

**2 Peter: Grounded in the Word**  
**2024-04-07**

**2 Peter 3:17-18**

*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.*

*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.*

**1 Peter** is about **external** hostility to the Gospel; **2 Peter** is about **internal** hostility to the Gospel.

- **False teachers** plagued God's people in **Old Testament, New Testament times**, and even **today**.
  - **Ground** yourself in the **Word** to **discern truth** from error and **grow in faith**.

**Written probably from Rome in 65-68 AD** to the **same Jewish and Gentile Christians** as **1 Peter**.

- **Last known letter by Peter.... Tradition states that Peter was crucified upside-down** under **Nero**.
  - **Peter's purpose**: a final reminder to **be grounded** in the **Word**.  
*See outline at the end, 2 Peter 1:13-15, 3:1-3*

**False teacher: directly against Biblical doctrine** or orthodoxy, **not just disagree** with **2<sup>nd</sup> level**:

- **We disagree WHEN** Jesus will return. **NOT whether or not** Jesus will return.
  - **Deny Jesus' deity. No 2<sup>nd</sup> coming or final judgement so living godly is a waste**.
    - **You do you is Satanic Bible statement #1**.

Peter references the **transfiguration** as **confirmation** of Jesus' **deity** and a **manifestation** of Jesus' **glory** that will **be revealed at His 2<sup>nd</sup> coming**. *2 Peter 1:16-18, Mark 9:2-4, 7-9*

- **Peter never forgets** seeing Jesus Christ as **majestic, glorious Son of God**.
  - **Had an experience, vision strengthens** his faith, but was **not foundation of his faith**.

Peter uses **eyewitness** of transfiguration as **evidence** of Jesus' **deity** but states **Scripture more solid proof** than even his "personal experience". *2 Peter 1:19-2:1*

- **Scripture final authority** and proof, **not interpretations or experiences** or visions or dreams.

False teachers **scoffed Jesus' return** and **final judgement.... like many today**.

- **Lord's judgement** intervened **in the past** and **will do so** in the future. *2 Peter 2:4-10*

**Old Testament** examples of **divine judgement** prove **certainty** of the **future coming final judgement** at Jesus' **2<sup>nd</sup> coming**. and **countered** false teachers' argument "**no recent judgement**".

- **God's holiness and love must confront and judge sin and injustice.**
  - **Judgement has not happened yet** because **God is patient** and wants many to repent. 2 Peter 3:8-10, Romans 2:4-5
    - **Repent.... judgement is coming!**

**In light of Jesus' return and coming judgement.... live "holy and godly".** 2 Peter 3:11, 14, 1:5-7

- **Doesn't literally mean "add to faith" but "furnish in your faith".**

**Commit to continually pursuing and developing Jesus-like character that's yours in Christ.**

- **Apply yourself diligently to grow in moral excellence, knowledge of God's will, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love.**
  - **The Holy Spirit enables walking in holiness and escape corruption in the world.**
    - **True faith always results in life of holiness and godliness.** Philippians 2:13.

**We already have everything to handle life and manifest godliness**

("Godlikeness") **so why do we look to world for satisfaction and happiness?**

- **I forget who I am and what I have been given in Jesus Christ.... amnesia.** 2 Peter 1:3, 8-9
  - **We must know and believe His promises** because we act according to our **beliefs.**
    - **Million dollars in an account in your name that you don't know about.**
- **By increasing knowledge of the Word and His promises, you will grow in faith,** and it becomes **easier to detect** and combat **apostasy** or heresy. 2 Peter 1:4, 19

Smart, crafty, charismatic **false** teachers **plagued** God's people in **Old Testament and New Testament** times and still do **today.**

- **Protect** yourself from **false** teachers **by loving and knowing the Word** of God. 2 Timothy 2:15.
  - **Ground** yourself in the **Word** to **discern truth** from error and **grow in faith.**
    - **Know** what the **Lord said** so you can **identify and not believe heresies!**

### Outline of 2 Peter

1:1 INTRODUCTION

1:2-21 WHAT THE CHRISTIAN LIFE IS ALL ABOUT

1:3-14 How We Grow in Chris

1:15-21 Basis of Our Faith

2:1-22 BEWARE OF FALSE TEACHERS

2:1-3 Their Destructiveness

2:4-9 Their Doom

2:10-17 Their Depravity  
2:18-22 Their Deceptions  
3:1-18 CERTAINTY OF OUR LORD'S RETURN  
3:1-7 Scoffers in the Last Days  
3:8-10 Arrival of the Day of the Lord  
3:11-18 How to Live in Expectation of His Return