2 Peter

1 Simeon Peter, a slave and apostle of Jesus
Christ, to those who have received a faith as
precious as ours through the righteousness of
our God and Savior Jesus Christ:
2 May grace and peace be multiplied to you in
the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.
3 His divine power has granted us everything
needed for life and godliness through the
knowledge of the one who called us by his own
glory and excellence.
4 Through these he has granted us precious
and very great promises, so that through them
you may become partakers of the divine nature,
having escaped the corruption in the world
because of desire.
5 For this very reason, make every effort to add
virtue to your faith, and knowledge to virtue,
6 and self-control to knowledge, and
endurance to self-control, and godliness to
endurance,
7 and brotherly affection to godliness, and love
to brotherly affection.
8 For if these things are yours and abound,
they keep you from being idle or unfruitful in
the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.
9 For whoever lacks these things is blind,
shortsighted, having forgotten the cleansing of
his former sins.

10 Therefore, brothers and sisters, be all the
more diligent to make your calling and election
sure, for if you do these things you will never
stumble.
11 For in this way entrance into the eternal
kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will
be richly provided for you.
12 Therefore I will always be ready to remind
you of these things, though you know them and
are established in the truth that is with you.
13 And I consider it right, as long as I am in
this tent, to stir you up by way of reminder,
14 knowing that I must soon put off my tent,
just as our Lord Jesus Christ has made clear to
me.
15 And I will make every effort so that after my
departure you may be able to recall these things
at any time.
16 For we did not follow cleverly devised
myths when we made known to you the power
and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we
were eyewitnesses of his majesty.
17 For he received honor and glory from God
the Father when this voice came to him from the
Majestic Glory: “This is my Son, my beloved, in
whom I am well pleased.”
18 And we ourselves heard this voice coming
from heaven when we were with him on the
holy mountain.
19 And we have the prophetic word more
firmly confirmed, to which you do well to pay
attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place,
until the day dawns and the morning star rises

in your hearts.
20 Know this above all: no prophecy of
Scripture arises from one's own interpretation,
21 for no prophecy was ever brought by
human will, but people spoke from God as they
were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

2

1 But false prophets also arose among the
people, just as there will be false teachers among
you. They will secretly bring in destructive
heresies, even denying the Master who bought
them, bringing swift destruction on themselves.
2 And many will follow their debauchery, and
because of them the way of truth will be
slandered.
3 And in their greed they will exploit you with
fabricated words. Their judgment from long ago
is not idle, and their destruction does not
slumber.
4 For if God did not spare angels when they
sinned, but cast them into Tartarus and handed
them over to chains of gloom, kept for judgment,
5 and did not spare the ancient world, but
protected Noah, a herald of righteousness, along
with seven others, when he brought a flood on
the world of the ungodly,
6 and reduced the cities of Sodom and
Gomorrah to ashes, condemning them to
destruction, setting them as an example of what
is coming to the ungodly,

7 and rescued righteous Lot, who was
oppressed by the debauched conduct of the
lawless—
8 for as he lived among them, this righteous
man tormented his righteous soul day after day
over their lawless deeds by what he saw and
heard—
9 then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly
from trial and to keep the unrighteous under
punishment until the day of judgment,
10 especially those who follow the flesh in
defiling desire and despise authority. Bold and
self-willed, they do not tremble when they
blaspheme glorious beings,
11 whereas angels, though greater in might
and power, do not bring a blasphemous
judgment against them.
12 But these, like irrational animals, creatures
of instinct born for capture and destruction,
blaspheme what they do not understand and
will also be destroyed in their corruption,
13 suffering harm as the wages of
unrighteousness. They consider daytime luxury
a pleasure. They are spots and blemishes,
reveling in their deceptions while feasting with
you.
14 They have eyes full of adultery and never
cease from sin. They entice unstable souls and
have a heart trained in greed. They are children
of a curse.
15 Leaving the straight way, they have gone
astray, following the way of Balaam son of Bosor,
who loved the wages of unrighteousness,

16 but was rebuked for his own transgression:
a speechless beast of burden, speaking with a
human voice, restrained the prophet's madness.
17 These are waterless springs and mists
driven by a storm, for whom the gloom of
darkness has been reserved.
18 For, speaking arrogant, empty words, they
entice by fleshly desires and debauchery those
who are barely escaping from those who live in
error.
19 They promise them freedom while they
themselves are slaves of corruption, for a person
is enslaved to whatever has overcome him.
20 For if, after escaping the defilements of the
world through the knowledge of the Lord and
Savior Jesus Christ, they become entangled in
them again and are overcome, their last state
has become worse than the first.
21 For it would have been better for them not
to have known the way of righteousness than,
after knowing it, to turn back from the holy
commandment delivered to them.
22 What the true proverb says has happened to
them: “A dog returns to its own vomit,” and, “A
washed sow returns to wallowing in the mud.”

3

1 This is now the second letter I am writing to
you, beloved. In both, I stir up your sincere
minds by way of reminder,
2 so that you remember the words spoken
beforehand by the holy prophets and the
commandment of the Lord and Savior through
your apostles.

3 Know this above all: in the last days scoffers
will come with scoffing, following their own
desires
4 and saying, “Where is the promise of his
coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all
things continue as they have from the beginning
of creation.”
5 For they deliberately overlook this: that the
heavens existed long ago, and earth was formed
out of water and through water by the word of
God.
6 Through these the world of that time
perished, flooded with water.
7 But the present heavens and earth are
reserved for fire by the same word, kept for the
day of judgment and destruction of ungodly
people.

8 But do not overlook this one thing, beloved:
with the Lord one day is like a thousand years,
and a thousand years like one day.
9 The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise, as
some consider slowness, but is patient toward
you, not wishing that any should perish but that
all should come to repentance.
10 But the day of the Lord will come like a
thief. On that day the heavens will pass away
with a roar, and the elements will be dissolved
as they burn, and the earth and the works in it
will be exposed.

11 Since all these things are to be dissolved in
this way, what sort of people ought you to be in
holy conduct and godliness,

12 waiting for and hastening the coming of the
day of God? Because of that day the heavens will
be dissolved in fire, and the elements will melt
as they burn.
13 But according to his promise, we await new
heavens and a new earth, in which
righteousness dwells.
14 Therefore, beloved, as you await these
things, be diligent to be found by him spotless
and blameless, in peace,
15 and consider the patience of our Lord as
salvation, just as our beloved brother Paul also
wrote to you according to the wisdom given to
him,
16 as he does in all his letters, speaking in
them of these things. In them are some things
hard to understand, which the unlearned and
unstable twist, as they do the other Scriptures,
to their own destruction.
17 You, therefore, beloved, knowing this
beforehand, guard yourselves so that you are
not carried away by the error of the lawless and
fall from your own steadfastness.
18 But grow in the grace and knowledge of our
Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory
both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

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