

Simply teaching the Word simply

THE SECOND EPISTLE GENERAL

2 Peter OF PETER.



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Chapter 1

VS. 5-15

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.

SIMON 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

A.M.4064. A.D.60.	A.M.4064. A.D.60.
CHAP. I.	z John 12.24; Ro. 12.10;
A.M.4064. A.D.60.	1Pe.1.22; 1John 3.14.
1 Or, Symon, Ac. 15. 14.	y 1Co.12.4-8; Ga.6.10;
a Mat.4.18; John 1.42;	z John 5.42; 2Co.5.14.
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. 166. Fr. 1. 1. 1.
5 1Co.13.13; 1Pe.1.10.	4 z ver. 5-7; Mar. 10. 21;
6 1Co.13.17.	Lu.18.32; Ga.5.6.
7 Or, by, God and	f John 9.40, 41; 2Co.4. 3.4; 1John 2.9-11.
8 Ro.1.17.	g ch.2.18-20; 1Pe.3.21.
f Nu.5.24; Ro.1.7.	A ver.5.
f Is.59.11; John 17.3.	1 2Ti.3.15; Ho.6.31,35;
A Ps.110.3; Mat.28.18;	2 Ho.8.28-31; 2 Th. 2. 12,14; 1Pe.1.2.
5Co.12.5; Co.1.16.	3 Since the difference
4 1Pe.4.11; Ro.8.22.	between real and nominal
5 ver.7.	Christians is so
1 Ro.8.28-30; 1 Co.1.3;	great, and since so
Ep.4.1; 1Th.2.12.	many take up with a
2 Or, by.	
3 Ro.3.11; Phl.4.3.	
4 According as, in his	
almighty power and	

7 And to godliness, brotherly-kindness; and to brotherly-kindness, charity.

8 For if these things be in you, and ye deny them, ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful 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...

I 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

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

2 Peter 1:2

3 According as his divine 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

- 5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge
- 6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;
- 7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness love.

2 Peter 1:5-7

8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Peter 1:8

5 And beside this, **giving all diligence**, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge

2 Peter 1:5

- *Diligence: “careful and persistent work or effort”.*
- *“Giving all diligence: These beautiful qualities are not things that the Lord simply pours into us as we passively receive. Instead, we are called to give all diligence to these things, working in partnership with God to add them. (Guzik)*

5 And beside this, giving all diligence, **add to your faith**
virtue; add to virtue knowledge

2 Peter 1:5

- *Romans 13:3 “according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith”.*
- We all have enough faith to believe that God is...
 - *“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”* **Heb 11:6**
- We know this is true...
- ...but *what are we going to do with it?*

5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith
virtue; add to virtue knowledge

2 Peter 1:5

- The 1st thing we are to add is ‘moral excellence’
- behaviour showing high moral standards.
- “Let this mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus...”
- We are to think (and therefore behave) differently!
- We know that God is holy, and that we have been called to be holy too!
- Even a non-Christian knows that we should live up to a high moral standard

5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; **add to virtue knowledge**

2 Peter 1:5

- The 2nd thing to add is 'knowledge'
 - A) The general knowledge of Christian faith
 - B) The deeper more perfect and enlarged knowledge of this faith, such as belongs to the more advanced
 - This necessitates a reading and understanding of scripture
 - C) Esp. of things lawful and unlawful for Christians
 - D) Moral wisdom, such as is seen in right living

5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge

6 And to knowledge **temperance**; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;

2 Peter 1:5-6

- Temperance: “*self-control (the virtue of one who masters his desires and passions, esp. his sensual appetites)*”
- This mastery of the flesh can only be accomplished through the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ
 - This is why scriptural knowledge comes before the following 5 characteristics of a child of God

- 5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith
virtue; and to virtue knowledge
- 6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance
patience; and to patience godliness;

2 Peter 1:5-6

- Why is patience so far down the list?
- Because until you attempt temperance and fail in your own strength you will not appreciate the value of patience
- Patience (scripturally) is waiting on the LORD

I1 Teach me thy way, O Lord, and lead me in a plain path, because of mine enemies.

I2 Deliver me not over unto the will of mine enemies: for false witnesses are risen up against me, and such as breathe out cruelty.

I3 I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

I4 Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord.

Psalm 27:10

- 5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge
- 6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience **godliness;**

2 Peter 1:5-6

- Once our faith has compelled us to live a morally upright life, and once our studying of scripture has empowered through His grace us to exercise self-control, and we have learned to wait on the LORD...
- ...we with then begin to bear a likeness to our Heavenly Father.
- Godliness = God-like-ness



“The resounding evidence of the Holy Spirit in a person’s life is the unmistakable family likeness to Jesus Christ, and the freedom from everything which is not like Him”

— Oswald Chambers, *My Utmost for His Highest*

- 5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge
- 6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;
- 7 And to godliness **brotherly kindness;** and to brotherly kindness love.

2 Peter 1:5-7

- *“If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also”*
1 John 4:20-21
- *“fraternal affection”*

- 5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge
- 6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;
- 7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness **love.**

2 Peter 1:5-7

- Is there a difference between 'brotherly kindness' and 'love'?
- Peter knew this all too well!
 - See John 21:15-17
- We may love each others & Christ like a brother...
- ...but do we love unconditionally?

- 5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge
- 6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;
- 7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness love.

2 Peter 1:5-7

- *“Add to your faith virtue: We begin our life with God with faith, but faith progresses into virtue, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love – love being the capstone of all God’s work in us. (Guzik)*

The Christian's Character

- 1) Faith
- 2) Virtue
- 3) Knowledge
- 4) Temperance
- 5) Patience
- 6) Godliness
- 7) Brotherly Kindness
- 8) Love

— Character is what God *knows* you are. Reputation is what men *think* you are.

8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Peter 1:8

- Note that it doesn't say your will be fruitful in your labours or work!
- The goal of the believer is given in Eph 4:11-15

- 11** And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;
- 12** For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:
- 13** Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:
- 14** That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;
- 15** But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

Ephesians 4:11-15

29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

Romans 8:29-30

“The glory of anything is that it fulfils its created potential”

- Dave Shirley



8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Peter 1:8

“If we are going to live as disciples of Jesus, we have to remember that all efforts of worth and excellence are difficult. The Christian life is gloriously difficult, but its difficulty does not make us faint and cave in— it stirs us up to overcome. Do we appreciate the miraculous salvation of Jesus Christ enough to be our utmost for His highest— our best for His glory?”

God saves people by His sovereign grace through the atonement of Jesus, and “it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure” (Philippians 2:13). But we have to “work out” that salvation in our everyday, practical living (Philippians 2:12). If we will only start on the basis of His redemption to do what He commands, then we will find that we can do it. If we fail, it is because we have not yet put into practice what God has placed within us. But a crisis will reveal whether or not we have been putting it into practice.

— Oswald Chambers, My Utmost for His Highest

If we will obey the Spirit of God and practice in our physical life what God has placed within us by His Spirit, then when a crisis does come we will find that our own nature, as well as the grace of God, will stand by us.

Thank God that He does give us difficult things to do! His salvation is a joyous thing, but it is also something that requires bravery, courage, and holiness. It tests us for all we are worth. Jesus is “bringing many sons to glory” (Hebrews 2:10), and God will not shield us from the requirements of sonship. God’s grace produces men and women with a strong family likeness to Jesus Christ, not pampered, spoiled weaklings. It takes a tremendous amount of discipline to live the worthy and excellent life of a disciple of Jesus in the realities of life. And it is always necessary for us to make an effort to live a life of worth and excellence.”

— Oswald Chambers, *My Utmost for His Highest*

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.

2 Peter 1:9

“Such a man sees the things of time, and fails to discern those of eternity... he sees himself and his fellowmen, but not God. This nearsightedness is destructive of a true Christian experience, and therefore makes advance impossible.” (Morgan)

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.

2 Peter 1:9

“The reason for this condition is also stated; such a one has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins. “That is to say, he has failed to respond to all the enlargement of life and vision which came to him when he received the cleansing of his nature at the very beginning of his Christian life.” (Morgan)

IO Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:

2 Peter 1:10

“It will be asked however, why is calling here put before election seeing election is eternal, and calling takes place in time? I reply, because calling is first to us. The first thing which you and I can know is our calling: we cannot tell whether we are elect until we feel that we are called. We must, first of all, prove our calling, and then our election is sure most certainly.” (Spurgeon)

- Seeing these things in our lives is the evidence of our calling and therefore of our eternal election
- If we are in Christ, HE is able to present us faultless before our Father in Heaven!

II For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

2 Peter 1:11

- An abundant entrance into eternity...
- This alludes to the possibility of being able to enter eternity without an abundant entrance!
- John tells us to be careful not to lose those things we have worked for! (2 John 1:8)
- Paul tells us that our works can be burnt up leaving us with little reward (1 Cor 3:15)

- 12** Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth.
- 13** Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, to stir you up by putting you in remembrance;

2 Peter 1:12-13

14 Knowing that shortly I must put off this my
tabernacle, even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shewed
me.

2 Peter 1:14

15 Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able after my decease to have these things always in remembrance.

2 Peter 1:15

- What is your legacy?
- How would you be remembered?

Believer in Deed

- On this journey we begin at birth
This fleeting moment that we spend on earth
No second chance to live it all again
It must be now or never
To cherish each endeavor
What will they say that I have left behind
A faithful heritage for all to find
What will they see?
I want my legacy to be
- He was a believer in deed
He had a heart of a different breed
He made his mark and he lived by his creed
A true believer
A believer in deed
- Am I living everything I say?
Am I pointing others to the way?
Will I leave this world a better place?
Will Jesus say he knew me
Is Jesus living through me?
Did I maintain my authenticity?
A man of honor and integrity?
Remembering me
I hope that they will truly see
- He was a believer in deed

Words: Bob Hartman



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