

SIMON PETER

A SERVANT AND APOSTLE (SPECIAL MESSENGER) OF JESUS CHRIST

Part 4

2 PETER

Pastor Grant Williams

We concluded part 3 with 2 Peter 1:1...

2 Peter 1:1 AMPC

1 Simon Peter, a servant and apostle (special messenger) of Jesus Christ, to those who have received (obtained an equal privilege of) like precious faith with ourselves in and through the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ:

2 Peter 1:1 KJV

1 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 Peter 1:2 AMPC

2 May grace (God's favor) and peace (which is perfect well-being, all necessary good, all spiritual prosperity, and freedom from fears and agitating passions and moral conflicts) be multiplied to you in [the full, personal, precise, and correct] knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

2 Peter 1:2 KJV

2 Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,

“Knowledge”: This is a strengthened form of “knowledge” that’s implying both a larger, more thorough, and intimate knowledge. The Christian’s (a follower or imitator of Jesus Christ) precious faith is built on knowing the truth about God

Romans 10:17 KJV

17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Romans 10:17 AMPC

17 So faith comes by hearing [what is told], and what is heard comes by the preaching [of the message that came from the lips] of Christ (the Messiah Himself).

Christianity is not a mystical religion, but is based in objective, historical, revealed, rational truth from God and intended to be understood and believed. The deeper and wider that knowledge of God’s Word (Jesus is the Word), the more “grace and peace” are multiplied. This is a blessing Peter speaks on those who believe.

Note: _____

The more you know of Jesus or the Word, the more peace and grace you have. Jesus is the Prince of Peace...when we are full of Jesus, we are full of peace. Knowledge is accumulated learning.

Isaiah 9:6 AMPC

*6 For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father [of Eternity], **Prince of Peace.***

John 14:27 AMPC

*27 **Peace I leave with you; My [own] peace I now give and bequeath to you.** Not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. **[Stop allowing yourselves to be agitated and disturbed; and do not permit yourselves to be fearful and intimidated and cowardly and unsettled.]***

John 16:33 AMPC

*33 I have told you these things, **so that in Me you may have [perfect] peace and confidence.** In the world you have tribulation and trials and distress and frustration; but be of good cheer [take courage; be confident, certain, undaunted]! For I have overcome the world. [I have deprived it of power to harm you and have conquered it for you.]*

John 1:1 AMPC

1 In the beginning [before all time] was the Word (Christ), and the Word was with God, and the Word was God Himself.

Isaiah 26:3 AMPC

3 You will guard him and keep him in perfect and constant peace whose mind [both its inclination and its character] is stayed on You, because he commits himself to You, leans on You, and hopes confidently in You.

Joshua 1:8-9 AMPC

8 This Book of the Law shall not depart out of your mouth, **but you shall meditate on it day and night, that you may observe and do according to all that is written in it. For then** you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall deal wisely and have good success.

9 **Have not I commanded you?** Be strong, vigorous, and very courageous. Be not afraid, neither be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Philippians 4:6-8 AMPC

6 Do not fret or have any anxiety about anything, but in every circumstance and in everything, by prayer and petition (definite requests), with thanksgiving, continue to make your wants known to God.

*7 And **God's peace [shall be yours, that tranquil state of a soul assured of its salvation through Christ, and so fearing nothing from God and being content with its earthly lot of whatever sort that is, that peace]** which transcends all understanding shall garrison and mount guard over your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.*

8 For the rest, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is worthy of reverence and is honorable and seemly, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely and lovable, whatever is kind and winsome and gracious, if there is any virtue and excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think on and weigh and **take account of these things [fix your minds on them].**

Note: _____

Note: Verses 3-4 “***His divine power***”: This is a title for God used by Jews who revered Him so much that they would not pronounce His name.

2 Peter 1:3 AMPC

3 **For His divine power** has bestowed upon us **all things** that [are requisite and suited] to life and godliness, **through the [full, personal] knowledge of Him** Who called us by and to His own glory and excellence (virtue).

2 Peter 1:3 KJV

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:

“His divine power”: “His” refers to Jesus Christ. His power is the source of the believer’s sufficiency and perseverance (Matt. 24:30; Mark 5:30; Luke 4:14; 5:17; Rom. 1:4; 2 Cor. 12:9).

“That pertain unto life”: The daily supply of our needs as we live in accordance to His Word/Will. We become bond servants/slaves to the gospel as we choose to do His Will.

“Godliness”: To be godly is to live reverently, loyally and obediently toward God. Peter means that the genuine believer ought not to ask God for something more (as if something necessary to sustain his growth, strength and perseverance was missing), to become godly. Because he already has every spiritual resource to manifest, sustain, and perfect godly living.

Colossians 2:6-10 AMPC

6 As you have therefore received Christ, [even] Jesus the Lord, [so] walk (regulate your lives and conduct yourselves) in union with and conformity to Him.

7 Have the roots [of your being] firmly and deeply planted [in Him, fixed and founded in Him], being continually built up in Him, becoming increasingly more confirmed and established in the faith, just as you were taught, and abounding and overflowing in it with thanksgiving.

8 **See to it that no one carries you off as spoil or makes you yourselves captive by his so-called philosophy and intellectualism and vain deceit (idle fancies and plain nonsense), following human tradition (men’s ideas of the material rather than the spiritual world), just crude notions following the rudimentary and elemental teachings of the universe and disregarding [the teachings of] Christ (the Messiah).**

“Knowledge of Him”: “Knowledge” is a key word in 2 Peter (verses 2, 5, 6, 8; 2:20; 3:18). The knowledge of Christ emphasized here is not a superficial knowledge, or a mere surface awareness of the facts about Christ, but a genuine, personal sharing of life with Christ, based on repentance from sin and personal faith in Him (Matt. 7:21).

James 2:26 AMPC

26 For as the human body apart from the spirit is lifeless, so **faith apart from [its] works of obedience is also dead.**

“Called us to glory and virtue”: This call, as always when mentioned in the New Testament epistles; is the effectual call to salvation (1 Peter 1:15; 2:21; 5:10). This saving call is based on the sinner’s understanding of Christ’s revealed majesty and moral excellence evidencing that He is Lord and Savior.

This implies that there must be a clear presentation of Christ’s person and work as the God-Man in evangelism, which attracts men to salvation (1 Cor. 2:1-2). The cross and resurrection most clearly reveal His “glory and excellence.”

2 Peter 1:4 AMPC

4 By means of these He has bestowed on us His precious and exceedingly great promises, **so that through them you may escape [by flight] from the moral decay (rottenness and corruption) that is in the world because of covetousness (lust and greed), and become sharers (partakers) of the divine nature.**

2 Peter 1:4 KJV

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.

“Great and precious promises”: That is, the promises of abundant and eternal life.

“Partakers of the divine nature”: This expression is not different from the concepts of being born again, born from above (John 3:3; James 1:18; 1 Peter 1:23), being in Christ (Rom. 8:1), or being the home of the Trinity (see John 14:17-23).

The precious promises of salvation result in becoming God’s children in the present age (John 1:2; Rom. 8:9; Gal. 2:20; Col. 1:27), and thereby sharing in God’s nature by the possession of His eternal life.

Christians do not become little gods, but they are “new creatures” (2 Cor. 5:17), and have the Holy Spirit living in them (1 Cor. 6: 19-20).

“Escaped by flight”: This depicts a successful flight or escape from danger. At the time of salvation, the believer escapes from the power which the rottenness in the world has over him through his fallen sinful nature and by habitual obedience they will be raptured (by flight) or be “caught up together” in Him at His Coming.

The promises God made to Abraham are for all who believe in Jesus.

Galatians 3:29 AMPC

29 And if you belong to Christ [are in Him Who is Abraham's Seed], then you are Abraham's offspring and [spiritual] heirs according to promise.

It is our faith in Christ that makes us heirs along with faithful Abraham. Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto Him as righteousness. We believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and we are clothed in His righteousness.

The entire New Testament is a list of the promises made to the believer. To inherit the promises, we must prove we are sons of God... Christians are: followers of, and believers in the Lord Jesus Christ and we are to become Christ-like through the knowledge of Him. We, in fact, must let Christ live in us and through us and be subject to His Will. Not our will but His be done.

1 Corinthians 9:19 AMPC

19 For although I am free in every way from anyone's control, I have made myself a **bond servant** to everyone, so that I might gain the more [for Christ].

Bond servant or slave defined: A person who is wholly subject to the will of another. Words and or phrases used to describe "slave" in scriptures from different translations and or dialects/languages: servant, bond servant, made myself slave unto all, made myself servant unto all, brought myself under bondage to all, I enslaved myself, I choose to serve everybody like a slave

Galatians 2:20 AMPC

20 I have been crucified with Christ [in Him I have shared His crucifixion]; it is no longer I who live, but Christ (the Messiah) lives in me; and the life I now live in the body I live by faith in (by adherence to and reliance on and complete trust in) the Son of God, Who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

Note: _____



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Hall of Faith

Hebrews 11 AMPC

1 Now faith is the assurance (the confirmation, [a]the title deed) of the things [we] hope for, being the proof of things [we] do not see and the conviction of their reality [faith perceiving as real fact what is not revealed to the senses].

2 For by [faith—[b]trust and holy fervor born of faith] the men of old had divine testimony borne to them and obtained a good report.

3 By faith we understand that the worlds [during the successive ages] were framed (fashioned, put in order, and equipped for their intended purpose) by the word of God, so that what we see was not made out of things which are visible.

*4 **[Prompted, actuated] by faith Abel brought God a better and more acceptable sacrifice than Cain**, because of which it was testified of him that he was righteous [that he was upright and in right standing with God], and God bore witness by accepting and acknowledging his gifts. And though he died, yet [through the incident] he is still speaking.*

*5 **Because of faith Enoch was caught up and transferred to heaven**, so that he did not have a glimpse of death; and he was not found, because God had translated him. For even before he was taken to heaven, he received testimony [still on record] that he had pleased and been satisfactory to God.*

*6 **But without faith it is impossible to please and be satisfactory to Him**. For whoever would come near to God must [necessarily] believe that God exists and that He is the rewarder of those who earnestly and diligently seek Him [out].*

7 **[Prompted] by faith Noah, being forewarned by God concerning events of which as yet there was no visible sign, took heed and diligently and reverently constructed and prepared an ark for the deliverance of his own family.** By this [his faith which relied on God] he passed judgment and sentence on the world's unbelief and became an heir and possessor of righteousness ([c]that relation of being right into which God puts the person who has faith).

8 **[Urged on] by faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed and went forth** to a place which he was destined to receive as an inheritance; and he went, although he did not know or trouble his mind about where he was to go.

9 **[Prompted] by faith he dwelt as a temporary resident** in the land which was designated in the promise [of God, though he was like a stranger] in a strange country, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, fellow heirs with him of the same promise.

10 For he was [waiting expectantly and confidently] looking forward to the city which has fixed and firm foundations, whose Architect and Builder is God.

11 **Because of faith also Sarah herself received physical power to conceive a child,** even when she was long past the age for it, because she considered [God] Who had given her the promise to be reliable and trustworthy and true to His word.

12 So from one man, though he was physically as good as dead, there have sprung descendants whose number is as the stars of heaven and as countless as the innumerable sands on the seashore.

13 These people all died controlled and sustained by their faith, but not having received the tangible fulfillment of [God's] promises, only having seen it and greeted it from a great distance by faith, and all the while acknowledging and confessing that they were strangers and temporary residents and exiles upon the earth.

14 Now those people who talk as they did show plainly that they are in search of a fatherland (their own country).

15 If they had been thinking with [homesick] remembrance of that country from which they were emigrants, they would have found constant opportunity to return to it.

16 But the truth is that they were yearning for and aspiring to a better and more desirable country, that is, a heavenly [one].

For that reason God is not ashamed to be called their God [even to be surnamed their God—the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob], for He has prepared a city for them.

17 By faith Abraham, when he was put to the test [while the testing of his faith was [d]still in progress], [e]had already brought Isaac for an offering;

he who had gladly received and welcomed [God's] promises was ready to sacrifice his only son,

18 Of whom it was said, Through Isaac shall your descendants be reckoned.

19 For he reasoned that God was able to raise [him] up even from among the dead. Indeed in the sense that Isaac was figuratively dead [potentially sacrificed], he did [actually] receive him back from the dead.

20 [With eyes of] faith Isaac, looking far into the future, invoked blessings upon Jacob and Esau.

21 [Prompted] by faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of Joseph's sons and bowed in prayer over the top of his staff.

22 [Actuated] by faith Joseph, when nearing the end of his life, referred to [the promise of God for] the departure of the Israelites out of Egypt and gave instructions concerning the burial of his own bones.

23 [**Prompted**] by faith Moses, after his birth, was kept **concealed for three months by his parents**, because they saw how comely the child was; and they were not overawed and terrified by the king's decree.

24 [Aroused] by faith Moses, when he had grown to maturity and [f]become great, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter,

25 Because he preferred to share the oppression [suffer the hardships] and bear the shame of the people of God rather than to have the fleeting enjoyment of a sinful life.

26 He considered the contempt and abuse and shame [borne for] the Christ (the Messiah Who was to come) to be greater wealth than all the treasures of Egypt, for he looked forward and away to the reward (recompense).

27 [**Motivated**] by faith he left Egypt behind him, being **unawed and undismayed by the wrath of the king**; for he never flinched but held staunchly to his purpose and endured steadfastly as one who gazed on Him Who is invisible.

28 By faith (simple trust and confidence in God) he instituted and carried out the Passover and the sprinkling of the blood [on the doorposts], so that the destroyer of the firstborn (the angel) might not touch those [of the children of Israel].

29 [**Urged on**] by faith the people crossed the Red Sea as **[though] on dry land**, but when the Egyptians tried to do the same thing they were swallowed up [by the sea].

30 Because of faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encompassed for seven days [by the Israelites].

31 [Prompted] by faith Rahab the prostitute was not destroyed along with those who refused to believe and obey, because she had received the spies in peace [without enmity].

32 And what shall I say further? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets,

33 Who by [the help of] faith subdued kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promised blessings, closed the mouths of lions,

34 Extinguished the power of raging fire, escaped the devourings of the sword, out of frailty and weakness won strength and became stalwart, even mighty and resistless in battle, routing alien hosts.

35 [Some] women received again their dead by a resurrection. Others were tortured [g]to death with clubs, refusing to accept release [offered on the terms of denying their faith], so that they might be resurrected to a better life.

36 Others had to suffer the trial of mocking and scourging and even chains and imprisonment.

37 They were stoned to death; they were lured with tempting offers [to renounce their faith]; they were sawn asunder; they were slaughtered by the sword; [while they were alive] they had to go about wrapped in the skins of sheep and goats, utterly destitute, oppressed, cruelly treated—

38 [Men] of whom the world was not worthy—roaming over the desolate places and the mountains, and [living] in caves and caverns and holes of the earth.

39 And all of these, though they won divine approval by [means of] their faith, did not receive the fulfillment of what was promised,

40 Because God had us in mind and had something better and greater in view for us, so that they [these heroes and heroines of faith] should not come to perfection apart from us [before we could join them].