

A Study of the General Epistles

(NT Survey Lesson 202--2 Peter 1)

Introduction: Peter's second epistle concerns the continued faithfulness of the church after his departure from this life. God's people needed then, as now, to beware of error of unprincipled men, and grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ (3:17-18). In this first chapter Peter urges Christians to grow spiritually (1:1-11) and to be assured that what they have heard from the apostles is eye-witness testimony and not cleverly devised fables (1:12-21). Each of these helps secure us from the dangers of apostasy.

Lesson aim: To encourage each Christian to affirm his faith in the reliability of the apostles' testimony and to grow spiritually.

Introduction and exhortation to spiritual growth--2 Pet. 1:1-11

1. To whom does Peter write this epistle?
2. What blessings does Peter hope will be multiplied in his readers' lives? How will they obtain these blessings? (v. 2)
3. What has God granted to his people? Through what do these things come?
4. What had God's people escaped? They had become partakers of what? What motivated them to do this?
5. What things should Christians supply with their faith? Define each one.
6. If we have these qualities, what will be true of us? (v. 8) What if we do not have them? (v. 9)
7. What then should we do? (v. 10) What two things will this insure for us? (v. 10-11)

Peter affirms the reliability of the apostle's testimony--2 Pet. 1:12-21

1. What did Peter want to do to his readers? (v. 12) Why? (v. 15) What had the Lord made clear to Peter?
2. Did Peter follow "cleverly devised tales" when he made known Christ's power and coming? What did Peter claim to be? (v. 16)
3. To what event does Peter refer in v. 17-18? What did Peter say about his involvement in this event?
4. Eye-witness testimony of the fulfillment of a prophecy makes the prophetic word more what?
5. What did Peter affirm about the prophecies of the OT? (v. 20-21)