

## **BOOK OF SECOND PETER**

This epistle was written 3 years after the epistle of First Peter as a greater danger of false teachings surfaced. The word "knowledge" appears many times in this epistle.

### **Chapter 1**

1. 2 Peter 1:2-3. The word "knowledge" is a repeated word here instead of the word "suffering" which keeps appearing in book of First Peter. In Hebrew thinking, this word "knowledge" refers to experiential knowledge, not just head knowledge. It is experiential knowledge with God.
2. 2 Peter 1:4. We have a new nature because we are born again as believers of Christ.
3. 2 Peter 1:5-7.
  - a) These are qualities of a born-again Christian (which includes knowledge).
  - b) Though we are given a new nature with new potential, we must build on this new nature of "faith" with virtue, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness and love.
  - c) Build on the foundation of faith by working on all these qualities listed here.
4. 2 Peter 1:10. "Be diligent to confirm your calling and election" (ESV).
  - a) If you do not build on such qualities as a called elect, then you may question if you are a real child of God as you do not seem to behave as a child of God. You may stumble as a consequence.
  - b) The Devil cannot cause you to doubt if your life has been transformed.
  - c) Confirm your calling and election in your own mind so that the Devil cannot shake your faith!
5. 2 Peter 1:13-15. Peter was expecting his death, so he dedicated his time to share the truth of his faith in the Lord Jesus Christ in writing.
6. 2 Peter 1:16-21. Peter is defending the Gospel truth here. 2 Timothy 3:16, 17 affirms that God led the authors of the Bible to write the Scriptures.

### **Chapter 2**

1. 2 Peter 2:1-3. False teachers are appearing from within the Church, so get ready to defend your faith. These false teachers do it for covetousness, by giving false teachings that people like to hear, so as to grow church numbers and get more offerings.
2. 2 Peter 2:4-6. False teachers will be judged like angels, like the great Flood (during Noah's time) and like Sodom and Gomorrah.
3. 2 Peter 2:7-9. But God will rescue the righteous like He saved Lot from the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. So we do not have to worry that false teachers are getting away scot-free. False teachers will be punished by God in His time.
4. 2 Peter 2:14-15. False teachers fall for sex and money. They are greedy and it is easy to identify them.
5. 2 Peter 2:15-16. Balaam is a prophet mentioned in Chapter 22 of the book of Numbers. Balaam was paid by the king to say what the king wanted to hear. But he was stopped by God!
6. 2 Peter 2:19-22. False teachers are slaves of corruption. They promised freedom to sin but it is not true and in fact they bring people back to slaves of riches, of power, etc. So it is like the dog returning to its own vomit as in verse 22.

Chapter 3

1. 2 Peter 3:3-4. Scoffers will claim that Jesus will never come back!
2. 2 Peter 3:5-6. Peter reiterated about the Great Flood (of Noah's time) where scoffers also do not believe in the impending judgement of God by a global flood.
3. 2 Peter 3:8. Peter said that one day with the Lord is as a 1000 years and vice versa.
4. 2 Peter 3:9. Christ's 2<sup>nd</sup> coming is delayed to give time for people to repent.
5. 2 Peter 3:10-11 say that the Day of Lord will come as a thief in the night. Colossians 1:17 says Jesus hold all things together (Positive and negative protons are held together by Jesus to hold things together now) but Jesus will release it and everything will explode from within atom and melt away! The current heaven and Earth will melt away.
6. 2 Peter 3:13. God will create a New Heaven and a New Earth. So do not worry about the current things because the current heaven and Earth will disappear!
7. 2 Peter 3:14. We should just wait for Him in peace. Be patient.
8. 2 Peter 3:17-18. Be steadfast and not be led astray by false teachers while waiting for Christ to return.

What have we learned in this Book of Second Peter?

1. We should expect suffering caused by those outside the Church and heresies from within the Church. This is normal Christianity. In fact currently, it is abnormal as there is minimal persecution.
2. In the face of these suffering and heresies, remember that it is alright. Because the current heaven and Earth will pass away and dissolve! We are headed towards a New Heaven and New Earth in eternity.
3. God did not lose the Garden of Eden to Satan. God always win. Read Isaiah 55:8 and the book of Revelation for the perfect ending!