

Studies in 2 Peter  
Introduction (2)

**1 Peter 1:1-4**

# Introducing 2 Peter - Previously

- Last month we began a study of 2 Peter. We identified the various background elements
  - Peter is the author
  - The audience - at least to include those of 1 Peter
  - Its dating - ~66-68 AD, toward the end of Peter's life
  - Its purpose - concerns with false teachers/doctrine influencing the church

# Background of 2 Peter

- What is its purpose?
- **2 Peter 3:17-18**, *You therefore, beloved, since you know this beforehand, **beware** lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked; **but grow** in the grace and **knowledge** of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen.*

## Previously - Greetings - 1:1-4

- **2 Peter 1:1**, *Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ*
- He is an apostle
- A bondservant of Jesus Christ – possibly a prisoner as he writes.
- **1:13-14**, He will “shortly” put off his tent
- **1:16-18**, he makes reference to the transfiguration (**Matthew 17:1**)

## Previously - Greetings - 1:1-4

- **2 Peter 1:1**, *to those who have obtained like precious faith with us...*
- We addressed the equality of faith that we all have - “Like precious faith”, NASB – “*a faith of the same kind*”, ESV – “a faith of equal standing”.

The faith of His audience was of the same quality as that of Peter – no distinction between “clergy”/”laity”

## Previously - Greetings - 1:1-4

- **2 Peter 1:1**, *to those who have obtained like precious faith with us...*
- Could be objective or subjective
  - **Objective** – our system of belief from the gospel – **Galatians 1:23**, **Jude 3**.
  - **Subjective** – a faith with which we build to perfection – **2 Peter 1:5ff**
  - **Romans 1:16-17**

## Greetings - 1:1-4

- **2 Peter 1:1**, *by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ*
- A text that is describing Jesus as God (deity)  
**John 1:1-3**, “the Word was God”  
**Colossians 2:9** – all the fullness of the Godhead bodily  
**Romans 9:5** – the eternally blessed God

## Greetings - 1:1-4

- **2 Peter 1:1**, *by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ*
- A text that is describing Jesus as God (deity)  
**Titus 2:12-13**, our great God and Savior Jesus Christ  
**Hebrews 1:3, Philippians 2:6**  
**cf. John 14:8-10**



# Greetings - 1:1-4

- **2 Peter 1:1**, *by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ*
- He does that which is right!  
God defines what is right and how we can be right(eous)
  - Jesus lived a righteous life – He never sinned – **Hebrews 4:15 (7:25-26ff, 2 Corinthians 5:21)**
  - **Romans 5:18** – by His “righteous act” mankind can be saved
  - **1 Corinthians 1:30**

## Greetings - 1:1-4

- **2 Peter 1:1**, *by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ*
- Consider also the impartiality of our God and our Savior –  
**Romans 2:11, 5:8, etc.**
- It is because of God's grace, love, mercy and righteousness that we share a "like precious faith"

## Greetings - 1:1-4

- **2 Peter 1:2**, *Grace and peace be multiplied to you...*
- A typical greeting, similar to **1 Peter 1:2**, but expanded
- May grace and peace be multiplied – ever increasing.

As we mature, we more greatly appreciate God's grace and our peace grows as well, in every way.

## Greetings - 1:1-4

- **2 Peter 1:2**, *Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.*
- Why do we hope? Because He has revealed to us, “all things that pertain to life and godliness”.

## Greetings - 1:1-4

- **2 Peter 1:2**, *Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.*
- *Knowledge* is an intensive word indicating greater understanding and depth.  
Bullinger – “Clear and exact knowledge”  
Thayer – “precise and correct knowledge”

## Greetings - 1:1-4

- **2 Peter 1:2**, *Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.*
- *Knowledge:*
  - Protects us from error – it both informs and exposes
  - Gives us our pattern for godliness
  - Gives us direction for life eternal

## Greetings - 1:1-4

- **2 Peter 1:2**, *Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.*
- *Knowledge:*  
**Ephesians 4:11-16** – we are taught and grounded till we come to “the unity of the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God...  
**Colossians 1:9-10** – may this knowledge continue to increase

## His Divine power - 1:3

- **2 Peter 1:3**, *as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness...*
- God (omnipotent) has provided for us all that we need:  
**Ephesians 2:4, 8-9** – “grace” – His part!  
He has given us His perfect word to guide us – **2 Timothy 3:16-17, cf. John 14:26, 16:13, 1 Corinthians 2:6-12, etc.**



## His Divine power - 1:3

- **2 Peter 1:3**, *as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness...*
- God (omnipotent) has provided for us all that we need:  
Also, in the 1<sup>st</sup> century, He gave power that verified the message AND messenger – **Hebrews 2:4, Mark 16:20, Romans 15:18-19**

## His Divine power - 1:3

- **2 Peter 1:3**, *as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness...*
- There is nothing left to know – **2 Timothy 3:16-17, Jude 3**

## His Divine power - 1:3

- **2 Peter 1:3**, *as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness...*
- Likely a reference to eternal life –  
- the motivation that gives us reason to endure. **Ephesians 2:4-5**

## His Divine power - 1:3

- **2 Peter 1:3**, as *His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness...*
- Reverence and piety (εὐσέβεια, eusebia). This is about giving God the honor He is due.  
**1 Timothy 4:8** – *profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come*

## His Divine power - 1:3

- **2 Peter 1:3**, as *His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness...*
- Every spiritual blessing –  
**Ephesians 1:3-14**  
Access to Him via prayer –  
**Ephesians 2:18, Hebrews 4:14-16, Philippians 4:6-7**  
Each other – **Ephesians 3:10-11, cf. 1 Peter**

## His Divine power - 1:3

- **2 Peter 1:3**, *as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue*
- It is through Jesus that we find our access to God and our hope. Through Him we find both WHAT we need to do and why!

**John 8:31-32**

Do you find life and  
godliness in Him?