earth. In the meanwhile, He says to us,

Verse 14: Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

verse 17: You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, take care that you are not carried away with the error of lawless people and lose your own stability.

verse 18: But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

So what have we got here?

We can look forward in the face of persecution from outside, in the face of heresies from inside which will come for sure. That's normal Christianity. We are now living in abnormal times, the normal times will come. We've seen some of it, persecution in some places. We've seen heresies everywhere. Why? Because this world will pass away with a boom, and dissolve and disappear, and a new heaven and a new earth will come. And that's where we are headed, where we will be for eternity.

So I hope this book will help you see that God didn't lose the Garden of Eden to Satan's tricks. He is going to give us a better heaven and a better earth. God wins always. Who is our God? A wonderful God. His plans are always higher than ours, His ways are higher. He's perfect. He's going to make a perfect heaven and a perfect earth for you and me. Revelation will teach us the beautiful ending of this book. God bless you!