

2 Peter

Study Outline



Background: As a fisherman by trade, Peter had a very rudimentary level of formal education. Trained mainly by the school of hard knocks, what this Apostle lacked in book smarts he made up with street savvy. It seems that his time with Jesus had created within him a desire to grow in his understanding of Scripture and the things of God. Beyond this, a study of Peter's life will reveal his spiritual life was also a work in progress. Tracking from his early days with Jesus in Galilee all the way to his ministry to Cornelius in Acts 10 reveals a story of Peter's slow, steady spiritual growth both in knowledge and experience.

Main Point: Following his first letter it was becoming increasingly clear to Peter that his time was short. Indeed, he would ultimately die for his faith sometime between 66-67 AD. Before his martyrdom and soon after writing his first letter, Peter pens a farewell. Like Paul's final address in 2 Timothy, this letter is not only emotional, but more importantly, as Peter's deathbed exhortation, this letter is incredibly powerful. Throughout his life and as a by-product of his own experiences, Peter had learned that the Christian life is more than just new birth. Life in Christ is also about spiritual growth and development. Gaining a deeper knowledge of Christ through His Word will not only strengthen faith, deepen beliefs, but will create growth in one's relationship with Jesus. In essence, the more one learns of Jesus the stronger one's love and devotion for Him becomes. Beyond personal growth, Peter explains the study of God's Word is the best antidote against heresy, apostasy, and false teachers. The easiest way to identify a falsehood is to have a firm understanding of the truth.

OUTLINE OF 2ND PETER

1. EXPLAINING THE KNOWLEDGE OF CHRIST

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| A. KNOWLEDGE IS A GIFT FROM GOD | 2 PETER 1:1-4 |
| B. KNOWLEDGE IS A MECHANISM FOR GROWTH | 2 PETER 1:5-11 |
| C. KNOWLEDGE IS THE SOURCE OF FAITH | 2 PETER 1:12-21 |

2. EXAMINING THE TANGIBLE BENEFITS OF KNOWING TRUTH

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| A. HELPS ME IDENTIFY FALSEHOODS | 2 PETER 2:1-3 |
| B. HELPS ME RECOGNIZE THE DESTINATION | 2 PETER 2:4-11 |
| C. HELPS ME SEE THROUGH THE FACADE | 2 PETER 2:12-17 |
| D. HELPS ME UNDERSTAND THE DECEPTION | 2 PETER 2:18-22 |

3. EXHORTING THE BELIEVER TOWARDS FURTHER GROWTH

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| A. STUDY THE WORD OF GOD | 2 PETER 3:1-7 |
| B. TRUST IN THE PROMISES OF GOD | 2 PETER 3:8-9 |
| C. LOOK TO THE SOON RETURN OF JESUS | 2 PETER 3:10 |
| D. LIVE A LIFE OF HOLINESS BEFORE GOD | 2 PETER 3:11-13 |
| E. BE DILIGENT IN YOUR SPIRITUAL GROWTH | 2 PETER 3:14-16 |
| F. BEWARE OF THE SNARE OF THE EVIL ONE | 2 PETER 3:17 |
| G. GROW IN GRACE | 2 PETER 3:18 |



Day 1: The Proper Perspective.....

2 Peter 1:1-4 // THINKING POINTS: (1). What do the words “bondservant” and “apostle” refer too? (2). What significance do you find from the fact Peter calls himself a servant before apostle? (3). How is it possible for us to loose sight of the proper perspective in our own lives?

Day 2: Dancing with Faith.....

2 Peter 1:5-11 // THINKING POINTS: (1). What does Peter mean when he exhorts you to “add to your faith?” (2). What kind of things does Peter mention we should be “adding” to faith? How do these things signify growth? (3). If you aren’t growing in your faith, what is typically happening in your spiritual life?

Day 3: Knowledge & Knowing.....

2 Peter 1:12-21 // THINKING POINTS: (1). What is the fundamental difference between knowing about a person and actually knowing that individual? (2). Why should growing in your knowledge of Jesus deepen your love and devotion for Jesus? (3). In what way should these simple realities challenge the way you approach your study of Scripture?

Day 4: Truth Distinguishing the Lie.....

2 Peter 2:1-22 // THINKING POINTS: (1). What is the best antidote for recognizing heresy, apostasy, and false teaching? (2). Why do people intentionally try to twist the Word of God to fit their own personal agendas and belief systems? (3). After a close examination of the false teachers described by Peter, what is their allure and appeal? Why is it important we recognize these things?

Day 5: The End is Near.....

2 Peter 3:1-10 // THINKING POINTS: (1). What is the subject matter Peter warns people will scoff at in the last days? (2). What does the Bible refer too when it discusses the “Day of the Lord?” (3). When examining the first ten verses of chapter three what four things do we learn about God and His dealings with humanity?

Day 6: Judgments Reflection.....

2 Peter 3:11-18 // THINKING POINT: (1). What six ways should the coming judgment challenge the way you live your life? (2). After listing the six ways your life should reflect the reality of God’s coming judgment, take an examination of your life. Does your life reflect these realities? (3). In what areas of your life should the subject matter of this passage challenge you towards grow and change?

DEVOTIONS

to view video lessons visit
zachadams.org