



Diligence During Difficult Days  
**2 peter**

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## STUDY IN II PETER

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### OUTLINE OF THE EPISTLE

## Diligence During Difficult Days

### I. KNOW THE SAVIOR - CHAPTER I

- A. EXPERIENCE OF FAITH - II PETER 1:1-4
  - (1) PERSON OF FAITH - 1:1 (OBJECT OF FAITH)
  - (2) POWER OF FAITH - 1:3 (OPERATION OF FAITH)
  - (3) PROMISES OF FAITH - 1:4 (OUTCOME OF FAITH)
  
- B. EXPRESSION OF FAITH - 1:3,4
  - (1) CONDUCT - 1:3
  - (2) CHARACTER - 1:3
  - (3) CLEANLINESS - 1:4
  
- C. EXERCISE OF FAITH - 1:5-7
  - (1) GODLY CHARACTER (VIRTUE - 1:3,5) (SCRIPTURAL DEPARTMENT)
  - (2) GODLY COUNSEL - (KNOWLEDGE - 1:5) - (SPIRITUAL DISCERNMENT)
  - (3) GODLY CONTROL - (TEMPERANCE - 1:6) - (SELF DISCIPLINE)
  - (4) GODLY CONSISTENCY - (PATIENCE - 1:6) (STEADFAST DEPENDENCY)
  - (5) GODLY CHRIST - LIKENESS - (GODLINESS - 1:6) - (SERIOUS DEDICATION)
  - (6) GODLY CONCERN (BROTHERLY KINDNESS - 1:7) (SINCERE DESIRE)
  - (7) GODLY COMPASSION (CHARITY - 1:7) (SANCTIFIED DEVOTION)
  
- D. EXTENSION OF FAITH - 1:8-21
  - (1) EXPRESSION OF GROWTH - 1:8-15
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      - (1) NOT IDLE - 1:8
      - (2) NOT INEFFECTIVE - 1:8
      - (3) NOT INSECURE - 1:8
    - (b) SPIRITUALLY ENLIGHTENED - 1:9
      - (1) SIGHT IS BACK - 1:9
      - (2) SINS ARE BURIED - 1:9
    - (c) SPIRITUALLY ESTABLISHED - 1:10-12
      - (1) SURE OF YOUR SALVATION - 1:10
      - (2) SURE OF YOUR STEPS - 1:10

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- (3) SURE OF YOUR SOURCE - 1:12
- (d) SPIRITUAL ENTRANCE - 1:11
  - (1) IT IS ADDED - 1:11
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  - (3) IT IS ASSURED - 1:11
- (2) EXPLANATION OF GROWTH - 1:16-21
  - (a) THE SAVIOR - 1:16-18
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  - (d) THE SCRIPTURES - 1:19-21

## II. KNOW THE SCOFFERS - CHAPTER II

- A. THEIR DEPORTMENT - 2:1-3
  - (1) SATAN'S TARGET - MATT. 4:1
    - (a) SAVIOR - Matt. 4:1
    - (b) SAINTS - 1 Pet. 5:8
    - (c) SINNERS - Eph. 2:1-10
  - (2) SATAN'S TIMING - 2:2
    - (a) PERSONAL ENDEAVOR
    - (b) PHYSICAL EXHAUSTION
    - (c) POWERFUL EXPERIENCE
  - (3) SATAN'S TACTICS - I Jn. 2:15-17
    - (a) LUST OF THE FLESH - Matt. 4:3,4
    - (b) LUST OF THE EYES - Matt. 4:8,9
    - (c) PRIDE OF LIFE - Matt. 4:5,6
- B. THEIR DESTRUCTION - 2:4-9
  - NOTE: STORY OF DESTRUCTION - 2:4,5,6,9
  - STORY OF DELIVERANCE - 2:5,7,9
    - A. ANGELS WHO SINNED - 2:4 (cf Gen. 6:1-6)
      - (1) CAST THEM DOWN TO HELL - 2:4
      - (2) CHAINS OF DARKNESS - 2:4
      - (3) CONFINED FOR JUDGMENT - 2:4
    - B. NOAH AND THE FLOOD - 2:5
    - C. SODOM AND GOMORRAH - 2:6
      - (1) SAVED NOAH - 2:5
      - (2) SAVED LOT - 2:7
- C. THEIR DESCRIPTION - 2:10-22
  - (1) THEY DESPISED AUTHORITY - 2:10-14
  - (2) THEY DEPARTED FROM AUTHENTICITY - 2:15-17

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### 3 FOLD WORD PICTURE DESCRIPTION:

- (a) WELLS WITHOUT WATER - 2:17
  - (b) CLOUDS CARRIED WITH A TEMPEST - 2:17
  - (c) MIST OF DARKNESS - 2:17
- (3) THEY WERE DEPRIVED IN THEIR ACTIONS - 2:18-22.
- (a) IN THEIR TALK - 2:18,19 (COMMUNICATION)
  - (b) IN THEIR WALK - 2:19,20,21 (CONDUCT)

## III. KNOW THE SITUATION - CHAPTER III

### 3 FOLD EXHORTATION:

- (1) LISTEN IN THE PRESENT - 3:1,2,11,14,17,18
  - (2) LEARN FROM THE PAST - 3:1,2,5
  - (3) LOOK FOR THE PROSPECT - 3:7,9,12,13,18
- A. A REMINDER - 3:1-7
- (1) THE SCRIPTURES - 3:2,5,7
  - (2) THE SERVANTS - 3:1,2
  - (3) THE SCOFFERS - 3:3
    - (a) THEIR MANNER - 3:3
    - (b) THEIR MESSAGE - 3:4
  - (4) THE SCENE - 3:5-7
    - (a) PAST 3:5,6
    - (b) PROSPECT - 3:7
- B. A REASSURANCE - 3:8,9
- (1) GOD'S PROGRAM - 3:8
  - (2) GOD'S PROMISE - 3:9
- C. A RECKONING - 3:10-12.
- (1) SUDDEN - 3:10
  - (2) SEVERE - 3:10-12
  - (3) SEARCHING - 3:11
    - (a) GODLY CONDUCT - 3:11
    - (b) GODLY CONCERN - 3:12
      - (1) LIVING - 3:11
      - (2) LOOKING - 3:12
      - (3) LONGING - 3:13
- D. A RESOLUTION - 3:13-18
- (1) BE CAUTIOUS - 3:14
    - (1) BE CALM - 3:14
    - (2) BE CLEAN - 3:14
  - (2) BE CONFIDENT - 3:15,16
  - (3) BE CONSISTENT - 3:17

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- (4) BE COMMITTED - 3:17,18
  - (a) GUARDING - 3:17
  - (b) GROWING - 3:18
  - (c) GLORIFYING - 3:18

- SUMMARY:
- (a) THE WORD OF GOD IS CORRECT  
II Peter 1:4;19,20,21; 2:2; 3:2,5,7,16
  - (b) THE WORK OF GOD IS CONSISTENT  
II Peter 1:12,13,14,15; 2:1-8; 3:1,8,9,17
  - (c) THE WILL OF GOD IS COMPASSIONATE  
II Peter 1:4; 2:9; 3:8,9,13,15
  - (d) THE WORSHIP OF GOD IS COMMANDED  
II Peter 1:4-8; 3:11,12,14,18

## Diligence During Difficult Days

### Study in II Peter

SCRIPTURE - II PETER 1:1-21

INTRODUCTION:

A. KEY PHRASES:

- (1) "PUT YOU IN REMEMBRANCE" - 1:12,13, 15; 3:1
- (2) "BE DILIGENT" - 1:5,10; 3:14

B. KEY WORD: "KNOW" - "KNOWLEDGE" - 1:2,3,5,6,8, 12,14,16,20;  
2:9,20,21,22; 3:3,17,18, - (16 TIMES)

"BIBLICAL KNOWLEDGE" - "NOT THE ACCUMULATION OF FACTS BUT THE APPLICATION BY FAITH."

C. KEY VERSE - 1:8 - "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."

D. KEY THOUGHT - "PRECIOUS" - 7 TIMES IN TWO EPISTLES 1:7,19; 2:4,6,7;  
I PETER 1:1,4

E. NOTE: 1:4 - "PARTAKERS OF THE DIVINE NATURE"

NATURE DETERMINES:

- (1) APPETITE -
- (2) ACTIONS -
- (3) ASSOCIATIONS - II Cor. 6:14 - SHEEP (FLOCKS); FISH (SCHOOLS); COWS (HERD) - THAT WHICH SUITS OUR NATURE  
"WIERSBE" - "THE RESULT OF CULTIVATING NEW NATURE WITHIN IS GODLY LIVING."

### I. KNOW THE SAVIOR - CHAPTER I

1:2 - KNOWLEDGE OF GOD AND OF JESUS CHRIST

1:3 - KNOWLEDGE OF HIM

1:8 - KNOWLEDGE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

A. EXPERIENCE OF FAITH - II PETER 1:1-4

NOTE: 1:1 - "...HAVE OBTAINED LIKE PRECIOUS FAITH.."

- (1) PERSON OF FAITH - 1:1 (OBJECT OF FAITH) "...GOD AND OUR SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST."
- (2) POWER OF FAITH - 1:3 (OPERATION OF FAITH) "....ACCORDING TO HIS DIVINE POWER..."
- (3) PROMISES OF FAITH - 1:4 (OUTCOME OF FAITH) "...EXCEEDING GREAT AND PRECIOUS PROMISES..."  
(ESTIMATE: NEARLY 8,000 PROMISES IN THE BIBLE)

B. EXPRESSION OF FAITH - 1:3,4

- (1) CONDUCT - 1:3 - LIFE OF GODLINESS
- (2) CHARACTER - 1:3 - LIFE OF VIRTUE (HIGH MORAL STANDARD)
- (3) CLEANLINESS - 1:4 - ESCAPE THE CORRUPTION IN THE WORLD

C. EXERCISE OF FAITH - 1:5-7

NOTE; V. 5 - GIVING ALL DILIGENCE - (SPEED; EFFORT; ZEAL; TO MAKE HASTE; BE EAGER; EVERY EFFORT TO BRING ALONGSIDE DILIGENCE - TRANSFORMS THEORY INTO REALITY APPLICATION OF DISCIPLINE WITH DILIGENCE  
1:5 - ADD TO YOUR FAITH - STRENGTHEN YOUR FAITH

- (1) GODLY CHARACTER (VIRTUE - 1:3,5) (SCRIPTURAL DEPARTMENT)  
MORAL EXCELLENCE - GOOD CHARACTER GREEK - INDICATES BRAVERY AND VALOR COURAGE TO STAND FOR TRUTH

- (2) GODLY COUNSEL - (KNOWLEDGE - 1:5) - (SPIRITUAL DISCERNMENT) WISDOM - REFERS TO THE ABILITY TO HANDLE LIFE SUCCESSFULLY  
KEY - OBEDIENCE - JOHN 7:17  
PRACTICALITY - INTIMATE KNOWLEDGE - SOURCE OF SPIRITUAL POWER AND STRENGTH (GROWTH) Phil. 1:9;  
Col. 1;9,10; 2:2

- (3) GODLY CONTROL - (TEMPERANCE - 1:6) - (SELF DISCIPLINE)  
SELF CONTROL - 1:6 - cf. Prov. 16:32; 25:28  
Eph. 5:18 - "...BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT" - PASSIONS UNDER CONTROL - SEXUAL DESIRES  
DO YOU MASTER YOUR BODY OR DOES YOUR BODY MASTER YOU? Rom. 6:11-14; Gal. 5:23

- (4) GODLY CONSISTENCY - (PATIENCE - 1:6) (STEADFAST DEPENDENCY)  
STEADFASTNESS - ENDURANCE UNDER ADVERSITY  
II Tim. 2:3 - "Endure Hardness..." James 1:2-6, 12- Worketh Patience  
Heb. 11:27,32,38 - "Moses ENDURED" (Heroes of the Faith)

TEMPERANCE - HANDLING THE PLEASURE OF LIFE  
PATIENCE - HANDLING THE PRESSURES OF LIFE  
LONGSUFFERING - HANDLING THE PEOPLE OF LIFE

"PATIENCE" - ABILITY TO ENDURE WHEN CIRCUMSTANCES ARE DIFFICULT  
"DON'T QUIT!" - Rom. 5:3,4; 15:4,5; II Cor. 1:6; 6:4; Col. 1:11; 1  
Thess. 1:3; II Thess. 1:4; James 1:3

- (5) GODLY CHRIST-LIKENESS - (GODLINESS - 1:6) - SERIOUS DEDICATION)  
"To Worship Well;" Piety; Reverence  
Characterized By A "SANCTITY" AND "SERIOUSNESS" II Pet. 1:3; 3:11; Titus 2:11-14

"GODLINESS" - USED 10 TIMES IN PASTORAL EPISTLES

I Tim. 1:4; 2:10; 4:7,8; 6:3,5,6,11; II Tim. 3:5,12; Titus 1:1; 2:11 (ILL. - Shunamite -  
Godliness In Action - II Kings 4:8-10)

Acts 4:13 - Took Knowledge - They had been with Jesus

NOTE: A GODLY PERSON DOES WHAT IS RIGHT BECAUSE IT IS RIGHT!

FIRST FIVE - INNER LIFE - RELATIONSHIP TO GOD

LAST TWO - OUTER LIFE - RELATIONSHIP TO OTHERS

(6) GODLY CONCERN (BROTHERLY KINDNESS - 1:7) (SINCERE DESIRE)

Fervent - Practical Caring for others

Philadelphia - Love of The Brethren - Brotherly Affection Gal. 6:10 - DO GOOD  
UNTO ALL MEN

1 Pet. 3:8,9 - Ye are called to this

1 Pet. 1:22 - Unfeigned (Sincere) Love of the Brethren

Heb. 13:1 - Let Brotherly Love Continue

1 Jn. 5:1,2 - Evidence We are Saved

Rom. 12:10 - Be kindly Affectioned to one another

I Thess. 4:9 - Taught of God to love one another

(7) GODLY COMPASSION (CHARITY - 1:7) (SANCTIFIED DEVOTION)

AGAPE LOVE - Top Rung of Peter's Ladder of Love

Seeking the highest good of the other person

Rom. 5:8 - Loving the unlovely

DEVELOPING A FRUITFUL LIFE IN CHRIST IS A PROCESS

LOVE - The Great Trait of every Believer

"CHARITY" - NOT ONLY A LOVE FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD BUT  
FOR ALL PEOPLE (ILL - I Cor. 13)

BROTHERLY LOVE - WE LOVE BECAUSE OF OUR LIKENESS TO OTHERS

AGAPE LOVE - WE LOVE IN SPITE OF THE DIFFERENCES WE HAVE

JESUS LOVE FOR SINNERS - Jn. 3:16; Rom. 5:8; 1 Jn. 4:9-11

\*\*\* - THIS SECTION - BEGINS WITH FAITH (1:1-5) AND IT CONCLUDES WITH LOVE (1:7)

A. FOUNDATION - FAITH

B. FOCUS - CHRIST - LIKE

C. FEATURES - 7 CHARACTERISTICS

D. FULFILLMENT - LOVE FOR CHRIST  
LOVE FOR OTHERS

D. EXTENSION OF FAITH - 1:8-21

NOTE: "THESE THINGS" - 1:8,9,10,12,15

(1) EXPRESSION OF GROWTH - 1:8-15

(a) SPIRITUALLY EFFECTIVE - 1:8 (Neither barren nor unfruitful)

(1) NOT IDLE - 1:8

(2) NOT INEFFECTIVE - 1:8

(3) NOT INSECURE - 1:8



- (b) SPIRITUALLY ENLIGHTENED - 1:9 (No Longer Blind)
    - (1) SIGHT IS BACK - 1:9
    - (2) SINS ARE BURIED - 1:9
  - (c) SPIRITUALLY ESTABLISHED - 1:10-12 (Be Sure - Not Fall)
    - (1) SURE OF YOUR SALVATION - 1:10
    - (2) SURE OF YOUR STEPS - 1:10
    - (3) SURE OF YOUR SOURCE - 1:12
  - (d) SPIRITUAL ENTRANCE - 1:11 (Rich Entrance)  
"INTO HIS EVERLASTING KINGDOM"
    - (1) IT IS ADDED - 1:11 (Ministered - "same Word as "ADD" -1:5)
    - (2) IT IS ABUNDANT - 1:11
    - (3) IT IS ASSURED - 1:11
- (2) EXPLANATION OF GROWTH - 1:16-21
- (a) THE SAVIOR - 1:16-18 - (Lord Jesus Christ: Beloved Son; with Him)
  - (b) THE SOVEREIGN - 1:17 (God the Father)
  - (c) THE SPIRIT - 1:21 - (Holy Ghost)
  - (d) THE SCRIPTURES - 1:19-21 (Prophecy v. 19,20,21; Scripture -v.20)

LESSONS LEARNED - CHAPTER I - (CHARLES SWINDOLL)

- A. LEAVING A FRUITFUL LIFE BEHIND AT DEATH RESULTS IN MOTIVATION FOR OTHERS AND GUARANTEES REWARDS
- B. REMEMBER WHEN YOU TURN TO GOD'S WORD, YOU ARE CONSULTING THE MOST RELIABLE OF ALL SOURCES
- C. REMEMBER WHEN YOU MAKE OTHER SOURCES - DREAMS - FEELINGS - EXPERIENCES EQUAL TO OR MORE RELIABLE THAN SCRIPTURE YOU WILL SOON FALL INTO ERROR

## II. KNOW THE SCOFFERS - CHAPTER II

2:1 - FALSE PROPHETS - FALSE TEACHERS; 3:3 - SCOFFERS  
2:19 - SERVANTS OF CORRUPTION

### INTRODUCTION:

- A. DENY THE SAVIOR - 2:1 - (Denying the Lord who bought them)
- B. DECEIVE THE SAINTS - 2:2 (Pernicious - Harmful; Hurtful; destructive; 2:13 - Deceiving)
- C. DESECRATE THE SCRIPTURES - 2:2 - Way of Truth; Evil spoken of; 2:21 - Turn from the Holy Commandment

"DESECRATE" - To Treat a sacred place or thing with violent disrespect; show no respect toward something Holy

### BUT:

- D. DESTROYED BY THE SOVEREIGN - 2:3-6, 9 SCOFFERS

3 Illustrations:

- (1) Fallen Angels - 2:4
- (2) Old World - 2:5
- (3) Sodom and Gomorrah - 2:6-8

### ILLUSTRATION: HOW TO SPOT COUNTERFEIT TEACHERS:

In his book WAITING, Ben Patterson writes:

The American Banking Association once sponsored a two-week training program to help tellers detect counterfeit bills. The program was unique - never during the two week training did the tellers even look at a counterfeit bill, nor did they listen to any lectures concerning the characteristics of counterfeit bills...All they did for two weeks was handle authentic currency, hour after hour and day after day, until they were so familiar with the true that they could not possibly be fooled by the false..

NOTE: That's the right approach in spotting counterfeit communicators as well. We need to study, meditate on and apply God's Word until we are so familiar with it that we cannot be fooled by anything less than real truth.

### BUT:

- E. DELIVERED BY THE SAVIOR - 2:5-9 "SAINTS"

NOTE: Delivered - 2:7,9; saved - 2:5

"COUNTERFEITS" - Forge; Imitate; To carry on deception; False; Not Genuine; Illegitimate

- (1) FALSE MESSENGERS - 2:1 - (False Prophets); 2:19 - (Servants of Corruption)
- (2) FALSE MESSAGE - 2:1,2 - (Damnable Heresies; Speak Evil of the Truth); 2:3 - Feigned Words (False) - Exploit you for their own ends; 2:18 - vain words

- (3) FALSE MINISTRY - 2:1 (Privily) (Secretly); 2:3 - Covetous - (Greed - self-satisfaction); 2:10 - walk after the flesh; self willed; 2:14 - Beguiling (Trick someone in a very deceptive way); 2:14 - Can Not cease from sin; 2:21 - Turn from the Holy Commandment

WIERSBE: "THEY USE OUR VOCABULARY BUT DO NOT USE OUR DICTIONARY."

A. THEIR DEPORTMENT - 2:1-3

2:3 (ESV) - "AND IN THEIR GREED THEY WILL EXPLOIT YOU WITH FALSE WORDS..."

ORIGINAL COUNTERFEITER - SATAN - Gen. 3:1-13

HE QUESTIONED GOD'S WORD:

- A. ITS' ACCURACY - 3:1
- B. ITS' AUTHORITY - 3:1-4
- C. ITS' AUTHENTICITY - 3:4

(1) SATAN'S TARGET - MATT. 4:1

- (a) SAVIOR - Matt. 4:1
- (b) SAINTS - 1 Pet. 5:8; - cf II Pet.2:3 - make merchandise of you - exploit you for His own ends; Lk. 22:31
- (c) SINNERS - Eph. 2:1-10; II Cor. 4:4 - "...God of this world hath blinded the minds of them that believe not..."

(2) SATAN'S TIMING - 2:2 - (Way of truth being attacked)

JESUS: TIME OF:

- (a) PERSONAL ENDEAVOR - (About to begin His public ministry)
- (b) PHYSICAL EXHAUSTION - (Just fasted forty days)
- (c) POWERFUL EXPERIENCE - (His Baptism)

(3) SATAN'S TACTICS - I Jn. 2:15-17

- (a) LUST OF THE FLESH - Matt. 4:3,4; Gen. 3:6
- (b) LUST OF THE EYES - Matt. 4:8,9; Gen. 3:6
- (c) PRIDE OF LIFE - Matt. 4:5,6; Gen. 3:6

- A. HE DECEIVES - 2:3 - (Fake Speech - Greed; 2:13 - Deceiving) II Cor. 11:14 - ...Transformed into an angel of light
- B. HE DENIES - 2:1 - (Denying the one who bought them)
- C. HE DESECRATES - 2:2 (Truth Evil Spoken of) 2:21 - (Turn from the Holy Commandment) I Pet. 5:8 - seeking whom He may devour
- D. HE DELEGATES - II COR. 11:15 - (His Ministers are transformed as Angel of light)

3 CHARACTERISTICS OF THEIR DEPORTMENT:

- A. WORDS AND WORKS OF DESTRUCTION  
2:1 Damnable (Destructive) Heresies (self-designed religious lies which I lead to division) (cf I Cor. 11:19; Gal. 5:20) Destruction - 2:1
- B. WORDS AND WORKS OF DENIAL - 2:1 - Denying; 2:2 - Way of truth evil spoken of

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C. WORDS AND WORKS OF DECEPTION - 2:3 - Feigned (Plastic; False; Deceptive) WORDS

B. THEIR DESTRUCTION - 2:4-9

(Peter saw "NO HOPE" For these APOSTATES - DOOM WAS SEALED)

NOTE: STORY OF DESTRUCTION - 2:4,5,6,9

STORY OF DELIVERANCE - 2:5,7,9

### 3 OLD TESTAMENT ILLUSTRATIONS OF DIVINE JUDGMENT

A. ANGELS WHO SINNED - 2:4 (cf Gen. 6:1-6)

(1) CAST THEM DOWN TO HELL - 2:4 Peter borrows a word from Greek Mythology "TARTARUS" - Place lower than Hades reserved for the most wicked - The Lowest Hell!

(2) CHAINS OF DARKNESS - 2:4 - Not all demons are bound - some roam the heavens and earth (Rev. 12:7-9) - These because of their sin were permanently bound.

(3) CONFINED FOR JUDGMENT - 2:4 (Reserved) they are permanently confined awaiting final judgement (Rev. 20:10)

B. NOAH AND THE FLOOD - 2:5 - Judgment on the Ancient world through the World wide flood (Gen. 6-8). The human race was reduced to 8 people (I Pet. 3:20)

C. SODOM AND GOMORRAH - 2:6 - Every person was burned to death - this illustration is used over 20 times in the Word of God to remind us of God's Judgment during the days of Abraham and Lot. They were an "EXAMPLE" (2:6) to others of God's judgment upon sin.

### BUT: ALSO A STORY OF DELIVERANCE

NOTE: 2:9 - "...The Lord knoweth how to deliver the Godly..."

(1) SAVED NOAH - 2:5 - He was a preacher of righteousness (Gen. 6:9; 7:1) - He called people to repentance

(2) SAVED LOT - 2:7 - Lot was spiritually weak (Gen. 19:6) - Immoral (Gen. 19:8) - A drunken man (Gen. 19:33-35). His heart was in Sodom but he obeyed the Lord in not looking back at Sodom (Gen. 19). He was vexed - oppressed provoked - troubled by the licentious life- style of those around him YET - HE LIVED FOR HIMSELF!

C. THEIR DESCRIPTION - 2:10-22

(1) THEY DESPISED AUTHORITY - 2:10-14

NOTE: DESPISE GOVERNMENT (v 10) - self-willed (v10) - SPEAK EVIL (V10) - DECEIVING (V13) - EYES FULL OF ADULTERY (V10) - CAN NOT CEASE FROM SIN (v14) - Beguiling (Deceiving) Unstable Souls (v14) COVETOUS PRACTICES (v14)

DESPISE ANY TYPE OF AUTHORITY BUT ESPECIALLY GOD'S AUTHORITY.

- (2) THEY DEPARTED FROM AUTHENTICITY - 2:15-17  
NOTE: 2:15 - "FORSAKEN THE RIGHT WAY... "Once you forsake the right way you are OPEN TO CHOOSE THE WRONG WAY!  
THEY FOLLOWED THE WAY OF BALAAM - 2:15,16  
Balaam hired himself out as a prophet which pictures deceit and covetousness (Num. 22-24) 2:14 (NIV) - they are "EXPERTS IN GREED"  
2:15 - Term used for "FORSAKING" - Actually means "ABANDONED".  
Balaam knew the right way But "ABANDONED" it for financial gain (Num. 22-24; 31;1-16) Peter describes this type of attitude as "MADNESS" (INSANE THINKING) 2:16 Philips Translation - "ABANDONED THE RIGHT ROAD" Balaam was doing religious work for personal gain.  
SWINDOLL: "THEY ARE EXPERTS AT KNOWING HOW TO JERK THE HEART STRINGS THAT CONTROL THE PURSE STRINGS."

3 FOLD WORD PICTURE DESCRIPTION:

- (a) WELLS WITHOUT WATER - 2:17 - (PROMISE WITHOUT PRODUCTION) "A mirage"
- (b) CLOUDS CARRIED WITH A TEMPEST - 2:17 (APPEARANCE WITHOUT ACTION). "Emptiness"
- (c) MIST OF DARKNESS - 2:17 (PROFESSION WITHOUT POSSESSION) "Promise but do not produce" They twist scripture to make it say what they want it to say

NOTE: TWO ASPECTS OF APOSTATES:

- (1) SENSUAL LUST - 2:10,14,18
- (2) COVETOUSNESS - 2:3,14

WIERSBE: KNOW THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN "COMMUNICATION" AND "MANIPULATION"

- (3) THEY WERE DEPRAVED IN THEIR ACTIONS - 2:18-22.  
"DEPRAVED" - Morally corrupt; Wicked; perfected lusts of the flesh (v18); Live in error (v18); servants of corruption (v19); turn from the Holy Commandment (v21)  
PROFESSION OF SPIRITUALITY WITHOUT POSSESSION OF THE SPIRIT (ROM. 8:9; EPH. 5:18)
- (a) IN THEIR TALK - 2:18,19 (COMMUNICATION)
    - "Great swelling words" - (ESV - loud boasts of folly) - 2:18
    - Promise "Freedom" while they themselves are enslaved - 2:19
  - (b) IN THEIR WALK - 2:19,20,21 (CONDUCT)
    - "Entangle therein" - Living Bible - A man is a slave to whatever controls him.
    - 2:21 - "Turn from the Holy Commandment "(Living Bible - Turn his back on...")

CONCLUSION: 2:22

- A. DOG - TURNED TO HIS OWN VOMIT
- B. PIG - TURNED TO WALLOW IN THE MIRE  
THE PIG LOOKED BETTER AND THE DOG FELT BETTER BUT NEITHER ONE  
HAD BEEN CHANGED! KEY TO VICTORY FOR TRUE CHILDREN OF GOD
- A. WAIT ON HIM - IS. 40:31
- B. WISDOM FROM HIM - James 1:5
- C. WALK WITH HIM - Ps. 37:23

### III. KNOW THE SITUATION - CHAPTER III

3:3 - SCOFFERS; 3:7 - RESERVED UNTO FIRE; 3:7 - DAY OF JUDGMENT; 3:10  
- THE ELEMENTS SHALL MELT WITH FERVENT HEAT; 3:13 - WE LOOK FOR NEW  
HEAVENS AND A NEW EARTH;

#### INTRODUCTION:

##### 3 FOLD EXHORTATION:

- (1) LISTEN IN THE PRESENT -  
3:1 (STIR UP YOUR MINDS); 3:2 (BE MINDFUL); 3:11 (WHAT MANNER OF  
PERSONS OUGHT YE TO BE); 3:14 - (BE DILIGENT); 3:17 - (BEWARE); -  
3:18 (GROW IN GRACE AND KNOWLEDGE)
- (2) LEARN FROM THE PAST -  
1 (REMEMBRANCE); 3:2 (MINDFUL OF THE WORDS SPOKEN BY THE  
PROPHETS - COMMANDMENTS BY THE APOSTLES) 3:5 (BY THE WORD  
OF GOD THE HEAVENS AND EARTH WERE OF OLD)
- (3) LOOK FOR THE PROSPECT -  
3:7 (HEAVENS AND EARTH RESERVED UNTO FIRE); 3:9  
(LORD DESIRES ALL TO COME TO REPENTANCE); 3:12 (LOOKING FOR  
HIS COMING); 3:13 (LOOK FOR NEW HEAVENS AND A NEW EARTH);  
3:18 (TO HIM BE GLORY NOW AND FOREVER)

#### A. A REMINDER - 3:1-7

#### B.

- (1) THE SCRIPTURES - 3:2,5,7  
Introduces GOOD NEWS with reassuring words for Godly Believers currently  
experiencing persecution 3:1,2 - Remember the words - where do we turn when  
the going gets rough - GOD HIMSELF THROUGH HIS WORD!
- (2) THE SERVANTS - 3:1,2  
3:2 - PROPHETS AND APOSTLES  
NOTE: 1:21 - "...HOLY MEN OF GOD SPOKE AS THEY WERE MOVED  
BY THE HOLY  
GHOST.
- (3) THE SCOFFERS - 3:3  
NOTE: 3:17 - "...ERROR OF THE WICKED..."
  - (a) THEIR MANNER - 3:3 - "...Walking after their own lusts"
  - (b) THEIR MESSAGE - 3:4 - "...Where is the promise of His coming"  
NOTE: 3:5 - "Willing Ignorance of GOD'S WORD"
- (4) THE SCENE - 3:5-7
  - (a) PAST 3:5,6 - Heavens and earth formed by the Word of God - (Illustration -  
Gen. 1 - 9 times we have these words "GOD SAID"! The Apostates ignore  
God's hand in creation. Also, willfully overlook the fact that God already  
destroyed the world by a flood (3:6)

(b) PROSPECT (FUTURE) - 3:7

NOTE; "IF GOD INTERVENED BEFORE HE CAN DO IT AGAIN." - AND HE WILL!! This time instead of doing it by water He will use "FIRE" (3:7). 3:10 - melt with a fervent heat and the earth shall be "burned up"

QUESTION: JUDGMENT IS COMING; NOT, IS IT COMING? WILL YOU BE READY WHEN IT COMES?

B. A REASSURANCE - 3:8,9

"REASSURANCE" - Restoring confidence; removing worry;

(1) GOD'S PROGRAM - 3:8 - Our God does not operate within our time frame. In God's time - table the United States is only a few hours old! Ps. 90:4 - A thousand years as yesterday.

(2) GOD'S PROMISE - 3:9

He will be faithful to His Promises! Delaying His coming to allow time for more to be saved. Peter says we can't use a watch to disprove God's plan for the future - HE IS NEVER LATE OR DELAYED!

Charles Swindoll: SALVATIONS TIME - TABLE - 3:9

"NOT SLOW - HE IS PATIENT

NOT TARDY - HE IS DELIBERATELY WAITING

NOT INDIFFERENT - HE IS MERCIFUL

He is holding back the events of the end to give as many people as possible an opportunity to believe in His Son. He is also waiting for us to share the good news of salvation so they can believe (Rom. 10:17)."

C. A RECKONING - 3:10-12.

NOTE: "THE DAY OF THE LORD..." 3:10

CHARLES RYRIE - "Day of the Lord" (v10) will be an extended period of time beginning with the tribulation and including the events of the second coming of Christ and the millennial kingdom on earth. It will begin unexpectedly as a thief in the night. (of I Thess. 5:2) The Christians of Peter's day looked with anxiety toward their future. Not only were apostate scoffers creating doubts and confusion about Christ's return but these early believers were having to endure some of the most horrible persecutions imaginable. Here is one historian's account of those tragic times.

In the meantime, the number of Christians being now very large, it happened that Rome was destroyed by fire, while Nero was stationed at Antium. But the opinion of all cast the odium of causing the fire upon the emperor, and he was believed in this way to have sought for the glory of building a new city. And, in fact, Nero could not, by any means he tried escape from the charge that the fire had been caused by his orders. He,



therefore, turned the accusation against the Christians, and the most cruel tortures were accordingly inflicted upon the innocent. Nay, even new kinds of death were invented, so that, being covered in the skins of wild beasts, they perished by being devoured by dogs, while many were crucified or slain by fire...that, when the day came to a close, they should be consumed to serve for light during the night. In this way, cruelty first began to be manifested against the Christians.

Afterwards, too, their religion was prohibited by laws which were enacted; and by edicts openly set forth it was proclaimed unlawful to be a Christian. Outlawed, maligned, tortured, and murdered - the future looked bleak to those first century Christians. In chapter 3 of Peter's second letter, verses 8-13, the seasoned apostle calmed their fears and strengthened their hope with a close look at God's plan for the future.

1. SUDDEN - 3:10

NOTE: "Day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night. A thief does not notify in advance the time of His arrival. (Compare - I Thess. 5:2,4; Matt. 24:43; Lk. 12:39; Rev. 3:3; 16:15) - The end will come suddenly - unexpectedly - surprisingly!

2. SEVERE - 3:10-12

NOTE: (a) Heavens will pass away - 3:10 - Dissolved. - 3:11  
(b) Elements will melt with fervent heat - 3:10, 12  
(c) Earth and its' works will be burned up - 3:10  
3:10 - "GREAT NOISE" - ESV "Roar"; ASV - Roar"; with a mighty and thunderous roar - Amp.; with a roar - Wey.; it's the sound of crackling flames - the noise of the whistling of an arrow.  
3:10,11,12 - "Dissolved" - Destroyed (Dissolved) by a violent, consuming heat

Charles Swindoll: "The final end of this world will come not because some nervous military officer "pushes the button" and begins an apocalyptic Nuclear War. It is God himself who will push the button to end this world. He created the heavens and the earth we live in, and He has reserved the sole right to bring both to an end, in His own timing and His own way"

3. SEARCHING - 3:11

NOTE: "...What manner of persons ought ye to be..." Amp." what kind of people ought you to be...". Prophetic Truth is designed to fan the flame of Godly Living - NOT SPECULATION BUT MOTIVATION!

(a) GODLY CONDUCT - 3:11

(1) MY CONDUCT - "Holy Conversation" - Godly behavior  
MY TALK AND MY WALK ARE CONSISTENT Phil.

1:27 - "Only let your conversation (Conduct; Behavior) Be as it becometh the Gospel of Christ..."

- (2) MY CHARACTER - "Godliness" - Displaying a profound reverence toward our awesome God".

#### CHARACTER DETERMINES CONDUCT

(b) GODLY CONCERN - 3:12

- (1) LIVING - 3:11 - "Godliness" - (at least 12 times in the Pastoral Epistles)  
(2) LOOKING - 3:12 - "Looking for ..." His Coming!  
(3) LONGING - 3:13 - His Promise of a new heaven and a new earth  
3:14"... Seeing that you look (longing) for such things

#### D. A RESOLUTION - 3:13-18

Thomas Carlyle: - "OUR MAIN BUSINESS IS NOT TO SEE WHAT LIES DIMLY AT A DISTANCE BUT TO DO WHAT LIES CLEARLY AT HAND."

1. BE CAUTIOUS - 3:14 - "(BE DILIGENT)"

"CAUTIOUS" - watchful; vigilant; watching one's step

- (a) BE CALM - 3:14 (IN PEACE)

- (b) BE CLEAN - 3:14 (without spot and blameless)

DO YOUR BEST TO KEEP FROM DRIFTING INTO DOUBT WHILE WAITING FOR GOD'S PLAN TO BE FULFILLED. BE AT PEACE AND KEEP YOUR CHARACTER BEYOND REPROACH.

2. BE CONFIDENT - 3:15,16

"CONFIDENT" - Self - Assured; Full Trust; Assurance

NOTE: SCOFFERS say the Lord's delay in returning means He isn't coming at all. Peter says His delay is really an expression of His compassion - giving the lost more time to be saved. 3:16 - "WREST" - Distort; Misinterpret; Twisting; Misuse; Misapply; Pervert.

Characteristics of the people:

- (1) UNLEARNED - 3:16

- (2) UNSTABLE - 3:16

False teachers love to twist and pervert the truth until they have totally altered the true Biblical meaning. You should always filter what you hear through the Scriptures. Peter refers to Paul and his writings concerning the deceptive and destructive manner of the false teachers.

3. BE CONSISTENT - 3:17

"CONSISTENT" - stable; unchanging in standard; holding to the same principles; we need to be constantly on guard or we will lose our solid Biblical Foundation - must not just believe without checking their

credentials. ESV: 3:17 - "you THEREFORE, Beloved, KNOWING THIS BEFOREHAND, TAKE CARE THAT YOU ARE NOT CARRIED AWAY WITH THE ERROR OF LAWLESS PEOPLE AND LOSE YOUR OWN STABILITY".

These false teachers were distorting the teaching of the Apostle Paul. They must be careful not to lose their own stability by following a false interpretation of PAUL'S TEACHING

4. BE COMMITTED - 3:17,18

"COMMITTED" - Whole - heartedly dedicated; loyalty to a cause or person; willing to give your energy and time to something or someone

(a) GUARDING - 3:17

"BEWARE" - cf I Cor. 10:12 - "Wherefore let Him that thinks he stands take heed lest he fall." Take care; Take Heed; amp. - Be on your guard; Be cautious and alert to danger; watch out for (word "BELOVED" - used 4 times - II Peter 3:1,8,14,17)

- (1) Be mindful - 3:1,2 - of the Scriptures
- (2) Be not ignorant - 3:8 - of God's Timing
- (3) Be Diligent - 3:14 - Live a clean life
- (4) Beware - 3:17 - Lest you lose your stability

(b) GROWING - 3:18

GROW IN GRACE" -

- (a) SAVED BY GRACE - Eph. 2:8-10
- (b) SUSTAINED BY GRACE - II Cor. 9:8
- (c) SUFFICIENCY OF GRACE - II Cor. 12:9
- (d) SERVE BY GRACE - Heb. 12:28

NOTE: "HE IS THE GOD OF ALL GRACE" - I Pet. 5:10  
Apostle Paul - "I AM WHAT I AM..." - I Cor. 15:10

Warren Wiersbe: "TO GROW IN GRACE MEANS TO BECOME MORE LIKE THE LORD JESUS FROM WHOM WE RECEIVE ALL THE GRACE WE NEED" - Jn. 1:16, 17 "GROW IN KNOWLEDGE" - After 30 years of being saved the Apostle Paul said - "THAT I MAY KNOW HIM..." - Phil. 3:10.  
We need a balanced growth - GRACE/KNOWLEDGE - The key to the fulfillment of this is time in His Word daily II Tim. 2:15

Warren Wiersbe: THE BETTER WE KNOW CHRIST THROUGH THE WORD, THE MORE WE GROW IN GRACE; THE MORE WE GROW IN GRACE, THE BETTER WE UNDERSTAND THE WORD OF GOD." THIS REQUIRES DILIGENCE!

(c) GLORIFYING - 3:18 - NOTE: "TO HIM BE GLORY..."

"GLORIFY" - To honor with praise; admiration for a person; high reputation; to worship; exalt; enthrone; magnify I Cor. 6:19,20 - "...GLORIFY GOD IN YOUR BODY, AND IN YOUR SPIRIT, WHICH ARE GOD'S." Eph. 3:21 - "UNTO HIM BE GLORY IN THE CHURCH..."

- (1) THE PERSON - 3:18 - Lord and Savior Jesus Christ
- (2) THE PURPOSE - 3:18 - To Him be Glory
- (3) THE PERIOD - 3:18 - Both now and forever

- SUMMARY:
- (a) THE WORD OF GOD IS CORRECT  
II Peter 1:4;19,20,21; 2:2; 3:2,5,7,16
  - (b) THE WORK OF GOD IS CONSISTENT  
II Peter 1:12,13,14,15; 2:1-8; 3:1,8,9,17
  - (c) THE WILL OF GOD IS COMPASSIONATE  
II Peter 1:4; 2:9; 3:8,9,13,15
  - (d) THE WORSHIP OF GOD IS COMMANDED  
II Peter 1:4-8; 3:11,12,14,18

FORMULA FOR VICTORIOUS LIVING:

- A. WAIT ON THE LORD - Is. 40:31
- B. WISDOM FROM THE LORD - James 1:5
- C. WALK WITH THE LORD - Ps. 37:23

