

# Second Peter

## 2 Pet. 1:1-4

2 Pet. 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:

2 Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,

3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that *pertain* unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.



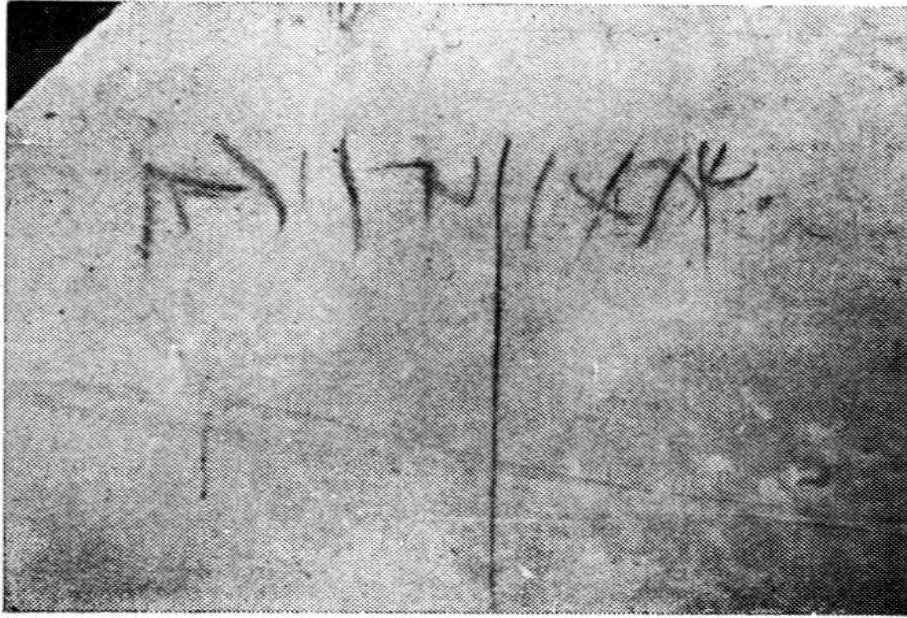
# HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

This epistle claims that the Apostle Peter wrote it (1:1). He did so around 66 A.D.

Peter's Tomb  
Recently Discovered In Jerusalem  
by F. PAUL PETERSON



## Gli Scavi del Dominus Flevit"



*Fot. 81.*

**Aramaic Inscription**

ܐܝܢܐ ܒܪ ܫܡܥܘܢ

**Hebrew from Strong's  
Concordance**

שִׁמְעוֹן בֶּר יוֹנָה

H3124 H1247 H8095

Jonah Bar Simon

(Hebrew reads right to left)

<http://www.aloha.net/~mikesch/peters-jerusalem-tomb.htm>



"Most scholars, in fact, date 2 Peter in the early part of the second century and consider it the last New Testament book to have been written. The author's claim to Petrine authorship, therefore, is part of the phenomenon of 'pseudonymity' in the ancient world, whereby the authority and tradition of a revered religious figure were attributed to a later work by an anonymous author."

Donald Senior, "The Letters of Jude and Second Peter," *The Bible Today* 25:4 (July 1987):212. See also Bauckham, pp. 134, 145-46, 158-62; and E. M. Sidebottom, *James, Jude, 2 Peter*, p. 100.

## **PURPOSE**

Peter wrote this epistle, as he did 1 Peter, to establish believers in their faith



# MESSAGE

Let us identify the major revelations of this letter:

- First, as recipients of God's grace, we have resources that create responsibilities.
- Peter emphasized two of our resources.
- Our first resource is the "power of God" (1:3). God's power grants us everything we need for godly living. Godly living becomes possible when we come to know God by saving faith. We grow in our knowledge of God as we get to know Him better through study of the Scriptures.



- We also do so as we respond to our increasing knowledge of Him properly, by abiding in (trusting and obeying) Him.
- One area of life that God's power transforms is *our spiritual vitality* or energy.
- Another area of life that God's power transforms is, more specifically, *our conduct*.
- The second resource that Peter emphasized that every Christian has is the "promises of God" (1:4).
- One area of life that God's promises transform is *our character*.



- Another area of life that God's promises transform is, more specifically, *our morality*.
- One of the promises that Peter emphasized, especially in this epistle, was the promise that Jesus Christ would return (3:4-16).

Next notice what Peter appealed to his readers to do in view of their resources. He called them to give diligence to do two things:

- First, we should *diligently appropriate* our resources (1:5-8).
- Second, we should *diligently avoid* our perils. We do this by remembering God's promises (1:9, 12-13; 3:1-2).



- First, God's resources do not free us from the responsibility to diligently cultivate godliness. They increase that responsibility.
- Second, we should cultivate habits that will help us remember our resources: God's power and promises.
- Third, God intended the promise of the Lord's return and the events that will follow to be important motivations for us. This is our hope.

## Introduction

### I. FAITH'S CONVICTIONS, 1:1-21

#### A. As to the Walk with God, 1:1-15

##### 1. The Secret of Commencing Well, 1:1-4



a. How to be saved, 1:1-3b

(1) The author, 1:1a-c

(a) His signature, 1:1a “Simon Peter...”

(b) His status, 1:b-c

i. His lowly status, 1:1b “...a servant...”

Luke 17:10 So likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, **We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do.**

ii. His lofty status, 1:1c

“...and an apostle of Jesus Christ...”



Rom. 1:1 Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called *to be* an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God,

Titus 1:1 Paul, a servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect, and the acknowledging of the truth which is after godliness;

(2) The audience, 1:1d-3b

(a) Christians and their beliefs, 1:1d "...to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:

(b) Christians and their blessings, 1:2

2 Pet. 1:2 Grace and peace be multiplied unto you **through the knowledge** of God, and of Jesus our Lord,



(c) Christians and their behavior, 1:3a-b

- i. Our great gift, 1:3a “3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things...”
- ii. Our great goal, 1:3b “...that *pertain* unto life and godliness...”

Phil. 4:13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Col. 2:9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.

10 And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:



2 Tim. 1:7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

b. How to be sure, 1:3c-4a

- (1) That wonderful person, 1:3c “...through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:”
- (2) Those wonderful promises, 1:4a “Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises...”

c. How to be sanctified, 1:4b-c

- (1) The great essential, 1:4b “...that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature...”



Jn. 14:17 *Even* the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; **for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.**

Jn. 16:7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: **for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.**

Gal. 5:16 *This* I say then, **Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.**

17 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

(2) The great escape, 1:4c "...having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust."



## Conclusion

Gal. 5:16 *This* I say then, **Walk in the Spirit**, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

17 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. ...

22 But **the fruit of the Spirit is** love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

24 And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

25 **If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.**

26 Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.