

# Stand Firm.

LETTERS OF PETER

Owasso First Assembly

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## 2 Peter 1—STAND FIRM ON THE PROMISES

1 Peter 1—Stand firm in victory 1 Peter 2—Stand firm in your identity

1 Peter 3—Stand firm in your relationships 1 Peter 4—Stand firm in your faith

1 Peter 5—Stand firm against your adversary

1<sup>st</sup> Peter gives encouragement against outside persecution.

2<sup>nd</sup> Peter warns against inside corruption.

**Corruption abounds when the Word of God is not the centerpiece of the church's function.**

To combat the problem of heresy, Peter reaffirmed the foundation of Holy Scripture.

Second Peter is written to combat false teaching in the church.

Second Peter stresses the importance of knowledge using a form of that word 12 times.

Second Peter validates the inspiration of scripture.

### 1. Knowing God intimately is the foundation of all blessings

2 Peter 1:1–4 (NIV84) <sup>1</sup> *Simon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who through the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ have received a faith as precious as ours:* <sup>2</sup> *Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.* <sup>3</sup> *His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.* <sup>4</sup> *Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.*

1. The entirety of blessings is based in God's initiative and come through a heart knowledge of Him.

2. All believers share a common faith in that we are equally saved, called, and equipped.

3. God's blessings are always abundant.

ABUNDANT PARDON FOR THE GUILTY Isaiah 55:7 ABUNDANT MERCY FOR THE LOST 1 Peter 1:3

ABUNDANT PEACE FOR THE TROUBLED Psalm 37:11 ABUNDANT LIFE FOR THE DEAD John 10:10

ABUNDANT GRACE FOR THE NEEDY 1 Timothy 1:14 ABUNDANT JOY FOR THE SAD Philippians 1:26

ABUNDANT POWER FOR THE WEAK Ephesians 3:20

4. God has given us powerful provisions. V.3

5. God has given us precious promises. V.4

-Forgiveness -adoption -strength -comfort -hope -joy -peace -love -grace -victory -mercy

### 2. Knowing God intimately results in righteous behavior

2 Peter 1:5–11 (NIV84) <sup>5</sup> *For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge;* <sup>6</sup> *and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness;* <sup>7</sup> *and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love.* <sup>8</sup> *For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and*

unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup> But if anyone does not have them, he is nearsighted and blind, and has forgotten that he has been cleansed from his past sins. <sup>10</sup> Therefore, my brothers, be all the more eager to make your calling and election sure. For if you do these things, you will never fall, <sup>11</sup> and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

1. Peter gives us seven steps we should follow in diligently building our spiritual lives of faith.  
Faith—trusting God and remaining loyal to Him
  - a. goodness—moral excellence **INTEGRITY**  
Good works are not the root of salvation (cause) but rather the fruit of salvation (result).
  - b. knowledge—contrast knowledge and ignorance between spirit and flesh—**WISDOM**
  - c. self-control—empowered by the Spirit
  - d. perseverance—never quit, ever give up, never give in **TENACITY**
  - e. godliness—living as a child of God. CANNOT be fabricated from human, effort requires God
  - f. brotherly kindness—Phileo treating each other as dear family members
  - g. love—Agape a deep commitment to another person's good
2. This growth will positively impact your life substantially: a. prevent you from being ineffective and unproductive. b. you to see clearly. c. help you remember your blessings. d. keep you from falling. e. provide a rich welcome into God's Eternal Kingdom.

### 3. Knowing God intimately rests in divine revelation

2 Peter 1:12–21 (NIV84) <sup>12</sup> So I will always remind you of these things, even though you know them and are firmly established in the truth you now have. <sup>13</sup> I think it is right to refresh your memory as long as I live in the tent of this body, <sup>14</sup> because I know that I will soon put it aside, as our Lord Jesus Christ has made clear to me. <sup>15</sup> And I will make every effort to see that after my departure you will always be able to remember these things. <sup>16</sup> We did not follow cleverly invented stories when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. <sup>17</sup> For he received honor and glory from God the Father when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.” <sup>18</sup> We ourselves heard this voice that came from heaven when we were with him on the sacred mountain. <sup>19</sup> And we have the word of the prophets made more certain, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. <sup>20</sup> Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. <sup>21</sup> For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

1. We must persistently proclaim the truth of the gospel.
2. We must embrace our testimony.
3. We must value the Word of God as divine.