



GCS D
GRACE CENTER FOR
SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

STUDY GUIDE



KNOW THIS:

A Bible Study on 2 Peter

By Mark Rae



ABOUT THIS GUIDE



This study guide is brought to you by the Grace Center for Spiritual Development (GCSD), an extension ministry of Grace School of Theology. Our desire is to provide non-degree learning opportunities for anyone who wishes to grow in their spiritual walk.

For further study, explore additional resources on our website — [GSOT.EDU/CENTER](https://www.gsot.edu/center).

Contents

SESSION	TITLE	PAGE
1	2 Peter 1:1-2: "Promises of a Precious Faith"	3
2	2 Peter 1:3-4: "Promises of the Divine"	5
3	2 Peter 1:5-7: "Know, Grow, Go"	7
4	2 Peter 1:5-11: "Promises of Fruit"	8
5	2 Peter 1:12-21: "Promises From an Eyewitness"	10
6	2 Peter 2:1-11: "Promises From False Teachers"	12
7	2 Peter 2:12-22: "Promises of Deception and Demise"	14
8	2 Peter 3:1-9: "Promises of Return"	16
9	2 Peter 3:10-18: "Promises for the Righteous"	18



Promises of a Precious Faith

SESSION 1 | 2 PETER 1:1-2

- **The Past Frames Peter's Perspective**

The events that took place during the time Peter spent with Jesus, when looked at collectively, show the hand of God moving mightily in shaping and molding him into the disciple, apostle, servant, and martyr that Peter became.

When we recognize God in the past, present, and future, we have the promise of the right perspective on life.

Question:

Where do I see the hand of God working in molding and shaping me in my past and present?

How does that alter my perspective on life today and in the future?

- **The Position Forms Peter's Ministry (verse 1a)**

Servant - *Doulos* - slave - those used by Christ to extend and advance His cause

Apostle - literally a "sent out one."

When we present ourselves as servants of Christ, we have the promise of a productive ministry.

Question:

Do I see myself as a servant?

Notes



Promises of a Precious Faith

SESSION 1 | 2 PETER 1:1-2 (Continued)

How can my attitude help shape the ministry the Lord had for me?

Am I looking for what the Lord has for me?

Who do I serve?

- **The Precious Faith Focuses Peter's Audience (verse 1b)**

To those - his audience from his first letter.

Have obtained - or received - Greek - *lagchano* - received by divine, gracious will

Like Precious Faith - *isotimon pistin* - equal, like, of the same kind and value.

With us - the other apostles more than likely

By the Righteousness - *dikaiosune* - obtained through the righteousness of Christ.

Our God and Savior Jesus Christ - the divinity and work of Jesus

When we receive the gracious work of God in Christ in our lives, we have the promise of precious faith.

Question:

Do I consider my faith precious?

Notes



Promises of a Precious Faith

SESSION 1 | 2 PETER 1:1-2 (Continued)

Do I see what I have been given the same as the Apostles?

How was my faith obtained?

Who is the focus of that faith?

Is that where my faith is focused?

Notes

- ***The Peace and Grace is Found in Peter's Knowledge (verse 2)***

Grace and Peace - *charis* and *eirene*; grace is first followed by peace

Be multiplied - *plethuno* - a verb tense that means a prayerful desire

In the Knowledge - *Epignosis* - intimate experiential knowledge - used 16 times in this letter

God and the Lord Jesus Christ - the objects of *epignosis*

When we experience living participation with Christ, we have the promise of grace and peace.

Question:

Do I desire grace and peace to be multiplied in me?



Promises of a Precious Faith

SESSION 1 | 2 PETER 1:1-2 (Continued)

For what purpose?

How can I begin to experience this?

Notes

KNOW THIS... the promises of grace and peace are known only through the precious faith in Christ Jesus.



Promises of the Divine

SESSION 2 | 2 PETER 1:3-4

Peter continues his explanation of the incredible promises begun in verses 1-2, that are ours through the epignosis, or knowledge of Christ.

- **Divine Power (verse 3)**

His divine power - *theos dynamos* - (dynamite) power of the resurrection;

has given to us - *doreomai* - granted - stresses great worth - Past tense

all things - every spiritual blessing

pertain - needed for

life and godliness - Life - *Zoe* - the Spirit-led Christ-like life; Godliness - *eusebia* - complete and utter devotion and loyalty to God

through the knowledge of Him - *epignosis* - intimate experiential knowledge

called us by glory and virtue - the character of Jesus that attracted us to Him

glory - *dosa* - His character; **virtue** - *arete* - moral excellence

God promises us His divine power for life.

Question:

Do I know that I have God's divine power for life right now?

Do I know how to use it?

Do I use it?

Why would I not want to use it?

Notes



Promises of the Divine

SESSION 2 | 2 PETER 1:3-4 (Continued)

- **Divine Participation (verse 4)**

by which we have been given to us - bestowed upon stresses great worth

exceedingly great and precious promises - all believers can know them and all believers have them; Great - *meegas*; Precious - exceptionally valuable; Promises - *epangelma*

through these - the promises

partakers - *koinonia* - sharers of God's very nature by faith in His promises

God Promises us His divine participation in life.

Question:

Do I know that God participates divinely in my life daily?

Do I know how to access His participation?

Do I do it?

Why would I not want to do it?

Notes



Promises of the Divine

SESSION 2 | 2 PETER 1:3-4 (Continued)

- **Divine Nature (verse 4)**

divine nature - when God saved us through Christ by faith in His promises, He indwelt us, and we, therefore, possess the divine nature of God within us - John 16:7 Acts 2:39 - we can become more Christlike - image-bearers

escaped the corruption - because we are partakers of the divine nature, we can escape the corruption that is in the world - because we can choose the divine nature we do not have to obey the corrupt nature that is in the world driven by the lust

in the world through lust - Because we have become new creatures in Christ, we have already escaped (moral ruin) that is in the world through lust - (perverted desire)

God Promises us His divine nature through life.

Question:

Do I know that I have God's divine nature in me?

Do I know how to tap into it to overcome the corruption of the world?

Do I tap into it?

Why would I not want to tap into it?

Notes

**KNOW THIS... God Keeps His Promises.
Ask yourself, DO I KNOW THIS? DO I BELIEVE THIS?**



Know, Grow, Go

SESSION 3 | 2 PETER 1:5-7

KNOW - Internal - Loving God

Faith - *Pistis* - a like precious faith

Virtue - *Arete* - moral excellence - the virtues of Jesus

Knowledge - *Gnosis* - learn about the virtues

GROW - Internal - Loving God continued

Self Control - *Egkrateia* - begin to grow what you know

Perseverance - *Hupomone* - Keep at it

Godliness - *Eusebeia* - God's point of view

GO - External - Loving Others

Brotherly Love - *Philadelphia* - love for the saints

Love - *Agape* - selfless, sacrificial love for others

Notes



Promises of Fruit

SESSION 4 | 2 PETER 1:5-11

Peter now gives us the way to tap into the promises he has shared in his opening.

- **The Process (verses 5-7)**

KNOW - Internal

Verse 5

this reason - what's the reason?

all diligence - "Make every effort to bring alongside"

add - epichoregeo - choreograph - provide, furnish, support,

faith - the like precious faith

virtue - the virtues we see in Jesus

knowledge - gnosis - know about the virtues BUT DON'T STOP HERE

GROW

Verse 6

self-control - apply the knowledge I have of the virtue I am working on

perseverance - to persevere in the pursuit the application of these virtues

godliness - seeing the world from God's point of view

GO

Verse 7

brotherly kindness - philadelphia - "love the brethren"

love - agape - sacrificial love - that of Christ explained in the Upper Room

Question:

How have I been diligent regarding my Christian life?

Notes



Promises of Fruit

SESSION 4 | 2 PETER 1:5-11 *(Continued)*

What other “virtues” do I see in Scripture?

Have I ever stopped at the Know stage? How?

Have I ever progressed to the Grow stage? How?

Have I ever progressed to the Go stage? How?

Notes



Promises of Fruit

SESSION 4 | 2 PETER 1:5-11 (Continued)

- **The Promises (verses 8-9)**

Verse 8

abound - to be in abundance - to have more than enough

not barren - internal - to slack off and become idle - unproductive - worthless

not unfruitful - external - not bearing fruit - useless

knowledge of Christ - back to epignosis

Verse 9

lacks - not available for use or at his disposal.

shortsighted to blindness - myopic - no eternal view

forgotten - no longer remembers the work of Christ on his behalf

Question:

What fruit have I seen in my life?

Do I possess an eternal perspective on life?

How does that affect my day-to-day life?

Have I ever been blind? How?

Notes



Promises of Fruit

SESSION 4 | 2 PETER 1:5-11 (Continued)

- **The Payday (verses 10-11)**

Verse 10

brethren - brothers in Christ

more diligent - be even more zealous

call and election sure - the calling and the election never in doubt but are strengthened

will never stumble - not an unrecoverable fall but a stumble

Verse 11

abundant entrance - an Olympic victor returning to his hometown.

supplied/ add - when we supply, we are supplied

everlasting Kingdom - the eternal kingdom promised in 2 Samuel 7

Lord and Savior - it's about Him

Question:

Do I desire the strengthening of my election and calling? An abundant entrance into the Kingdom? To never stumble here on earth?

How will I be diligent in making those things a reality?

Notes

KNOW THIS... my actions today affect my eternity.



Promises From an Eyewitness

SESSION 5 | 2 PETER 1:12-21

Reminders of the Precious Promises (Verses 12-15)

Verse 12

For this reason

What's the reason? It's to remind you. It's emphasized 3 times in the chapter.

What Do I Do to Remind Myself So That I Will Not Forget?

Always of these things - if we are not reminded, we will forget.

Know and established - a high compliment from Peter - AMEN!

Present truth - what they are grounded in today.

How Powerful Is Remembering? (The Importance of Remembering - John 2:2)

Verse 13

this tent

Peter's earthly dwelling

Stir you up by reminding you

It reminds us of Hebrews 10:24-25

How Do I Stir Another Up?

Verse 14

knowing

To be aware of - **cognizant**

Shortly - soon - from the Greek - **Tachinos** - meaning near at hand.

Put off my tent - apotheosis - a divesting or a separating.

As our Lord Jesus showed me - **John 21:18-19** - divine revelation

Notes



Promises From an Eyewitness

SESSION 5 | 2 PETER 1:12-21 (Continued)

Verse 15

Careful to ensure

A permanent reminder

Always have a reminder - always - is it still a reminder today?

How Seriously Will I Take This Reminder?

My decease - Exodus

Reminders of Parousia of Christ - Verses 16-18

Verse 16

We did not follow

Follow - to obey as a way of life

cunningly devised fables - "self-serving cleverness"

the power and coming - witnessed at the Transfiguration

Lord Jesus Christ - His title - WHO DO I FOLLOW?

Eyewitnesses of His majesty - they made known what they saw

Verse 17

He received from God the Father

Emphasizing the succession to authority

Honor and glory - Daniel 7:13 - then to Him was given dominion and glory

a voice from the Excellent Glory - God announces His Son

Notes



Promises From an Eyewitness

SESSION 5 | 2 PETER 1:12-21 (Continued)

What I Am an Eye Witness To?

"This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" -
God's approval

Verse 18

we heard this voice

Physical confirmation along with seeing

Came from heaven - the place of the Excellent
Glory

With Him on the holy mountain - prophetic
fulfillment

Reminders of the Prophetic Word (Verses 19-21)

Verse 19

the prophetic word confirmed

The same word as "sure" - to make firm

Do well to heed - a common Greek phrase
meaning "Please."

A light that shines in a dark place - this witness
is like a light in a dark place.

Until the day dawns - the arrival of a new day

And the morning star rises in your hearts - an
inner conviction.

Verse 20

knowing this first

Gnosis - having knowledge of this first.

No prophecy of Scripture - the word of God

Is of any private interpretation -NOT that only
certain people can interpret the Scriptures

Verse 21

***by the will of man; holy men of God spoke as
they were moved by The Holy Spirit.***

Scripture did not originate in the minds of men
but the mind of God.

Peter's statement recognizes both the divine
and the human element in the production of
Scripture.

Is the Word of God This Important to Me?

**KNOW THIS... The Word of God promises Christ's
return.**

Never forget it!

Notes



Promises From False Teachers

SESSION 6 | 2 PETER 2:1-11

Peter has reminded the believers in Chapter 1 about the true promises from the Lord which enable us to know Him and to experience rich life... now he warns the believers in Chapter 2 of the false promises from those who lead people away from the Lord and away from life and godliness. Let's heed the warning.

The Characteristics of False Teachers (Verses 1-3)

Verse 1

False Prophets among the people - False prophets led people away

False Teachers among you - **Pseudodidaskaloi** - Pseudo teachers - these know the truth but deliberately lie for personal gain

Secretly bring in - "to bring alongside" - false teachers add to the truth

Destructive heresies - The primary heresy...the denial of the atonement.

Denying the Lord - this is how far the false teachings can go

Who bought them - the Greek **agorazo** - literally "having secured the rights to someone by paying the price (1 Corinthians 6:20; John 3:16; 1 Timothy 2:4-6; 4:10; Acts 17:30; Hebrews 2:9; 1 John 2:2) - they never applied the redemptive work of Christ to themselves

Bring swift destruction - when their judgment occurs it will be sudden

Verse 2

Many will follow - How do I guard against this? EPIGNOSIS and KNOW, GROW and GO

The way of truth blasphemed - a course of conduct that blasphemes

Verse 3

By covetousness - wanting the glory for themselves

Exploit with deceptive words - exploit - a misrepresentation of the merchandise -

Notes



Promises From False Teachers

SESSION 6 | 2 PETER 2:1-11 (Continued)

deceptive - from the Greek *plastos* - where we get the word plastic

Judgment and destruction - though God is patient He is never late

The Consequences of False Teaching (Verses 4-9)

Verse 4

Example #1 - the Devil - Angels cast down - The angels followed Satan and brought it upon themselves through unrighteous behavior.

Verse 5

Example #2 - The World - The Ancient World vs. Noah - Genesis 6:9 - The world was wicked but Noah was a just man, perfect in his generation. Noah walked with God.

Verses 6-8

Example #3 - The Flesh - Sodom and Gomorrah vs. Lot - Genesis 19:15 - 25 - Sodom and Gomorrah were cities that followed after the flesh and treated God as irrelevant; Lot - is described as a righteous man three times - again the distinction between the ungodly and the righteous.

Verse 9

The Lord Knows - God knows how to handle both the just and the unjust - a great truth

Deliver the godly out of temptation - out of - not necessarily away from

Reserve the unjust under punishment - the unrighteous are physically being chastised and restrained by God until the Day of Judgement - Matthew 25; Rev. 20; John 5; Romans 2; Hebrews 10

Notes



Promises From False Teachers

SESSION 6 | 2 PETER 2:1-11 (Continued)

The Conduct of False Teachers (Verses 10-11)

Verse 10

Walk according to the flesh - the worldly pursuit of something forbidden; not the Spirit

Lust of uncleanness - translated the pollution of the world

Despise authority - Looking down on spiritual authority - anything ordained by God.

Presumptuous - boldness and arrogant

Self-willed - self-serving - will do their own thing

Not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries - Glorious ones - they speak evil of that which is holy

Verse 11

Angels - Jude 9 - Michael did not revile Satan - instead in humility he rebuked him.

Angels would never do what these false teachers do - they gave all of the judgment to the Lord

KNOW THIS... False teachers are all around but God is faithful.

Question:

Peter addresses this to believers - will we heed the warning?

How will we do that?

Will I pursue God's promises or the world's enticements?

Notes



Promises of Deception and Demise

SESSION 7 | 2 PETER 2:12-22

How did Peter really feel about these false teachers? He continues his warnings:

Warnings of Deception (Verses 12-16)

Verse 12

But - a contrast to the angels - these false teachers are brute beasts - unreasoning animals - in their corruption they shall be corrupted

Verse 13

They are caught in their own web - get what they pay for - they reap what they sow - their wages of unrighteousness - pleasure - Greek for hedonism - They think they are celebrating freedom and yet are slaves to the sin they are promoting

Verse 14

eyes full of adultery - they entice with the lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh, and the pride of life. They exercise - gymnasium - intentionally train

Verses 15-16

They have forsaken the right way - Made the path crooked - like Balaam - rebuked by a speechless animal - who saw what he could not - even a donkey knew better than Balaam

Warnings of Demise (Verse 17-19)

Verse 17

The false teachers are like wells with no water and storms that produce no rain - something of great promise that provides nothing of substance or value and ultimately disappoints.

Verse 18

The teachers themselves were licentious and they tried to encourage new Christians to be and do the same.

Verse 19

Notes



Promises of Deception and Demise

SESSION 7 | 2 PETER 2:12-22 (Continued)

"That which you permit to successfully overcome you progressively and completely enslaves you."
Corruption seen here and in 1:4; 2:12, 19 - contrasts with the abundant life of 1:3

Warnings of Defeat (Verses 20-22)

Verses 20-21

Of whom are these verses speaking? New believers are warned against being "caught up into a life of carnality ... only to find that there is even less pleasure, less fulfillment than before they were saved" - Entangled - sheep whose wool is caught in thorns.

Verse 22

Both the dog and the pig were held in poor regard by the Jews - both being unclean animals - animals that ingested the world's filth and waste. Both male and female are represented - what distinguishes a dog from another is not necessarily the way they look but the quality of their training - and the way they act reflects on their trainer. Pigs too look pretty much alike but one has cleaned herself - something of a rarity and maintaining this cleanliness takes effort and diligence for a pig. In the same way believers have been called to remain virtuous - clean - as they have been made in Christ - Therefore, Christians who revert back to their prior condition indulging in that which they previously rejected (ejected from their stomachs) while natural and almost expected, for these animals is an abandonment of their calling and training.

Believers today do well to heed Peter's warning against false teachers, to learn how to discern truth for themselves, and to teach it to others. The false teachers will themselves meet destruction and others will be destroyed by them. But Christians can wage spiritual warfare more effectively if they know their spiritual enemies, the techniques that heretics use, and the end result of their deception.

Notes



Promises of Deception and Demise

SESSION 7 | 2 PETER 2:12-22 (Continued)

KNOW THIS... *Don't be deceived. True freedom is found only in Christ!*

Question:

Why does Peter warn his audience so vehemently regarding these false teachers?

Can I be deceived by false teachers and the world today? If so, how? Be specific.

What does Peter say are the things that can entice me away from Christ?

How does Peter tell me to guard against that deception?

What role do I play in helping others?

Review the promises of God in Chapter 1 and the Promises of the false teachers in Chapter 2 - which promises do I already have?



Promises of Return

SESSION 8 | 2 PETER 3:1-9

Peter now moves into the last section of his letter and brings hope to the beloved.

Beloved, You Remember His Promise (Verses 1-7)

Verse 1

Beloved - four main thoughts to the beloved - from the Greek agapetois

Stir up - to arouse from sleep - used in 1:13 - the reminder of this letter

Pure Minds - God wants His people to have sun-judged minds

Verse 2

Mind/Mindful - bring to mind - how do I do that?

Words - words are powerful as Peter will attest to in a moment

Holy prophets - the holy men of 1:21 - not the pseudo prophets

Commandment - the way of righteousness - 2:21

Apostles - Peter places the writings of the apostles on the same plane as the prophets

Verse 3

Knowing This - a reference back to from 1:20 - ginoko - this first

Scoffers will come - also translated "mockers" - seen previously at Jesus' crucifixion.

The Last Days - The period of time between the first and second Advents

Walking... Own Lusts - selfish impulses - defined by this in 2:10

Verse 4

"Where is the promise of His coming?" - this is what the mockers say

Fathers Fell Asleep - OT Patriarchs

Notes



Promises of Return

SESSION 8 | 2 PETER 3:1-9 (Continued)

All Things Continue - nothing has changed since them

Beginning of Creation - all the way back to creation - uniformitarianism

Verse 5

This... the Word of God - Peter has shown them what he believes in -

Willfully Forget - lathano - deliberately

Creation account - God has acted in the past - He spoke

Verse 6

Existed - Perished - He spoke things into existence, held them together,

Flooded - by His words the waters receded at creation and flooded in the time of Noah -

Verse 7

But - by contrast - God is capable (2:9b)

Heavens and the earth now preserved - held up and sustained

Same Word - He now preserves earth currently with His word

Are Reserved - will again, by His word, render judgment by fire on the ungodly.

Fire - not flood - God promised Noah

The Day of Judgment and Perdition - Great White Throne - Revelation 20:11-15

Ungodly men - make no mistake who this is reserved for

Notes



Promises of Return

SESSION 8 | 2 PETER 3:1-9 (Continued)

Beloved, He Remembers His Promise (Verse 8-9)

2 reasons why believers should not doubt the Lord's return: God's design and God's desire

Verse 8

But - now back to the reminder

Beloved - the second of four "beloved" do not forget - the charge

Do not forget - an unstirred mind forgets - a stirred mind does not

with the Lord - the major point - with the Lord

A day = thousand years - Psalm 90:4; We see time against time - not against eternity

Verse 9

The Lord is not slack - denying the accusation - He is not hesitating

His promise - the promise of Christ's return

Longsuffering toward us - now the reason or God's motivation

Us - God is patient

Not Willing - where the scoffers willingly forget God does not

Any should perish - a middle voice aorist tense that means: to utterly destroy themselves

All should come to - should come - to make room for or to give way to

Repentance - metanoia - to change one's mind

The call here is to both the believer and the unbeliever.

KNOW THIS... God's Word is truth. Christ is coming back, believe it!

Question:

What do you believe?

Notes



Promises for the Righteous

SESSION 9 | 2 PETER 3:10-18

In this final section, Peter now turns to the promises for those who are righteous.

Beloved, Be Ready

Verse 10

But - the contrast to thought He is longsuffering eventually

The Day of the Lord - Rapture + 7 years of Tribulation + 1000 year Millennial Reign = 1007 years

Will come - an expressed certainty

Thief in the night - 1 Thess 5:2 - "the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night"

In which - within which time period - a certain set of judgments will occur

Heavens will pass away/Elements will melt/Earth and their works - 1 Corinthians 3:15

Will be burned up - we get the English word "caustic" from here

Verse 11

Therefore - since all of these things will be destroyed...

Manner of persons ought you to be - in light of the coming Day how should I live?

Holy conduct - "Be holy for I am holy" - you are holy in Christ now live like who you are.

Godliness - committed to God and seeing the world from His point of view (1:3, 6, 7)

Verse 12

Looking for and hastening - looking expectantly with hope

The Day of God - 1 Cor. 15: 24 - 28 - after at Great White Throne

Notes



Promises for the Righteous

SESSION 9 | 2 PETER 3:10-18 (Continued)

Heavens dissolved - judgment occurs as a consequence of the Day of God - NOT

Verse 13

Nevertheless - or since all things will be dissolved

We - His audience and, as we have seen, us - based on His promise

Look for - we look for the NEW

New heavens and new earth - Jesus - "Behold I make all things new - Revelation 21:5

In which righteousness dwells - righteousness makes a permanent home

Beloved, Be Diligent

Verse 14

Therefore, beloved - in light of the promise of a new heaven and a new earth where

Looking forward to these things - Standing on tippy toes

Be diligent - be eager - used in 1:10, 1:15 - to exert oneself, endeavor

Be found by Him in peace - to be discovered by Him where peace is found

Spotless, blameless - this refers to the believer's condition

Verse 15

Longsuffering of our Lord - is salvation - Salvation can also mean preservation

Wisdom given him - wisdom into the promises of God and the return of Christ.

Verse 16

These things - what Peter has already talked about

Notes



Promises for the Righteous

SESSION 9 | 2 PETER 3:10-18 (Continued)

Untaught and unstable people - as opposed to Peter's audience

Twist - to torture them to say what they want them to say.

Their own destruction - notice it is their own brought about by themselves

The rest of the Scriptures - including the prophets and the rest of the writings.

Beloved, Be Aware

Verse 17

You, beloved - Since the false teachers twist the words of the Scriptures - be aware

You know this beforehand - we get the word prognosis from this Greek word

Beware - be on your guard

Fall from steadfastness - a great summary again of chapter 2 - loose footing

Led away - A torrent of false teaching knocking the believer off his feet.

Error of the wicked - 2:18 - the lifestyle of the wicked.

Verse 18

But grow in grace - Guard and grow - guard against being led astray - grow in grace

Grow in knowledge - the keyword of the letter - epignosis - the knowledge

Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ - the object of the epignosis

Glory Now and forever - honor God by manifesting His character

Amen - So be it

KNOW THIS... It's all about KNOWING JESUS

Notes



Promises for the Righteous

SESSION 9 | 2 PETER 3:10-18 (Continued)

Question:

Am I ready? Where is my focus - on the world or on Christ?

Do I believe the Day of the Lord might come at any moment?

Does my life reflect what I believe?

Am I diligent to be found spotless and without blemish before Him?

Do I see this time of delay as my opportunity to grow closer to Christ? How will I do that?

Am I on guard to stand firm on what I know to be the truth?

Am I growing in grace and knowledge of Christ? How?

Am I manifesting His character? How?



Jesus' Return Passages

John 14:3 NKJV

And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.

Acts 1:11 NKJV

"This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven."

1 Corinthians 15:23 NKJV

But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming.

2 Corinthians 1:14 NKJV

We are your boast as you also are ours, in the day of the Lord Jesus.

Philippians 1:6 NKJV

Being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ.

1 Thessalonians 3:13 NKJV

So that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 NKJV

¹³ *But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. ¹⁴ For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.*

¹⁵ *For this, we say to you by the word of the Lord that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. ¹⁶ For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And*

the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus, we shall always be with the Lord. ¹⁸ Therefore comfort one another with these words.

2 Thessalonians 1:10 NKJV

When He comes, in that Day, to be glorified in His saints and to be admired among all those who believe, because our testimony among you was believed.

2 Thessalonians 2:1 NKJV

Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you.

1 Timothy 6:14 NKJV

That you keep this commandment without spot, blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ's appearing.

2 Timothy 4:8 NKJV

Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

Titus 2:13 NKJV

Looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 9:28 NKJV

So Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him, He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.

James 5:7 NKJV

Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain.



Knowledge of the Promises

REVIEW OF 2 PETER

Chapter 1 - Knowledge of the Precious Promises

- 2 Peter 1:1-2 *"Promises of a Precious Faith"*

Peter unfolds the promises of faith (the same as the apostles), righteousness, grace, peace, and the knowledge (epignosis) of Jesus - the key phrase of the entire letter.

KNOW THIS: The promise of our precious faith is the greatest promise - Jesus.

- 2 Peter 1:3-4 *"Promises of the Divine"*

Peter now unpacks God's promised participation with us in life through our new nature in Christ - God partners with us for abundant living through His Son - what a promise.

KNOW THIS: God keeps His promises.

- 2 Peter 1:5-11 *"Promises of Fruit"*

Peter conducts the symphony of KNOW, GROW and GO: faith + virtue + knowledge + self-control + perseverance + godliness + brotherly kindness + love = life today and forever

KNOW THIS: My actions today affect my eternity.

- 2 Peter 1:12-21 *"Promises From an Eyewitness"*

Peter reminds us of the glory of Christ, the truth of the Word, and the hope of His return.

KNOW THIS: The Word of God promises Christ's return - never forget it.

Question:

What promises do I consider precious?

Notes



Knowledge of the Promises

REVIEW OF 2 PETER

How do I see fruit being produced in me?

Does the Morning Star rise in my heart?

Do I live hopeful?

Notes

Chapter 2 - Knowledge of the Polluted Promises

- 2 Peter 2:1-11 *"Promises of False Teachers"*

Peter now warns his audience of the false teachers and their false promises against Christ

KNOW THIS: False teachers are all around, but God is faithful

- 2 Peter 2:12-22 *"Promises of Deception and Demise"*

Peter's warning is now directed at believers who have followed after the false teachers.

KNOW THIS: Don't be deceived - true freedom is found only in Christ.



Knowledge of the Promises

REVIEW OF 2 PETER

Question:

What do I do to guard against the polluted promises of the world?

Do I listen to the world or the Word?

Have I followed after the false promises?

Notes

Chapter 3 - Knowledge of the Prophetic Promises

- 2 Peter 3:1-9 "Promises of Return"

Peter now returns to the certainty of Christ's return based on the truth of the Scriptures.

KNOW THIS: God's Word is truth - Christ is coming back.

- 2 Peter 3:10-18 "Promises for the Righteous"

Peter issues a final exhortation to remain and grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ.

KNOW THIS: It's all about KNOWING JESUS.

Question:

Do I live today in light of the return of Jesus?

Am I growing in grace and knowledge of Jesus? How?



KNOW THIS, KNOW JESUS

PROMISES IN 2 PETER

Positive Promises

Righteous of Jesus by faith
Knowing Jesus as Kurios
Jesus' glory and excellence
Abundant life
Holy prophets
The apostle's teaching
Impelled by the Holy Spirit
Truths
Deliverance from temptation
Divine power
Blessing
Magnified grace
Magnified peace
Righteous soul
Divine nature
Escape worldly corruption
Moral excellence
Scriptural, experiential knowledge
Self-discipline
Steadfastness
Godliness
Brotherly love
Unselfish love
Fruitfulness
Productiveness
Increasing faithfulness
Salvation
Bondservant
Lives of holiness and godliness
The Lord's longsuffering
The Lamp shining, day dawning
A Voice from the Majestic Glory
Looking for Jesus' coming
Found with no spots or blemishes
Focus on new heavens and earth
Grand welcome

Negative Promises

Under judgment, in darkness
Knowing Jesus as Despotes
FT's corruption, condemnation
Living death
False prophets
False teaching
Motivated by greed, exploiting
Heresies, errors, myths
Destroyed in one's corruption
Weak, defenseless, insane
Cursing
Magnified judgment
Magnified turmoil, anxiety, lust
Fleshly lusts
Animal nature
Enslaved to world's corruption
Lured, entangled, corrupted
Ignorant, twisting Scripture
Insatiable lust
Stumbling, unstable
Forsaking the right way
Scoffing, judgmental
Selfish, self-indulgent
Ruin and swift destruction
Blaspheming truth
Wages of unrighteousness
Wasted life
Despise authority
Denying the Lord
"Where is the promise of His coming?"
Short-sighted, blind, in darkness
Great swelling words of emptiness
Denying Jesus' coming
Spots and blemishes
Focus on the corrupt, passing world
Smoking section

OUR VISION

Developing spiritual leaders in every nation who can teach others about the love of Christ – a love that cannot be earned and cannot be lost.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Rev. Mark Rae is the Executive Director of Grace Center for Spiritual Development (GCS D). Mark Rae holds an MA degree in Biblical Studies from Dallas Theological Seminary and a Master of Divinity degree from Grace School of Theology. He spent half of his career in sales and marketing. Mark spent the rest in church and parachurch ministries as an Associate Pastor, COO of an evangelistic ministry, Executive Director of a discipleship ministry, and Lead Minister. He currently serves as Vice President of Community Development with Grace School of Theology. In addition, Mark is also the Executive Director of Grace Center for Spiritual Development (GCS D). He is married to Melissa, and they have two grown children, Ryan and Sean, and five grandchildren.

The work of the Grace Center for Spiritual Development is supported by generous donors!

You can give securely at gsot.edu/donate.



3705 College Park Dr. The Woodlands, TX 77384

877.476.8674 | GSOT.EDU