# James

**II Peter**

**I John**

**II John**

# James

**I Peter**

**III John**

**Jude**

1. **The Writer of the Epistle of James**

James 1:1 “James a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ…” *Servant: “*a bond man; in subjection; a voluntary slave” (Only the will of God will be performed.)

This simple signature tells us the writer was well known to his readers and needed not lengthy introduction. He was a man highly esteemed among them, one who stood in a position of recognized spiritual authority, and one whom they were obliged to obey. There are four men named James’ who lived around the NT era, but “James the Brother of the Lord” stands as the most probable writer of this epistle.

1. **James the son of Zebedee & brother of John**. This man was the most prominent "James" in the gospels. He was one of the "sons of thunder," originally a fisherman with John (his brother), along with Peter and Andrew. He became a disciple of Jesus, He was one of the three inner disciples and was later martyred by Herod Agrippa I, as recorded in Acts 12:2 (A.D. 44). There is not much chance that this James could have written this letter before he was killed, and there is no tradition arguing that he did.
2. **James the son of Alphaeus, another disciple**. Very little is known about this James, the brother of Matthew (Levi). He was another disciple of our Lord, but again, there is no hint that he is the one who wrote this epistle. Matt. 10:3; Mark 3:18; Luke 6:15; Acts 1:13
3. **James the father of Judas the disciple** (Judas Thaddaeus). This man is even more obscure. Not a likely candidate.

**d. James the brother of Jude & half-brother of our Lord**. Also known as James the Less, This James appears to be the writer of the epistle of James. He is not so identified, but much about his character is revealed that is in keeping with what is known about him. This choice is also in keeping with tradition which tells us that he remained in Jerusalem and that Peter, James, & John chose James, the brother of Jesus to be the pastor of the Jerusalem church after the ascension of Christ (cf. Clement of Alexandria). The fact that he does not so identify himself (as our Lord's brother) may be an indication of his humility, but it also reveals the standing and personal authority he had over his readers. He was a man well known and highly esteemed in the new Christian community. "James, a servant of God and of Jesus Christ" was sufficient identification for them.

James is first introduced in Matthew 13:55 as one of our Lord's brethren. John 7:5 relates the sad fact that even as late as six months before the crucifixion (the feast of tabernacles), James was still an unbeliever.

I Cor. 15:7 Tells us that in the midst of the resurrection appearances of Christ, "He was seen of James." A little later, a number of people are recorded as meeting for prayer with the apostles in the upper room, as they a waited Pentecost; among them were "Mary the mother of Jesus, and His brethren."

In Gal. 1:18-19 Paul is describing the events of his life following his three years in Arabia after his conversion; at this time he spent two weeks with Peter in Jerusalem and also met another important church leader, “James the Lord's brother." By the time of Acts 12:17 James was evidently already a leader in the Jerusalem church, for Peter, released from prison, asks that the news be reported to James. In Acts 15:13 James is the one presiding at the great council of Jerusalem which met to decide the important question of the relationship of Christianity to the Mosaic Law; his leadership role is evident.

In Gal. 2:9 Paul refers to him as a "pillar" of the church—equal to Peter and John. So far James has come from his unbelief! The remaining references to James (Gal. 2:12-13 & Acts 21:18-19) reveal his zeal for the Mosaic Law. He was evidently in firm agreement with the decision of the Jerusalem council (Acts 15:13-19), but he was also careful to keep peace between the Gentile believers and the more "legalistic" Jewish Christians (verse 20). Perhaps he himself (as Peter, cf. Gal. 2:11) carried this matter too far; this does not minimize his standing as an apostle, however (Gal. 1:19). (Note: At least four other men beside the original 11 have apostolic status: Matthias [Acts 1:26], Barnabas [Acts 14:4, 14], Paul, and James.) He was "nicknamed" "James the Just" because of his recognized piety, and was said to have "knees like those of camels" because of his much time spent in prayer. Josephus records that James was martyred during an uprising against Christians while Ananus was high priest in 62 A.D.

He was elected to the oversight of the churches of Jerusalem; and was the writer of the Epistle ascribed to James At the age of ninety-four he was beat and stoned by the Jews; and finally had his brains dashed out with a fuller's club.

**Details of James the Less’ martyrdom** are found in the writings of Josephus, Eusebius, and Jerome. When Festus, the governor of Judea, died, Nero replaced him with Albinus. About the same time, Herod Agrippa II replaced the Jewish high priest Joseph with Ananus. After Festus died and before Albinus had arrived in Judea to replace him, the new high priest decided to pressure James the Less to deny that Jesus is the Messiah and the Son of God. Ananus was taking advantage of a lapse in leadership at the end of Festus’ reign. Similar circumstances at the end of Pilate’s reign over Judea led to the stoning of Saint Stephen.

The Jewish high priest asked James to stand on the Temple wall and speak against Jesus to the crowds which had gathered in preparation for the Passover. James instead spoke in favor of Jesus as the Christ; many heard him and many were converted. So the Jewish religious leaders threw James down from the Temple wall. Yet he did not die from the fall, so they began to stone him. Still he did not die from the stoning, so a man took a fuller club (used to beat out clothing) and clubbed him to death. In this way died Jamesthe Less, one of Twelve Apostles and the leader of the Church at Jerusalem for 30 years.

II. The Purpose of Writing

1. “To the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad.” 1:1

World-wide compassion and Evangelism.

1. To the brethren--including the entire church of Jewish Christians.

1:1; 1:16; 2:1,5,14; 3:1; 4:11; 5:7,9,10,19

3. Written to produce perfection in Christian Character.

4. A manual of instructions for Holy living.

5. A practical guide to Christian life and conduct.

6. A guidebook for true religion.

7. A Pattern to show the characteristics of true faith.

8. The book of James is not to be mere informative but inspirational.

The object of the writer is to inspire men to enforce the practical duties of the Christian life. In James 1:2-12 James gives five urgent requirements of faith and in so doing he illustrates faith’s spiritual vitality. WE NEED FAITH; without it we will die. In order for faith to remain true and alive it must be added to. Faith can only be added to as it is exercised. Faith is to always be in action, not just in motion doing something, but doing the Will of God.

James warns them of many vices.

* **Fatalism**, which threw its sins on God James 1:13 Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God…
* **Fanaticism**, which, under the cloak of religious Zeal, was tearing Jerusalem in pieces, many men do not have real convictions of their own and they try to live up to the standards of others and find themselves frustrated.

James 1:20 For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.

* **Formalism** consists in washings and outward ceremonies, whereas he reminds them that true religion consists in active love and purity.

James 1:27 Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

* **Favoritism** - Respect of persons. James 2:1-18
* **Falsehood**, which had made words and oaths play-things (3:2-12);
* **Fierce spirit**, Friendship with the world. Partisanship

If you’re under the influence of a strong false view, fierce, unkind and contemptuous spirit, “ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts.” Attempting or pretending to defend true religion, and to boast of your works or success in silencing an enemy; is not pure religion, nor true wisdom, and to profess either without giving God the full Glory is to lie against the truth.

James 3:14 But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth.

* **Foul** talk-Evil speaking

James 4:11 Speak not evil one of another, brethren. He that speaketh evil of his brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law: but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge.

* **Fearlessness**- Boasting

James 4:16 But now ye rejoice in your boastings: all such rejoicing is evil.

* The great lesson which he teaches them as Christians is patience, and the ground of their patience is that the coming of the Lord is drawing nigh. We need to have full Revelation of God’s Word that we may understand God’s Eternal Purpose.

Patience in trial (1:2)

Patience in good works (1:22-25)

Patience under provocation (3:17)

Patience though treated with fraud (5:4)

Patience under oppression (5:7)

Patience under persecution (5:10)

James 5:7 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. 8 Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh. 9 Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door.

III. Theme

True faith produces good works.

1:3,4,25,27; 2:18,20,22,26; 3:17,18; 4:6-11,17; 5:7-9,12,15,17-20

### IV. Key Text

James 2:17,18—*Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. 18 Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.*

## Outline

## The trying of your faith. 1:1-27

1. The showing of your faith. 1:22-3:18
2. The fruit of your faith.1:5,17-18; 2:5,23; 3:13-18; 5:16
3. Warnings. 4:1-5:20
4. Exhortations. 1:2,12,18,25,27; 2:1,18; 3:1,17,18; 4:4,6-12,17; 5:7,8,9,17, 18
5. Instructions. 1:3,5-8,13-15; 2:1-13;14-26; 3:1-18; 4:1-5,7-11,13-16; 5:12,13-16

### The Trying of Your Faith (Joy and Patience) James 1:1-27

1. There are five urgent requirements of faith: Joy, Patience, Wisdom, Unwavering Mind and Love.

**Joy**. Count it a joy to serve God even when your faith is being tried. We can have a Joy that will rejoice in the Promise rather than react to the problem. Where Christ is working there is Joy. James 1:2 “Count it all joy” 5:10; 4:9

**Patience**. Know that the trial is to work Patience so that we press in, press through and press on. Patience is a sign your faith is working. Patience has its place with Faith and Joy unto Perfection. Where Christ is working there is Patience.

James 1:3—*The trying of your faith worketh patience.*

James 1:4—*Let patience have her perfect work.*

**Wisdom**. Ask for Wisdom and it shall be given. We are given the Unction to speak and act wisely in the hour of trial. Where Christ is working there is wisdom.

James 1:5—*If any of you lack wisdom let him ask of God*…

**Unwavering mind.** We need a humble mind that will always depend on the Lord. A faith that refuses to respond to the surging billows of doubt in the hour of trial. Endurance has its place with Faith and Love through every trial. Where Christ is working there is endurance with an unwavering mind.

James 1:6—…*nothing wavering*…

James 1:8—*A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.*

James 1:12—…*Blessed is the man that endureth temptation…*

**Love**. Pure Love never fails to make faith work perfectly. Faith and love are content with God’s dealings in the hour of trial. Where Christ is working there is Love.

James 1:12—*Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.*

James 1:2—*My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; 3 Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.*

#### Divers temptations and trials 1:2

##### Faith tried by the Word. Ps. 105:19; Jer. 23:29; I Cor. 3:13; I Peter 1:7,22

* Promises (1:12)
* The Father of lights (1:17)
* The word of truth (1:18)
* The engrafted Word (1:21,23)
* The perfect law of liberty (1:25; 2:12)
* Gospel: pure & unspotted religion
* Wisdom from above (3:17)

###### God tests and never tempts (James1:12-13). God tests to prove our faith, correct our conduct and to perfect our character.

###### God allows temptation (James 1:2, 12-13; 2:5; 5:13; I Cor. 10:13).

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| REFERENCE | WHY? |
| Psalm 119:67 | Because we didn’t listen directly to the Word of God. |
| James 1:14 | For the unbeliever to see his faults and weaknesses. |
| I Cor.3:13 | The fiery trial reveals your works and motives. It lets people Know how you really are under pressure. |
| I Cor.15:57; II Cor. 2:14 | God gives victory and causes Triumph. |
| Matt. 4:1-4; Rev. 12:6; 13-16 | The testing grounds of the wilderness experience is a feeding time spiritually. |

###### God rewards those that truly love Him. James 1:12

##### Faith Tried by Afflictions, Hardships, Tests, and Trials. Affliction is any condition that produces suffering or pain.

###### There are two types of affliction. The first is designed to judge sin (Isaiah 53:4; Matthew 24:29; Romans 2:9) and the second is to purify and perfect the believer (James 1:2-4; 5:13; Rom. 5:3-5; 8:18 II Thess. 1:4-7; Isaiah 48:10; 63:9; Hosea 5:15; II Chron. 33:12; I Peter 5:9,10).

###### In both cases you that are spiritual must be a help to those that are afflicted (James 1:17; Gal. 6:1; I Cor. 2:15).

###### How to pray in affliction.

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| INSTRUCTION | REFERENCE |
| Learn to pray through alone. (learn to believe God for yourself, but there is strength and victory when everyone works together) | James 5:13; Isaiah 51:1,2; 40:31; Psalm 34:19; 40:1,2 |
| You can’t pray away the night of sorrow, but you can endure. | James 1:12; 5:11; Hebrews 12:7 |
| Let God change you inside while you praise Him through the trial. | James 5:13b—sing |
| Pray that you enter not into temptation. | Luke 22:40,46; |
| Watch you therefore and pray always. | Luke 21:36 |
| Three examples to follow when suffering affliction, are given by James. | 5:10 (The prophets); 5:11 (Job); 5:17 (Elijah) |

#### Examples of those falling into temptation.

Those scattered abroad. 1:1

Falling into temptations without joy. 1:2

Impatient. 1:3,4

Unwise. 1:5

Wavering. 1:6

Double-minded. 1:8

Low degree. 1:9

Rich man fading away in his ways.1:10-11

Drawn away and enticed. 1:14

Those in error. 1:16

Those with wrath. 1:20

Hearers only. 1:22-25

Those with unbridled tongue. 1:26

Defiled and spotted by the world. 1:27

Professors of faith without good works. 2:18

### The showing of your faith. (Wisdom and Meekness) James 1:22-3:18

Jas. 2:18—*I will shew you my faith by my works.*

Because the kingdom of God is not a natural kingdom (Luke 17:20) our faith is justified in the eyes of those that behold our good works. Our faith is justified before men by works. *Matt. 5:16; Eph. 2:10*

I Pt. 2:12—…*by your good works which they shall behold , glorify God…*

*Gal. 5:6; I Thess. 1:3; 2:13; Phil. 2:12-13 ; I Jn. 3:18, 23-24*

Titus 3:8—*be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men*.”

Titus 1:13-14—*be sound in the faith” don’t give heed to that which turns from the truth.*

Titus 2:11-14—*Redeemed from all iniquity, pure, peculiar and “zealous of good works.*

1. Your faith without good works…

*will not profit* James 2:14-16

*will not live* James 2:17,20,26

*will face the judgment* Revelation 2:12

1. Your Faith receives the engrafted Word of God with meekness unto perfection.

*James 1:17,18,21;* *2:18-22;*

*I Peter 1:9-11,13-17,22,23*

*a..* Abraham *2:21,22*

*(*1). Justified by works.

(2). Faith made perfect by works.

*I Peter 1:9; Colossians 2:10; 4:12*

*b.* Rahab *2:25*

(1). Justified by works.

*c.* Elijah *5:17-20*

Elijah saw the need of the nation and did what God told him to do.

*I Kings 18:1* “Go shew thyself…”

” ” ” *18:15* “today”

1. Your faith with wisdom.

James 3:17*—But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.*

1:5*—If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.*

James 3:1*—My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation. (finding fault harshly and unwisely)*

Proverbs 2:6*—In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.;* Ecclesiastes 2:26*—For God giveth to a man that is good in his sight wisdom, and knowledge, and joy: but to the sinner he giveth travail, to gather and to heap up, that he may give to him that is good before God. This also is vanity and vexation of spirit.*

Psalm 105:22 *(Teach wisdom)*

*a.* Pure *1:21, 27*

*b.* Peaceable *1:26; 3:1,2 (3:10,16)*

*c.* Gentle *2:8, 25*

*d.* Easy to be entreated *2:21-23*

*e*. Full of mercy *2:13,15,16; 5:19-20*

*f.* Good fruits *3:18*

(1). Must constantly be produced.

*Psalm 92:13,14*; *James 5:7; Phil. 1:11*

(2). Must be grown only in good ground.

*Matthew 13:8,23; Luke 8:8,15; Gal. 5:22,23;Eph.5:9-11*

*g.* Without partiality *2:1,4 9; 4:11-12*

*h.* Without hypocrisy 1;8,16,26;3:9-12;4:1-10,17

### The fruit of your faith (Righteousness and Peace)

1:5, 17, 18; 2:5, 23; 3:13-18; 5:16

1. The trying of your faith worketh patience 1:3
2. Patience shows itself through faith and good works unto perfection. 1:4
3. The righteousness of God is revealed to us from faith to faith

James 2:23; Romans 1:17; James 3:17; II Corinthians 5:21; I Corinthians 1:30

1. Producing a perfect man
   * + - * James 1:4 “That ye may be perfect”
         * I Peter 5:10 “Make you perfect”
         * Ephesians 4:13 “A perfect man”
         * James 3:2 “That same as a perfect man”
2. Producing a blessed man. 1:12, 25
3. Producing a patient man. 1:3,4; 5:10, 11
4. Producing a wise man. 1:5; 3:13, 17
5. Producing a saved soul. 1:21
6. Producing beloved brethren. 1:2, 16, 19
7. Producing a man of love 1:12, 27; 2:8

(1). Sacrificial love for people

(2). Unspotted love for God

1. Producing a righteous man 1:20; 2:21-23; 5:16
2. Producing the first fruits of His creatures

James 1:18; Philippians 3:14

Chief among his creatures; The first-fruits were the best of every kind to be offered to God, and were given as God's peculiar right and portion; thus the new creature is God's peculiar portion taken out of mankind, which being consecrated to God by a new birth, they ought to serve him with a new spirit, new heart and new thankfulness, as living under the highest obligations unto new obedience.

1. The fruit of righteousness- unto holiness

(reproduces after its kind)

James 3:18 And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.

Romans 6:16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? 19 I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness. 22 But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.

1. From faith to righteousness unto holiness
2. Obedience to the word to good conduct unto good character
3. Perfect faith to perfect conduct unto perfect character

**Right character should always produce right conduct.**

**The proof of a man’s faith is a manifestation of Christ’s life.**

**Fruit is the product of life**

James 1:12 Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, **he shall receive the crown of life,** which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

### Warnings 4:1-17

1. Desire — Strong evil desires; Lust causes temptations. 4:1
2. Distrust – Misunderstandings and being Impersonal. 4:2
3. Disloyal - Misuse of Promises and Provisions. 4:3
4. Defiant —An enemy of God 4:4
5. Distractions resulting from a faulty disposition.
   1. Having a disposition that is worldly, unforgiving, immoral, “enmity” (hateful) 4:4
   2. Having a disposition that “lusteth to envy” (jealousy—spite) 4:5
   3. Having a disposition that is proud. (haughty) 4:6
   4. Having a disposition that is talkative, (slanderer—backbiter) 4:11
   5. Having a disposition of self-sufficiency 4:13-17
      1. Self ambition 4:14
      2. Self-willed 4:15
      3. Self-confidence—boasting, bragging 4:16
      4. Self-centered 4:17

E. Exhortations:,27; 2:1,18; 3:1,17,18; 4:4,6-12,17; 5:7,8,9,17, 18

1:2 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;

* Having a spirit of exceeding Joyfulness, while letting the trial fulfill its purpose.

Psalm 43:4 Then will I go unto the altar of God, unto God my exceeding joy: yea, upon the harp will I praise thee, O God my God.

1Peter 4:13 But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy

1:12 Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

* Joyfulness and Endurance work together for good “to them that love Him.”

Hebrews 12:2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the **joy** that was set before him **endured** the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Col 1:11 Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all **patience** and longsuffering with **joyfulness**;

1:18 Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

The Will of God — “Of his own will”

The Word of God — “begat he us with the word of truth”

The Work of God — “a kind of firstfruits of his creatures”

The Worship of God— “that we should be”

The Word is the seed, the believer is the fruit and the highest form of worship is obedience.

* Luke 8:11 Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.
* Acts 5:32 And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.

1:25 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

It is not just looking and reading the Word of God which provides Joy, Patience, wisdom, faith and Love, but the actual application of the Word in our lives through faithful obedience.

1. **Perfect law of Liberty**

a. Power to Save

Its Power to save is found in its ability to create new life with a new nature.

James1:18 Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

b. Power to Sanctify

Its Power to Sanctify is found in its ability to accomplish what it challenges us to do.

James 1:21 Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.

c. Power to Safeguard

It is Power to Safeguard your whole being.

See well, Hear well, Do well, Speak well

James 1:26 If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain.

d. Power to Supply freedom from guilt and give dominion over sin.

James 1:27 **Pure religion** and **undefiled** before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself **unspotted** from the world.

# Kind of His First fruits

TEXT:

James 1:18 Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

1. The Nature of His First fruits.

“of His own will begat He us”

James 5:20 Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.

Without the New Birth man is hopeless.

Eph. 2:12 That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:

1. Man is Spiritually Dead without the Word of Truth, The Hope of our Salvation.
2. The New Birth is Absolutely Necessary.
3. The New Birth is Essential.

John 3:3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

4 Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

1. Man can die Spiritually after the New Birth if not fed properly.
2. Being Fed Spiritually is Absolutely Necessary.
3. Being fed Spiritually is Essential
4. Man can only live Spiritually by growing by the Word.

We need to be fed the Word of God, the Word of Truth.

Study Questions

James

1. What are the five urgent requirements of faith?

Joy, Patience, Wisdom,

1. Why does God test man?
2. When does God allow temptation?
3. Who does God reward with the crown of life?
4. For what are the two types of affliction designed?
5. How is a man’s faith justified before men?
6. Describe what the wisdom from beneath is like?
7. Describe what the wisdom from above is like?
8. What is the fruit of your faith?
9. What is the proof of a man’s faith?

Bonus: Expound on James 5:7-8 in light of Joel 2:23-29

I Peter

I. Writer: Peter an Apostle of Jesus Christ

II. The Purpose For Writing I Peter

* 1. Exhort and testify to Persecuted Jews, the revelation given to him.

**1Peter 5:12** By Silvanus, a faithful brother unto you, as I suppose, I have written briefly, exhorting, and testifying that this is the true grace of God wherein ye stand.

* 1. To fulfill the two commandments the Lord gave personally to him.

a. Strengthen the brethren

Luke 22:32 I Peter 5:10 II Peter 1:12

1. Feed the flock

John 21:15-17 I Peter 5:2

* 1. To show the Word of the Lord endures forever

I Peter 1:25

a. The Word was living in Peter

I Peter 1:25

b. The Word was to live in them

I Peter 1:23, 25

c. The Word is to live in us

* 1. Every believer is to be guarded by the power of God

I Peter 1:5

III. Theme

**The TRUE Grace of God**

**I Peter :5:12** By Silvanus, a faithful brother unto you, as I suppose, I have written briefly, exhorting, and testifying that this is **the true grace of God** wherein ye stand.

IV. The outline of I Peter

I Peter 1:2—*Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied*.

1. Salvation of the Believer

1. The Triune God preparing an Elect people

a. God the Father

b. The Spirit

c. Jesus Christ

I Peter 1:2 Elect according to the **foreknowledge of God the Father**, through **sanctification of the Spirit**, unto obedience and **sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ**: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

1. The Eternal Purpose of God is revealed in the Godhead

a. Foreknowledge of God— the Father

b. Sanctification of the Spirit—the Holy Spirit

c. Sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ—the Son

d. Obedience of the believer unto election—Overcoming Saints

(Receiving many sons unto Glory)

Hebrews: 2:10 I Peter 1:11; 5:1

1;1 Strangers scattered called to be the Elect

1:2 Grace and Peace multiplying from freedom from slavery of sin unto an Election of God.

1:2 Unto Obedience

1:3 Abundant Mercy

1:10 Grace has come and is coming, unto you

1:13 --Grace revealing Christ in you (already has been revealed to you)

1:20 --Christ’s life manifested in you

1:21 --That your faith and hope may be in God

1:22 --Obeying and loving fervently

2:1 --“Lay aside ALL”

2:12 --“Desire the sincere milk of the Word”

--Righteousness revealed from faith to faith

--Romans 5:17 “much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness **shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ**”

-- Romans 5:21 Grace reigns through righteousness

-- Ephesians 2:8 Grace through Faith

3:12--The eyes of the Lord are over the Righteous

3:14--If ye suffer righteousness sake happy are ye

3:18--“That He might bring us to God”

4:17-18--Or bring us to judgment

4:19: 1:5--Judge Him faithful and commit your soul into His keeping, as you do well, even though you suffer for it

1. The Word of God is the Source of our Salvation
2. The full inheritance is reserved in Heaven 1:4
3. The Power of God’s Word is in the obedient believer 1:5,22
4. (The Word of the gospel is written) 1:6, 11
5. “The Gospel is preached” 1:25, 12
6. The truth is revealed 1:5, 12-13, 20, 22-23

(The Word of God revealed is seed producing eternal life)

1. The Truth vitally experienced

The true Grace of God working in the believer’s life

I Peter 1:2, 10, 13; 2:2, 19, 20; 3:7; 4:10; 5:5, 10, 12

(1). Faith—acting on the Word 1:21

(2). Hope—great expectation 1:3, 21

(3). Love—desire and effort for greater demonstration more and more and more

1:22; 4:8, 14

g. The truth vitally expressed 1:23, 25

(1). We never fail when obeying the Word

(a). The Word of the Lord Liveth forever

(b). The Word of the Lord abideth forever

(c) The Word of the Lord endureth forever

(2). We fail when we neglect His grace that has been given to us 2:8, 10

3. God’s foreordained plan will be revealed in this last day

a. End time deliverance

1:2, 4-17, 20 4:7, 17

(1). Initial

1:2, 18,19, 21,23 2:6, 25 3:18

(2). Progressive

1:2,3-5, 9, 13, 22; 2:1,2

b. The Blood of Sprinkling

(1). I Peter 1:2 Grace and Peace is multiplied

(2). Hebrews 9: 13, 19, 21 Conscience is Purified

(3). Hebrews 10:22 The blood of Christ had to be shed

(4). Hebrews 11:28 (but not again-“once for all”)

(5). Hebrews 12:24 (speaketh better things)

(6). Exodus 12:7 strike the blood on the side post and upper post.

(7). Exodus 12:48—Passover, circumcism, eat

(8). Leviticus 4:6 seven times before the veil

(9). Leviticus 8:15 laying on of hands, (transfer)symbol

(10). Numbers 19:4-9 separation, purification

c. The inheritance of every obedient believer is by revelation of Jesus Christ 1:4, 5, 12,13, 20

(1). Begotten 1:3

(2). Redeemed 1:18, 19

(3). Born again 1:23

(4). Be ye holy 1:15, 16

B. Sanctification of the believer.

“Sanctification of the Spirit” 1:2

Sanctification is a separation from sin and a setting apart unto God by the Spirit

1. Be obedient 1:2

2. Greatly rejoicing 1:6

3. Be ye holy 1:16

4. Fear God 1:17

5. Purify your soul by obeying the truth 1:22

6. Love one another 1:22

7. Put away all evil 2:1

8. Grow up by desiring the pure milk of the Word 2:2

9. Offer up spiritual sacrifices 2:5

10. Show forth His excellent greatness 2:9

11. Abstain from fleshly lust that war against the soul 2:11

12. Be honest and show good works 2:12

13. Live unto righteousness 2:24

14. Sanctify the Lord in your heart 3:15

C. The Submission of the believer

1. Submit yourself to God 5:5,6

2. Submit yourself to every ordinance of man 2:13

1. Government 2:13:17
2. Business 2:18-25
3. Marriage 3:1-7
4. Friendship 3:8-12; 5:5

“subject one to another” 5:5

D. The Suffering of the Believer 3:13-; 5:10

1. Trials 1:6,7; 2:19-23; 4:12,13,19; 5:9,10

“A season of heaviness”

2. Sickness 2:24

“By Whose stripes ye were healed”

3. Opportunity to witness 3:13-21; 4:13; 5:1,2

“Give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you”

E. The Stewardship of the Believer 4:1,7 - 5:14

1. Having the mind of Christ 4:1

2. Have the love of God 4:8

3. Having the gifts of God 4:10

4. Having the ability which God gives 4:11

5. Having the glory of God revealed in your life

4:14; 5:1

6. Be steadfast 5:9, 12

7. Salute 5:13

8. Greet ye one anther with love and peace 5:14

**Emancipated Slaves**

Rom. 1:1; Titus 1:1; James 1:1; Jude 1:1; Revc.1:1

1Peter 1:1—*Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia*,

2Peter 1:1— *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*

Liberate from slavery or bondage

* Freedom from sin
  + Set free
  + Made free
* Jesus bought us to free us
* A Bond Servant is one who willingly chooses to serve His master.

**I Peter 1:2**—*Elect according to the* ***foreknowledge of God the Father****, through* ***sanctification of the Spirit****, unto obedience and* ***sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ****: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.*

Eph.1:4; (Elect) Rom. 8:29 (foreknow) II Thes. 2::13 (Sanctification)

Rom. 16:26 ”unto obedience” Heb. 12:24 “sprinkling: Jude !:2 (multiplied)

**1Peter 1:3**—*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,*

**God’s Abundant Mercy**

1. The Fact of God’s Mercy

What is Mercy?

* 1. Mercy is Compassion, determined to stay active.
  2. Mercy is a desire to help in every need.
  3. Mercy is to be in abundance.

1. The Mercy of God is held in restraint.

God will not bestow His gifts on sinners that will not repent.

* 1. The Angel of the Lord stood with a flaming sword to keep the way of the tree of Life.
  2. The Pearly gates (purity) of the city of Heaven reveal that nothing defiled can enter in.

1. The Benefits of the Mercy of God
   1. Begotten us again
   2. Unto a lively Hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ
   3. To an Inheritence

**The Believer’s Full Inheritence**

**1Peter 1:4**—*To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,*

1. To an Inheritance
   1. Fullness of Christ Eph.4:13
   2. Fullness of God Rom. 8:16-17;Gal.4:7; Eph.3:19
   3. Fullness of the Holy Ghost Joel 2:23,28-29
2. We Have the Earnest of our Inheritance Eph. 1:13-14; Acts 19:2,6
   1. The Spirit is the Guarantee of our Inheritance
   2. The Pledge of down Payment
   3. The Fore taste of the Inheritance
3. Until the Redemption of the Purchased Possession.
   1. Buy back
   2. Ransomed in full
      1. Completely made free
      2. Reigning in life in fullness of Power, Wisdom and Knowledge.

**The Trying of Your Faith**

**1Peter 1:6***—Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations:*

**7***—That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:*

1. The Nature of the Trial
   1. In Heaviness Mat.26:37-38
      1. The way to the Throne is through the Cross
      2. Through drinking the Cup
      3. Eating the bitter tears
      4. We will experience heavy trials
   2. Manifold Trials
      1. Varied, divers and many
      2. Tested for faith (Weak faith cast a shadow over our experience)
      3. Tested for implicit obedience, (obeying His Will)
      4. Tested for doing good (doing His Will)
      5. Reviled, rejected, despised and suffering.
   3. Though it be tried with Fire
      1. This is the Refiners fire
      2. The Lord is the Refiner
         1. He watches the fire
         2. He watches your reactions
         3. He watches your Progress
2. The Length of the Trial
   1. For a season I Peter 1:6
   2. For a little while Heb.10:37
   3. But for a moment II Cor. 4:17
3. The Purpose of the Trial
   1. It needs be, when it comes to us it needs be.
   2. Trials are for other’s to see that you can make it, they can.
   3. The Gold is Refiner Pure.
   4. The Diamond is cut Perfect.
   5. The Precious Stone are Positioned
      1. The Trial proves they are precious and uses them.

Don’t complain about the trial, you are being proved or used or both.

**Ye Greatly Rejoice - Ye are in Heaviness**

1 Pt. 1:6—*Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations:*

1. **A Reason for Trials, Tests and Temptations**
   1. To prove your faith.
   2. To strengthen your testimony.
   3. To manifest God through strong faith. 1 Pt. 1:7-11

1 Pt. 1:13—*Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and* ***hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ*;**

*Ye Greatly Rejoice*   *Ye are in Heaviness*

* These are not mixed emotions to strive through.
* This is not a man struggling, trying to find his way.

Matt. 5:12—*Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you*.

James 1:2—*My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;*

Joel 2:26—*And ye shall*

*1. eat in plenty,*

*2. be satisfied,*

*3. praise the LORD*

4. ***never be ashamed.***

Acts 5:41—*And they departed …rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name.*

Heb. 10:32-39—v. 34 *For ye had compassion of me in my bonds, and took joyfully the spoiling of your goods, knowing in yourselves that ye have in heaven a better and an enduring substance.*

1. **A Need for Trials, Tests and Temptations**

Heb. 12:1-15, 25-29

1. Chastening
2. Shaking / Proving

Heb. 12:11—*Now no* ***chastening*** *for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.*

Heb. 12:27—*And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are* ***shaken****, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain*.

1. **There is a need for us to choose to be under the load.**
   1. To bear up under a strange load.

-Though free, choosing to be bound.

* 1. To continue to carry a load in its heaviness.

-Committed to victory and to seeing it through.

1. Not only is there a **need** for the trial but also a **need** for us to choose to be **under the heaviness** of the trial.

**It is a Choice**:

1. To face persecution and remain unmovable
2. To greatly rejoice, rather than to complain of being under the heaviness of the load.
3. To trust God when you cannot do anything else.

Ps. 22:8—*He trusted on the LORD that he would deliver him: let him deliver him, seeing he delighted in him.*

Matt. 27:43—*He trusted in God; let him deliver him now, if he will have him: for he said, I am the Son of God.*

2 Kings 18:5—*He trusted in the LORD God of Israel; so that after him was none like him among all the kings of Judah, nor any that were before him.*

Prov. 3:5—*Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding*

1 Pt. 1:6—*Wherein ye greatly rejoice,* ***though now for a season, if need be****, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations:*

It is your choice. 🡪Do you discern your responsibility?

First, WE HAVE NEEDS. God uses difficulties, temptations to work negative things out of us.

Secondly, OTHERS HAVE NEEDS. Every Believer has certain divinely given responsibilities and these are confirmed in *burdens*. The attitude of Cain’s words exposed a man that was not faithful in his responsibilities: *Am I my brother’s keeper?* It is not enough that I alone enjoy success, but I have a certain responsibility to my *brother*, as well. (i.e. Matt.18:6; 1 Cor. 8:13; 2 Cor. 6:10; **8:9**; **9:8** Matt.10:8; Luke 10:36; Gal. 6:1-2; Prov. 28:27)

Eph. 5:17—*Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is.*

🡪We cannot allow the complexity of a trial or our own confusion to keep us from seeking to understand. It is *unwise* to NOT understand.

Heb. 5:14—*But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.*

🡪It is a mark of maturity to seek for understanding and knowledge of the will of God.

Isa. 6:8—*Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me*

🡪Isaiah was a man that understood the will and work of God. That kind of man is more concerned with the accomplishment of God’s will than any adversary, hardness or heaviness. These are details of his journey, but whether there be many or few are not his concern. His *portion* is to glorify God in **every** situation and **no matter what**! (II Cor. 12:7-12) - **God’s Grace**

**Though severely tried,**

**Faith makes way for rejoicing**

Hab 3:16-19—*When I heard, my belly trembled; my lips quivered at the voice: rottenness entered into my bones, and I trembled in myself, that I might rest in the day of trouble: when he cometh up unto the people, he will invade them with his troops.*

17 *Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls:*

18 *Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation.*

19 *The LORD God is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places.*

**Even to a man of prayer**…

-hearing God

-full of faith

-obeys Word

-led by Spirit

-strong

-courageous

-great success

-surrendered

-doing God’s will

…**comes** temptations, persecutions, afflictions, slanders, false accusations, misunderstandings.

(BUT, not without reward!)

James 1:12—*Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.*

You can stop a servant of man, but not a Servant of God.

Acts 14:22—*Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.*

Acts 20:24—*But* ***none*** *of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.*

Rom. 9:2—*… great heaviness and continual sorrow…*

1 Cor. 4:9—*For I think that God hath set forth us the apostles last, as it were appointed to death:…*

1 Thess. 1:6—*And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost:*

1 Thess. 3:3—*That no man should be moved by these afflictions: for…we are appointed thereunto.*

🡪Difficulty and affliction are part of the Christian life.

1 Thess. 5:9—*For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,*

🡪The afflictions of the godly will not destroy them. The destruction of the wrath of God is reserved for the rebellious and unrepentant.

🡪Difficulty is not God’s *wrath* on the Believer, but God’s providential dealing—correction of a father.

Rev. 12:11—*And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.*

John 13:16—*Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him.*

1 John 3:1-3—*Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.*

2 *Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.*

3 *And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.*

1 Cor. 10:13—*There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.*

True soul-winners that suffer persecution are more than conquerors but they are **Overcomers**.

2 Cor. 4:8-18—

Testimony of Faith*: We**are troubled on every side, yet:*

* ***not distressed***
* ***not in despair***
* ***not forsaken***
* ***not destroyed***

The strong feelings of discouragement and defeat must be held captive by God’s Word. We must make *confessions of faith* in the midst of the battle if we are to overcome. (2 Cor. 10:5)

**II Cor. 4:10-11The life of Jesus made manifest in our mortal flesh**.

🡪The faith that produces such a testimony is a gift of grace. We are totally dependent on God’s grace.

🡪*that* ***the abundant grace*** *might through the thanksgiving of many* ***redound to the glory of God.***

🡪 *though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.*

🡪*For our light* ***affliction****, which is* ***but for a moment****,* ***worketh for us*** *a far more exceeding and eternal… glory*

🡪 *for the things which are seen are temporal;*

Col. 1:24—*Who* ***now rejoice in my sufferings for you****, and* ***fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ*** *in my flesh for his body's sake, …*

Php. 4:4—***Rejoice*** *in the* ***Lord*** *alway:*

Deut. 27:7—*…* ***rejoice before the LORD thy God.***

Matt. 5:10-12—*Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

11 *Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.*

12 ***Rejoice****, and* ***be exceeding glad****: for* ***great is your reward in heaven****: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.*

Rom. 8:18—*For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are* ***not*** *worthy to be* ***compared with the glory*** *which* ***shall*** *be revealed in us.*

2 Cor. 11:20—*For ye suffer, if a man bring you into bondage, if a man devour you, if a man take of you, if a man exalt himself,* ***if a man smite you on the face****.*

-Going the extra mile is a worthy cause.

Acts 23:2—*Ananias* [said]*…smite him on the mouth.*

Jer. 20:2—*Then Pashur smote Jeremiah the prophet…*

John 18:22—*…struck Jesus with the palm of his hand…*

(Deut. 32:10; Zech. 2:8) - (you are the) “**apple of his eye**”

2 Tim. 1:12—*For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.*

2 Tim. 2:12—*If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us:*

2 Tim. 3:12—*Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.*

2 Tim. 4:12—*And* ***Tychicus have I sent to Ephesus****.*

* Every Christian should be a soul-winner.

**Gal. 6:1-18 Details the Burden of a Spiritual Man**

🡪***ye which are spiritual,*** *restore…in…meekness*

🡪*Bear ye one another's burdens… fulfil the law of Christ*

🡪*For every man shall bear his own burden.*

1) BEAR BURDEN: A man must not leave off his own duty in helping another. …*mine own vineyard have I not kept*. –S.O.S 1:6 🡪**Busyness is no excuse**.

2) HIS OWN: Not doing just anything, but tending to that which is HIS RESPONSIBILITY to perform. Luke 11:42—…*these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone*. (Matt. 23:23) 🡪*For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself*.

-True humility is a right estimation of self-

🡪*And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall* ***reap,*** *if we* ***faint not.***

-God always honors faithfulness-

🡪 *As we have…opportunity, let us do good unto all*

*🡪But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross…*

-There is no substitute for taking up the **cross**.-

* This is the true circumcision of a true Israelite.
* Detached from worldliness and attached to Jesus

🡪*For in* ***Christ Jesus*** *neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature.*

*🡪… for* ***I bear*** *in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus.*

1 Pt. 1:2—REMEMBER:

* by faith, we are the elect of God
* Sanctification is of the Holy Ghost
* Salvation is through the Power of Jesus’ Blood
* Constant supply of Grace and Peace for the humble

1 Pt. 1:5—*Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time*.

1Pe 1:7 That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

1 Pt. 3:14—*But and if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy are ye: and be not afraid of their terror…*

1 Pt. 4:12-16—The Fiery Trial is no *Strange* Thing

🡪*rejoice,… as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings;*

🡪 *for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you*

*🡪 on your part he is glorified.*

*🡪 let none of you suffer as a murderer,…thief …*[etc.]

*🡪Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf.*

1 Pt. 5:5—*… be clothed with humility: for* ***God*** *resisteth the proud, and giveth* ***grace to the humble****.*

1 Pt. 5:10—*But the* ***God of all grace****, who hath called us unto* ***his eternal glory*** *by* ***Christ Jesus****, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.*

Matt.10:38—*And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me*. (16:24; Mark 8:34; Luke 9:23)

Luke 14:27—*And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.*

John 10:27—*My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:*

John 13:36—*Simon Peter said unto him, Lord, whither goest thou? Jesus answered him, Whither I go, thou canst not follow me now; but thou shalt follow me afterwards.*

John 21:19-22 —***Follow me.***

*🡪* PETER: *Lord, which is he that betrayeth thee?*

*🡪* PETER*: Lord, and what shall this man do?*

*🡪 If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee?*

***…follow thou me.***

1 John 3:16—*Hereby* ***perceive*** *we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.*

the same shall save it.

Study Questions

I Peter

1. What are the two commandments the Lord gave Peter?

2. What word is used in I Peter 1:5 that means to be guarded?

3. Read I Peter 1:5; Define end-time salvation by using other Scriptures show end-time salvation is already being revealed.

4. Give the theme of I Peter.

5. Write out the five major points of the outline.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6. Explain your understanding of the God-head.

7. What is God’s desire in relation to the overcoming Saints?

8. What is God looking for in us?

9. The Word of God revealed is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ producing \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

10. How does every obedient Believer receive his inheritance?

11. Define sanctification and give some examples of how it works in the Believer’s life.

12. Memorize I Peter 5:10 and write it out verbatim.

II Peter

I. Writer: Peter a Servant and Apostle of Jesus Christ

Simon was his name

The name Peter was given to him by the Lord

The introduction shows his service and apostleship

Mat. 4:18; 10:2 Luke 6:14 Jn.1:40-42;21:15-17 Mat.16:16-18 Acts 2:14 Mk. 3:16

1. The Purpose For Writing II Peter

A. To give a constant reminder

II Peter1:8, 12-16; 2:21; 3:1-3, 5,8,11, 14, 17-18

B. Continue to fulfill the two general commands God gave to Him

1. Strengthen the brethren

Luke 22:32 I Peter 5:10 II Peter 1:12

a. Against attack from the inside

1.) False teaching and damnable heresies

2:1-8

2.) Scoffers walking after their own lusts

3:3-5,17

2. Feed the flock of God.

Jn. 21:15-17 IIPeter1:1-11

C. To show that every believer must totally acknowledge

Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord in their life

II Peter 1:1-2; 16-18; 2:1,9,20; 3:2,15,18

D. To show the secrets of growing II Peter 1:3-8

E. To declare a more sure Word of Prophecy

II Peter 1:19-21

III. Theme

**Knowing Christ and growing up in Him to be like Him.**

IV. The outline of II Peter

A. Knowing Christ and diligently making every effort to be like Him through faith.

Jesus Christ is our Saviour and Lord and is worthy of our total devotion.

As Lord He is in complete control of our life.

God is righteous in giving all, like precious faith.

1. The Gift of Knowledge 1:1-4

a. Servant- Apostle 1:1

b. Like precious faith 1:2

c. Through the Righteousness of God 1:1

d. Grace and Peace multiplied 1:2

e. Divine Power 1:3

“According as His divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain to life and godliness.”

f. Divine life. 1:3

g. Divine Promises 1:4

Over 30,000 promises are written in the Bible and they are all good for every believer.

h. Divine Nature. 1:4

1. The growth in knowledge 1:5-12

Once He gives you the revelation of Christ He makes you to exercise your faith in the knowledge you have been given.

a. Giving all diligence add to your faith.

The Lord adds as you exercise your faith.

* + - 1. Virtue
      2. Knowledge
      3. Temperance
      4. Patience
      5. Godliness
      6. Brotherly Kindness
      7. Charity

b. Give diligence to make your calling and election sure 1:10-11

3. The calling and the election of the believer.

a. To life and godliness

1.) Spiritual life must exist before there can be godliness.

2.) Spiritual life is received from Jesus Christ the Lord by faith.

a.) Faith acknowledges Jesus Christ as Saviour.

b.) Faith acknowledges Jesus Christ as Lord.

c.) Faith obtains what it acknowledges in Christ.

d.) Faith appropriates the promises.

3.) Spiritual life is by grace through faith based on right knowledge of Jesus Christ our Lord.

4.) Spiritual life is rewarded with an abundant entrance into the everlasting kingdom.

b. Ye do well to take heed1:19--Timely counsel

If any man will do His will he shall know of the doctrine Jn 7:17

And ye shall know the Truth Jn. 8:32

For if these things be in you and abound they make you. 1:8

For if you do these things ye shall never fall. 1:10

If you know these things happy are ye if you do them Jn. 13:17 Ps. 119:17-20

~GOAL~

Always expressing His person

Exact representation of His very being

Be diligent that ye may be found of Him in peace without spot and blameless 3:14

4. The Glory of the Knowledge 1:1-21

a. Servant of Jesus Christ

A slave totally possessed by his master

A bond servant

Vowed to serve the rest of his life

1.) Apostle of Jesus Christ

A representative of Christ, sent forth.

An ambassador for Christ.

The apostle progresses in all power and authority of the One who sent him.

2.) Called to be an apostle

3.) Peter answered the call for service and

ministry setting an example

b. Grace and Peace multiplied in the believer’s life as faith is developed 1:2

c. Escape the corruption, pollution and ignorance of this world 1:4 2:20 3:5

d. Fruitful, active and having good spiritual vision seeing afar off 1:8,9

e. Partake of His divine nature 1:4

f. An election 1:10

h. Richly supplied with an abundant entrance into the everlasting kingdom 1:11

i. The testimony of an apostle of Jesus Christ as an eye witness to the truth 1:12-18

j. A glorious experience 1:19

When the daystar arises in your heart

k. A sure lamp. 1:19

1). A more sure Word of Prophecy

2). A light that shineth in a dark place

3). Holy men of God spoke as they were moved upon by the Holy Ghost.

4). True knowledge and True prophecy

The Bible was not written by human reasoning but by divine revelation from the Holy Ghost.

B. Knowing Christ’s judgment on those that do not make every effort to be like Him 2:1-22

Key verses in chapter two: 2:1,9

1. Identifying the false

* + - 1. False prophets, False teachers, damnable heresies, denying the Lord, swift destruction 2:1
      2. Pernicious ways, the way of truth evil spoken of. 2:2
      3. Covetousness, feigned words, make merchandise of you, their judgment lingereth not, their damnation slumbereth not 2:3
      4. Fallen angels 2:4
      5. Spared not the old world before the flood 2:5
      6. Sodom and Gomorrah 2:6-9
      7. Self-willed 2:10-11
      8. Natural brute beast. 2:12
      9. Hypocrites 2:13
      10. Eyes full of adultery 2:14
      11. The way of Balaam. 2:15-16
      12. Wells without water – died up. 2:17
      13. Tempest driven clouds 2:17
      14. Speak great swelling words of vanity, allure through the lust of the flesh, much wantonness, living in error 2:18
      15. Servants of corruption 2:19
      16. Brought into bondage 2:19
      17. Again entangled and overcome 2:20
      18. To turn from the Holy Commandment 2:21
      19. The dog is turned to his own vomit 2:21
      20. The sow wallowing in the mire 2:21

2. It is better not to know the way of righteousness than to know and turn from it. 2:19-21

C. Knowing concerning the beloved 3:1,8,14-15,17

1. Faith and knowledge with grace and righteousness.

* 1. Knowledge is the sphere for grace to work in our life 1:2
  2. Knowledge is the way of truth 2:2
  3. Knowledge is the way of righteousness 2:21
  4. Knowledge is given as faith is obtained 1:1-2
     1. Knowledge of his person, power, process, and eternal purpose
     2. Knowledge-“exceeding great and precious promises” 1:4

“ By grace through faith”

Eph. 2:8 1:1-2

1. Through faith
2. Through righteousness
3. Through Knowledge

3.) Knowledge stirs up the pure mind to increase your faith

1:1; 5:12,13; 3:1,2

1. Knowing is seeing by faith

(1.) Knowledge of God for spiritual life 1:1-9

(2.) Knowledge of the everlasting kingdom 1:10,11

(3.) The knowledge of God for us to be like His Son 1:12-21

(4.) The knowledge concerning His promises 3:1-18

2. Grace is given where right knowledge is applied 1:2

* + 1. Grace is sufficient 2 Cor. 12:9

b. Grace is sovereign John 1:7

c. Grace is our source 2 Cor. 9:8

3. The beloved’s action

a. Be mindful 3:1-7

b. Be not ignorant 3:8-11

c. Be diligent 3:11-14

d. Beware 3:15-18

e. Peter’s diligence. 1:15 Paul’s wisdom 3:15

4. The Beloved’s warning 3:17

a. Moral corruption 1:1-14

b. Doctrinal pollutions 1:15, 2:1-22

c. Steadfast among the error of the wicked 3:1-18

5. The beloved’s knowledge

a. Know God’s Word is true 3:1-4

* + 1. Know God’s work is consistent 3:5-7
    2. Know God’s will is longsuffering and merciful 3:8-10
    3. Know God’s day of judgment 3:11-14
    4. Know God’s longsuffering is salvation 3:15-17
    5. Knowing God and growing in His grace 3:18

1). Growing in the true Grace of God 1:2; 3:18

2). Growing in the true Knowledge of God

1:1-12, 6, 19-21 2:2, 9, 19-20 3:1-2, 16-18

3). Growing in Righteousness

1:1 2:5, 8, 13, 20-21 3:13-14

4). Growing in Peace

1:2, 3:14 Ps. 85:10

5). Growing in Faith

1:1 5-8 Gal. 5:6

Romans 1:17 Psalm 84:7

a). Faith warned 1:9

b). Faith reminded, re-established reinforced. 1:12

c). Faith encouraged 1:16

d). Faith perfected

6). Growing in Power

1:3 10,16,21

7). Growing in Love 1:7; 3:1,2

a). Loving the Lord

b). Loving each other

c). Loving the Truth

Study Questions

II Peter

1. How did Peter get his name and what does it mean?
2. What is the purpose for the writing of II Peter?
3. Give the only cure for false doctrine:
4. How did Holy men speak?
5. Give an example of Peter acknowledging Jesus as Saviour and Lord:
6. Where do we find a more sure Word of Prophecy?
7. What is the theme of II Peter?
8. Write the three major points of the outline:

A.

B.

C.

1. Why do people become ‘again entangled and overcome’?
2. The Lord has delayed His return because He is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_­­­­­­­\_\_\_and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .
3. What is the next major event to take place?
4. What does *beware* mean?
5. How many spiritual things are provided for us to make it, and how are they obtained?
6. Name and describe one hard Scripture that you have learned and you can teach someone else: