

## 2 Peter 1:1–21 (NKJV)

Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have obtained like precious faith with us by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ:

<sup>2</sup> Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, <sup>3</sup> 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, <sup>4</sup> by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption *that is* in the world through lust.

<sup>5</sup> But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, <sup>6</sup> to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, <sup>7</sup> to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. <sup>8</sup> For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup> For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins. <sup>10</sup> Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; <sup>11</sup> for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

<sup>12</sup> For this reason I will not be negligent to remind you always of these things, though you know and are established in the present truth. <sup>13</sup> Yes, I think it is right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by reminding you, <sup>14</sup> knowing that shortly I *must* put off my tent, just as our Lord Jesus Christ showed me. <sup>15</sup> Moreover I will be careful to ensure that you always have a reminder of these things after my decease.

<sup>16</sup> For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty. <sup>17</sup> For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” <sup>18</sup> And we heard this voice which came from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain.

<sup>19</sup> And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; <sup>20</sup> knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, <sup>21</sup> for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke *as they were* moved by the Holy Spirit.

**Interpretation:** *Read through the passage, and then review and make notes under the questions below.*

1. Read through the book of 2 Peter in a single sitting. How is 2 Peter similar to 1 Peter? How is it different?  

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2. List the gifts from God to believers in vv. 2–4. What does this imply about the Christian’s ability to live a godly life?  

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3. Peter gives a list of several virtues in vv. 5–7. What is the central verb that unites this list of virtues, and what does that verb suggest about the nature of Christian growth?  

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4. What is the relationship between the “abundance” of spiritual virtues described in verse 8 and the “lack” of spiritual virtues in verse 9? Explain how the warning in verse 10 logically expands the statements of vv. 8–9.  

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5. In verses 12–14, Peter frequently states that it is important to “remind” his readers of “these things” (v. 12). What is it that is so important to remember?  

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6. In verse 17, Peter cites an experience where he heard the Father commend the Son. What contextual statement does this experience prove, and how does it prove that statement?  

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7. Explain the process that is like “a light that shines in a dark place” (v. 19). Why is this metaphor appropriate?  

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8. What does it mean to say “no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation” (v. 20)? Restate this using your own words.  

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**Application:** *Take time to reflect on the implications of 2 Peter 1:1–21 for your own life today.*

9. What does this passage mean for your walk with the Lord?  

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10. How does this passage challenge the way you think about situations in daily life? What should you do about that?  

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