

Simply teaching the Word simply

THE SECOND EPISTLE GENERAL

# 2 Peter OF PETER.



www.calvaryportsmouth.co.uk

## Chapter 1

### VS. 1-18

YEAR OF THE CHRISTIAN ERA, CIR. 60.—YEAR OF THE WORLD, CIR. 4064.

#### CHAPTER I.

Confirming them in hope of the increase of God's graces, 1—4, he exhorteth them, by faith and good works, to make their calling sure, 5—11; whereof he is careful to remember them, knowing that his death is at hand, 12—15; and warneth them to be constant in the faith of Christ, who is the true Son of God, by the eye-witness of the apostle beholding his majesty, and by the testimony of the Father, and the presence of the Holy Spirit, 16—21.

**S**IMON Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us, through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:

2 Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of

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21.15-17; 1Pe.1.1.	a Phl.1.5; Co.2.7.
3 John 12.26; Ro.1.1.	3 John 15.7; 2Co.3.13.
4 Ro.11.49; John 20.21;	1 Co. 6.6; Fr. 1.1.
5 1Pe.1.2; 1Pe.4.11.	4 z ver. 5-7; Mar. 10.21;
6 Ro.1.15; 1Pe.1.12.	Lu.18.27; Ga.5.6.
7 1Co.3.17.	f John 9.40, 41; 2Co.4. 3.4; 1John 2.9-11.
8 Or, by, God and his Spirit, 1.8-1.47.	g ch. 2.18-20; 1Pe.3.21.
f Nu.5.24; Ro.1.7.	A ver. 3.
f Is.59.11; John 17.3.	1 2Ti.3.15; Ho.6.31,35;
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4 1Pe.84.11; Ro.8.23.	
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7 And to godliness, brotherly-kindness; and to brotherly-kindness, charity.

8 For if these things be in you, and ye shall not make you thankful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9 But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

A verse by verse study...



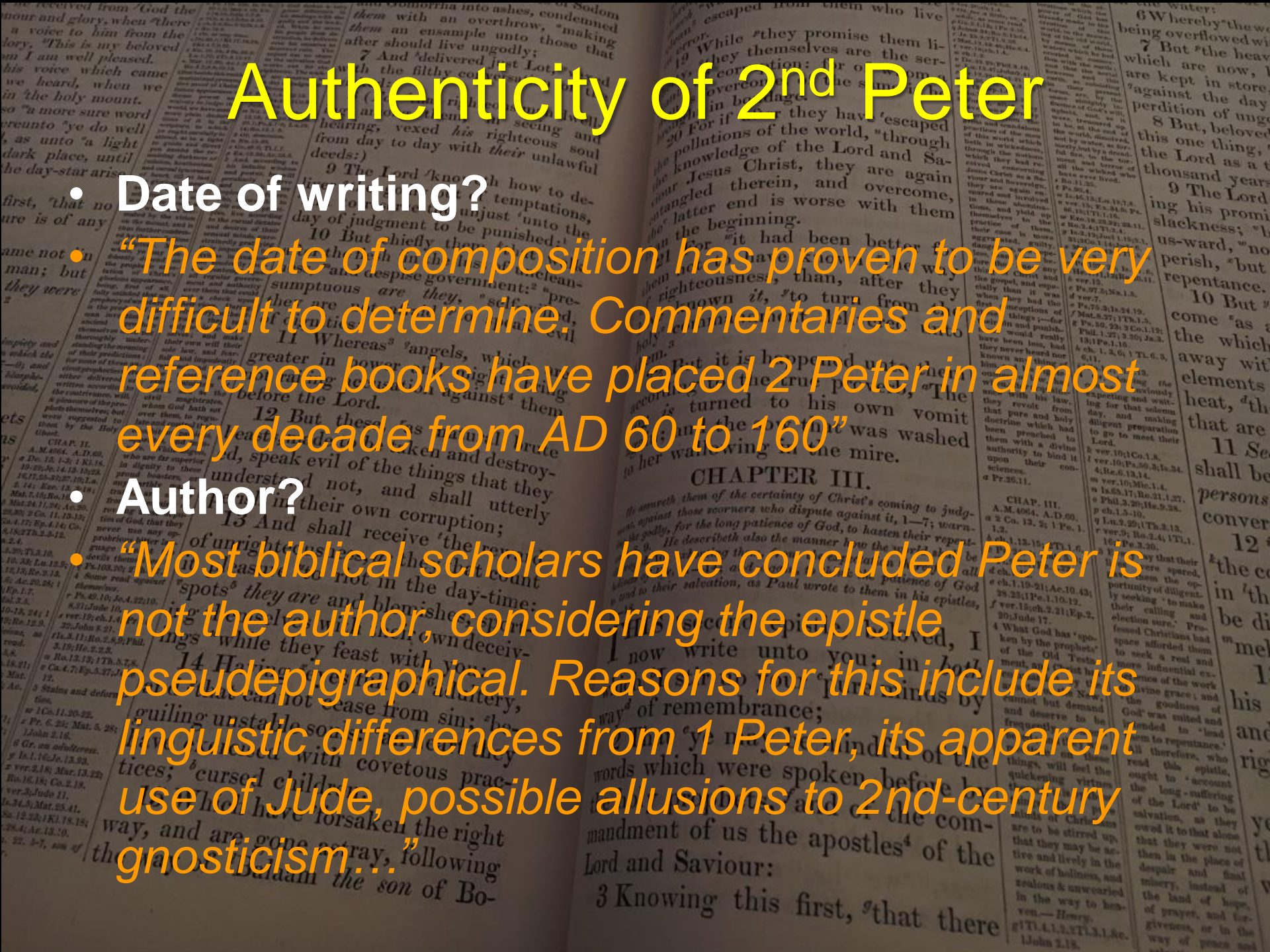
# Authenticity of 2nd Peter

• **Date of writing?**

• **“The date of composition has proven to be very difficult to determine. Commentaries and reference books have placed 2 Peter in almost every decade from AD 60 to 160”**

• **Author?**

• **“Most biblical scholars have concluded Peter is not the author, considering the epistle pseudepigraphical. Reasons for this include its linguistic differences from 1 Peter, its apparent use of Jude, possible allusions to 2nd-century gnosticism...”**





# Authenticity of 2nd Peter

“When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him”

Isaiah 59:19

“For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven”

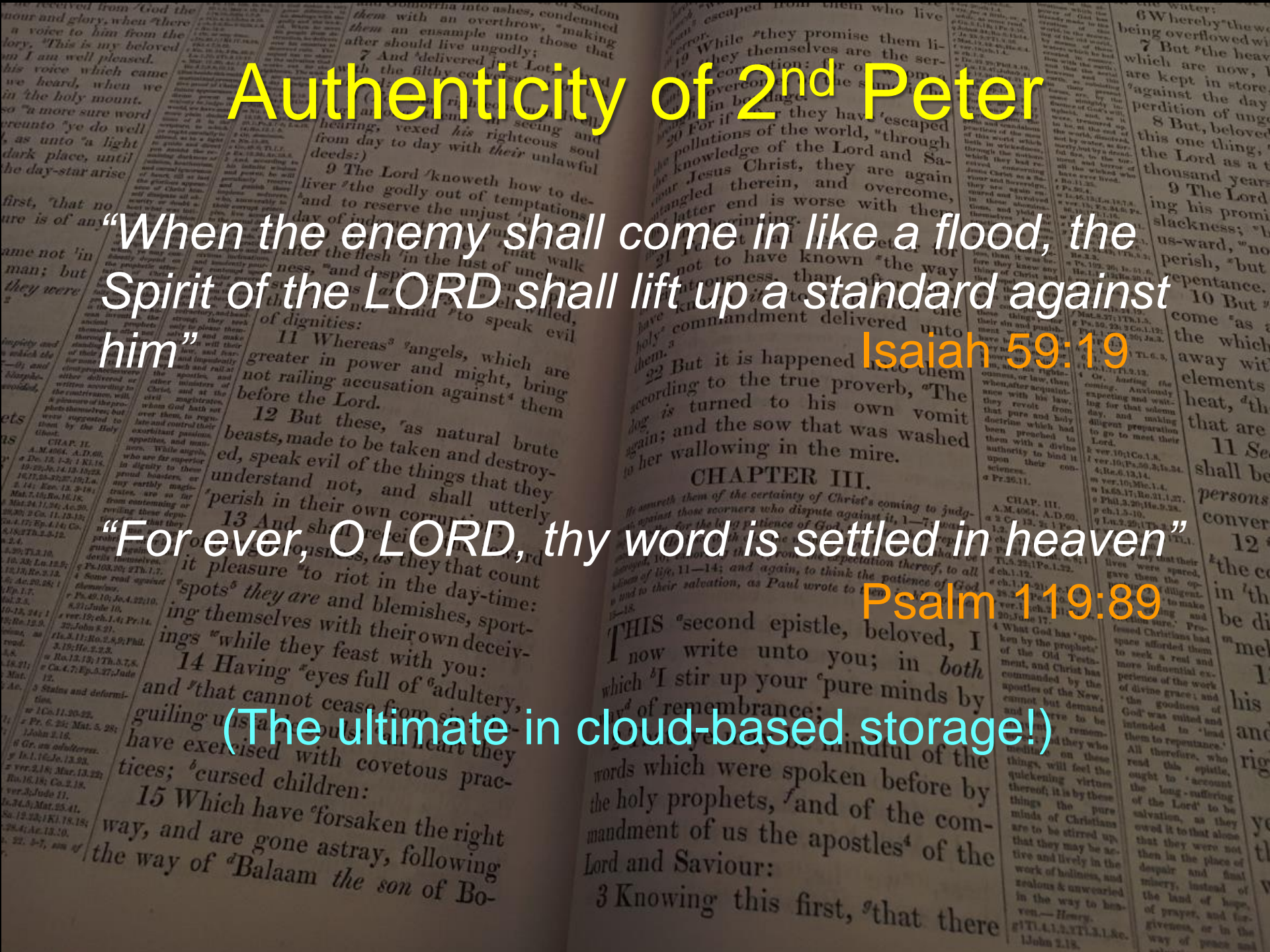
Psalms 119:89

(The ultimate in cloud-based storage!)

15 Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Bo-

THIS second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance; that ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour:

3 Knowing this first, that there





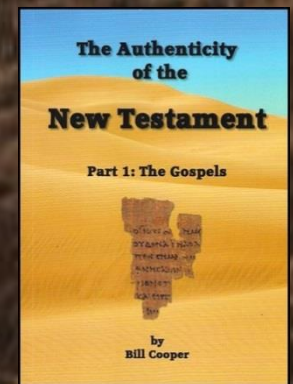
# The Dead Sea Scrolls

- What have they told us?
- Discovered between 1947 and 1956
  - In caves in Qumran in southern Israel
- They comprise some 800 documents
- ...dating from around 250 BC to 68 AD
- Among the Scrolls are partial or complete copies of every book in the Hebrew Bible
  - except the book of Esther



# The Dead Sea Scrolls

*The caves at Qumran are famous for the hoard of Old Testament and other manuscripts that have been found there. But the thing which receives the least publicity (if any publicity at all) is the fact that the caves have also yielded fragments of New Testament books. This absence of publicity – this blanket denial of their identity – is not to be wondered at.*



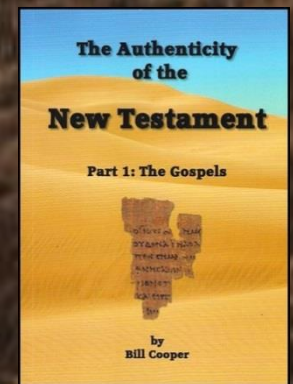
Dr Bill Cooper

– The Authenticity of the New Testament, Part 1



# The Dead Sea Scrolls

*It was really most awkward. In fact, it still is very awkward for them, for it means that the fragments must have been written out – copied from even earlier exemplars – well before A.D. 68, which undermines everything that the critics have been claiming all these years.*

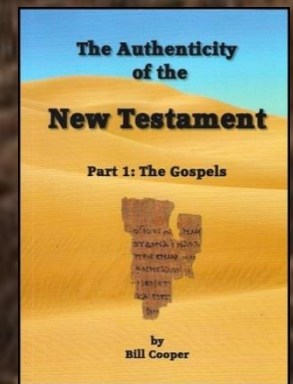


Dr Bill Cooper

– The Authenticity of the New Testament, Part 1

# The Dead Sea Scrolls

*The fact of the matter is this, that these manuscripts were deposited in the caves at Qumran by the year A.D. 68 at the very latest, when Qumran and the surrounding area was overrun by the Roman 10<sup>th</sup> legion, and according to the critics, the New Testament – especially the Gospels – had not been written by that time.*

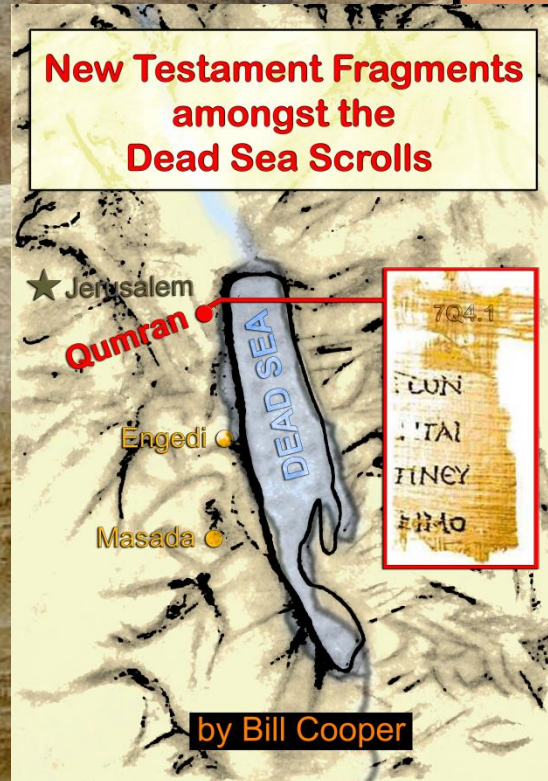


Dr Bill Cooper

– The Authenticity of the New Testament, Part 1



# Fragment 7Q10 From 2 Peter 1:15





# Authenticity of 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter

- *“Few things in this good earth can be as delightful for the Bible apologist as the discovery of this fragment, for it contains the most derided document of the entire New Testament. 2 Peter is universally declared by the critics to be of very late composition, and hence to be the most worthless among the New Testament documents”.*



# Authenticity of 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter

- *“It is not hard to see why they condemn is so vociferously, for 2 Peter provides the perfect and most damning portrait of the modern Bible critic that is to be found anywhere in the world. If I were a Bible critic, I’d have condemned it too*
- *It makes very uncomfortable reading for them, and that discomfort is magnified an hundredfold by the fact of its discovery in Cave7, for that shows irrefutably that 2 Peter was written well within the Eyewitness period and its apostolic authorship is therefore assured!”*

Dr Bill Cooper



# Why does this matter?

- Written before the destruction of the Temple AD70
- Written after John had received the Revelation.
- Written during a time when things were 'normal'
- This becomes a practical instruction manual (and checklist) for each of us

13 And shall receive 'the reward of unrighteousness, as they that count it pleasure "to riot in the day-time: "spots<sup>5</sup> they are and blemishes, sporting themselves with their own deceivings "while they feast with you:

14 Having "eyes full of "adultery, and "that cannot cease from sin; "beguiling unstable souls: "an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; "cursed children:

15 Which have "forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of "Balaam the son of Bo-

CHAPTER III.  
I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance;

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CHAP. III.  
A.M. 4064. A.D. 60.  
A 2 Co. 13. 2; 1 Pe. 1. 12.  
5 ch. 1.13-15; 2Th. 1. 6.  
6 Pe. 24. 4; Mat. 5. 8; 1 Th. 5.22; 1Pe. 1.32.  
d ch. 1.12.  
e ch. 1.19-21; Ac. 10. 43; 28.23; 1Pe. 1.10-12.  
f ver. 15; ch. 2.21; Ep. 2. 20; Jude 17.  
4 What God has "spoken by the prophets" of the Old Testament, and Christ has commanded by the apostles of the New, cannot but demand and deserve to be frequently remembered; and they who meditate on these things, will feel the quickening virtues thereof; it is by these things the pure minds of Christians are to be stirred up, that they may be active and lively in the work of holiness, and zealous & unwearied in the way to heaven.—Henry.

g 1 Th. 4.1, 2; 1 Th. 3.1. &c.  
h John 1.18.



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4 1Pe.4.11; Ro.8.23.	2 Since the difference
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l Ro.8.28-30; 1 Co.1.9;	Christians is so
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3 Or, by,	many take up with a
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A verse by verse study...



# 2 Peter

Peter's second letter is broken down to 5 key areas:

- Christian virtue 1:1-13
- Peter's testimony & faith 1:14-18
- Warnings against false teachers 1:19-3:7
- The Day of the Lord 3:8-13
- So what? How are we to live? 3:14-18



## 2 Peter

*“Convinced that the best antidote for heresy is a mature knowledge of the truth, Peter exhorts his readers to have a proper appreciation for prophecy, to live holy and godly lives while awaiting Christ’s coming and to grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord.” (Kirby)*



# 2 Peter

7x in the first chapter of this epistle Peter speaks of 'knowledge'. Christian's are not to be (or should not be!) ignorant of:

- God, His nature & character
- His plan of salvation through Jesus
- How to live a godly life
- Why to live a godly life
- The fruit that our lives should produce
- Our eternal rewards that await us
- The short time we have to fulfil the ministries we have been given
- The certainty of our faith and the solid basis we have for believing
- The importance & purpose of prophecy



I This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance:

2 Peter 3:1

- Peter writes (as he had done in his 1<sup>st</sup> Epistle) with the express intent of stirring up ‘pure minds’.
- The word rendered "pure" *eilikrinees* occurs only here and in Phil 1:10, where it is rendered “sincere”.
- *“The word properly refers to “that which may be judged of in sunshine” – Albert Barnes*
- Minds that have been transformed, that now think spiritually and not carnally.
- Minds that receive the things of the Spirit of God.
- *“Stop! Down tools. I want you to remember....”*





**Simon Peter**, a bond-servant and apostle of Jesus Christ,

to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:

2 Peter 1:1

- Simon
  - his earthly name and character
- Peter
  - what he was called to become in Christ

# Like Precious Faith

- *“Like precious faith probably speaks to the fact that the Jews and Gentiles enjoyed the same faith, and therefore the same benefits in Jesus. “God having given to you – believing Gentiles, the same faith and salvation which he had give to us – believing Jews.” (Clarke)*



# Precious

- *“He tells us too, that faith is ‘precious;’ and is it not precious? For it deals with precious things, with precious promises, with precious blood, with a precious redemption, with all the preciousness of the person of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”*  
(Spurgeon)

† Simon Peter, a **bond-servant** and apostle of Jesus Christ,

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2 Peter 1:1

- Gr: 'Dulos'



- The slave was to serve for 6 years
- In the 7<sup>th</sup> year he was to go free

*16 And it shall be, if he say unto thee, I will not go away from thee; because he loveth thee and thine house, because he is well with thee;*

*17 Then thou shalt take an aul, and thrust it through his ear unto the door, and he shall be thy servant for ever.*

**Deuteronomy 15:16-17**

- ‘Dulos’ = Bondslave
- Paul uses this idea to speak of his service to Christ

† Simon Peter, a bond-servant **and apostle** of Jesus Christ,

to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:

**2 Peter 1:1**

- Peter was a 'sent one'
- The apostles were those who had been with and walked with Jesus during His earthly ministry
- Peter was 'qualified' to write!



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2 Peter 1:1

- Peter is going to build on this foundation
- *“But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him”.* (Hebrews 11:6)

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2 Peter 1:1

- *“The expression God and our Saviour is in a construction in the Greek text which demands that we translate, our God and Saviour, Jesus Christ, the expression thus showing that Jesus Christ is the Christian’s God.” (Wuest)*



<sup>2</sup> Grace and peace be multiplied unto you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord;

2 Peter 1:2

- The Siamese twins of the New Testament
- Grace comes before peace
- Peter was saying 'I pray that you have an abundance of God's Grace and Peace'
- How does it come to us?
- Through the knowledge of God & Jesus
- ...through the Word.

3 According as his diuine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

2 Peter 1:3



4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

2 Peter 1:4

- The promises of God are a safeguard against sin!
- *“Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee”*. Psalm 119:11

# The Promises of God

- Promise #1: God Is Always with Me
  - I Will Not Fear ...
- Promise #2: God Is Always in Control
  - I Will Not Doubt ...
- Promise #3: God Is Always Good
  - I Will Not Despair ...
- Promise #4: God Is Always Watching
  - I Will Not Falter ...
- Promise #5: God Is Always Victorious
  - I Will Not Fail



# The Promises of God

- Bible promises about God's goodness
  - When things get tough, it can be easy to focus on ourselves and our difficulties. Read these Bible promises about who God is and let them lift your eyes away from your own situation to the God who is infinitely good.
- **Psalm 145:9**
  - The Lord is good to all; and his tender mercies are over all his works
- **1 Chronicles 16:34**
  - O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever
- **Psalm 100:5**
  - For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations.
- **James 1:17**
  - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.
- **2 Samuel 7:28**
  - And now, O Lord God, thou art that God, and thy words be true, and thou hast promised this goodness unto thy servant:

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- **Psalm 19:7**
  - The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple.
- **Psalm 34:8**
  - O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.
- **Nahum 1:7**
  - The Lord is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him..
- **Psalm 84:11**
  - For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.



# The Promises of God

- God's promises about being with us
  - Hold onto these promises that God is with you in your individual situations. Remember that God gave Noah a rainbow as a sign He keeps his promises. As He was faithful to Noah, He will be faithful to you.
- **Isaiah 40:29**
  - He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.
- **Isaiah 40:31**
  - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint..
- **Isaiah 43:2**
  - When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.
- **Jeremiah 29:11**
  - For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.
- **Deuteronomy 31:8**
  - And the Lord, he it is that doth go before thee; he will be with thee, he will not fail thee, neither forsake thee: fear not, neither be dismayed.

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- **Joshua 1:9**
  - Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.
- **Psalms 23:4**
  - Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me.
- **Philippians 4:6-7**
  - Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

# The Promises of God

- Promises of God concerning provision
  - The Bible is full of examples of God providing for His people. Time and again, in times of need and in times of plenty, God promises to provide whether our need is land, food, shelter, comfort or hope..
- **Matthew 6:31-33**
  - Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.
- **Proverbs 3:5-6**
  - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths..“
- **Matthew 7:9-11**
  - Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?



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- **2 Corinthians 9:8**
  - And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work.
- **Psalms 34:10**
  - The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the Lord shall not want any good thing.
- **Romans 8:32**
  - He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

# The Promises of God

- Amazing things Jesus promised
  - During His earthly ministry, Jesus made many promises about the peace and hope found only in Him. These promises of Jesus should give us great hope that He truly is the Saviour of the world...
- **Matthew 11:28-30**
  - Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light..
- **John 14:6**
  - Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.'
- **John 8:12**
  - Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.
- **Isaiah 61:1**
  - The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound...
- **John 14:15-16**
  - “If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever.”

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- **John 10:10**
  - "The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly."
- **John 11:25**
  - Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live.'
- **John 15:5**
  - I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing..
- **Matthew 28:20**
  - I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen..
- **John 14:27**
  - Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid..
- **John 14:1-3**
  - Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.



# The Promises of God

- God's promises about answering prayer
  - Prayer is so powerful! We should reflect on these verses about prayer and let God's promises spur us on to pray to our Heavenly Father and share our hopes and needs with Him every day.
- **James 1:5**
  - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.
- **Mark 11:24**
  - Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.
- **Psalms 37:4**
  - Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.
- **John 14:13**
  - And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.
- **Luke 11:9-13**
  - And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?!

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  - Prayer is so powerful! We should reflect on these verses about prayer and let God's promises spur us on to pray to our Heavenly Father and share our hopes and needs with Him every day.
- **Jeremiah 29:12**
  - Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you..
- **Psalms 102:17**
  - He will regard the prayer of the destitute, and not despise their prayer..
- **Psalms 145:18**
  - The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

# The Promises of God

- God's promises about salvation
  - Finally, take a moment to remember the most precious of all God's promises to us. Thanks to Jesus' sacrifice on the cross, God promises to forgive us and give us eternal life with Him.
- **John 3:16**
  - For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.
- **1 John 1:9**
  - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- **2 Chronicles 7:14**
  - If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.
- **John 8:36**
  - If the Son sets you free, you shall be free indeed.
- **Romans 10:9-10**
  - That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation..



# The Promises of God

- Promise #1      John 10:27-29
  - Through faith in Jesus your eternal salvation is assured
- Promise #2      Colossians 2:13-14
  - Your sins are forgiven and wiped clean because of the cross
- Promise # 3      Hebrews 9:14
  - Your conscience is also cleansed – setting you free!
- Promise # 4      Romans 8:15-17
  - You are now adopted and part of God's own family
- Promise #5      1 John 3:1
  - You have been given the place & position of the 1<sup>st</sup> born
- Promise #6      1 Peter 1:4
  - You have an inheritance that is incorruptible awaiting you
- Promise #7      John 15:16
  - You have been chosen by God to be used by Him to produce good fruit!
- Promise #8      2 Timothy 2:13
  - God is faithful – even if at times we are unfaithful

4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

2 Peter 1:4

- We can find complete contentment in Christ!
- No longer do we need to crave the things of the world (lust)
  - We crave the things of the world because we think they will satisfy a longing or need
- When we hold onto and understand the promises we have been given, find great peace & a release from the bondage of sin (having any God before Him)







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