

# THE SECOND EPISTLE GENERAL OF PETER

## 2 Pet. 1:16-21

2 Pet. 1:16 For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.

17 For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

18 And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount.

19 We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake *as they were* moved by the Holy Ghost.

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

### 2. The Secret of Continuing Well, 1:5-9

- a. The path of diligence, 1:5-8
  - (1) Faithful addition, 1:5-7
  - (2) Fruitful abundance, 1:8

- b. The path of delusion, 1:9

- (1) The believer who has lost sight of his condition, 1:9a
  - (2) The believer who has lost sight of his conversion, 1:9b

### 3. The Secret of Concluding Well, 1:10-15

- a. Peter's exhortation, 1:10-12

- (1) The nature of his exhortation, 1:10-11

- (a) Be sure! 1:10a

- (b) But more! 1:10b-11

- i. You will not fall now, 1:10b

- ii. You will not fail then, 1:11

- (2) The need for his exhortation, 1:12
  - (a) Peter's responsibility, 1:12a
  - (b) Peter's realization, 1:12b
- b. Peter's example, 1:13-15
  - (1) His unfaltering determination, 1:13
  - (2) His unforgettable destiny, 1:14
  - (3) His unfailing diligence, 1:15

## B. As to the Word of God, 1:16-21

- 1. Its integrity, 1:16a “For we have not followed cunningly devised fables...”

Original Word: μῦθος

Transliteration: muthos

Definition: an idle tale, fable, fanciful story.

*mýthos* – a myth; a false account, yet posing to be the truth; a *fabrication* (fable) which subverts (replaces) what is actually true.

<http://biblehub.com/greek/3454.htm>

2 Pet. 3:3 Knowing this first, that **there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,**

2. Its instruction, 1:16b-18

a. The heavenly vision, 1:16b “...when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.”

2 Pet. 1:16 For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the **power and coming** of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.

Mt. 16:28 Verily I say unto you, There be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, **till they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom.**

b. The heraldic voice, 1:17-18

(1) Its testimony conveyed, 1:17

2 Pet. 2:17 For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

1 J. 5:1 Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him.

2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments.

3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

(2) Its testimony confirmed, 1:18

2 Pet. 2:18 And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount.

Mt. 17:5 While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.

Mark 9:7 And there was a cloud that overshadowed them: and a voice came out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son: hear him.

Luke 9:35 And there came a voice out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son: hear him.

3. Its incomparability, 1:19a “We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed...”

Original Word: βέβαιος

Transliteration: bebaios

Definition: firm, steadfast, enduring, sure, certain.

*bébaios* (an adjective, derived from *bainō*, "to walk where it is solid") – properly, solid (sure) enough to walk on; hence, *firm*, *unshakable*; (figuratively) *absolutely dependable*, giving *guaranteed support* (security, surety).

*bébaios* (literally, "what can be tread upon") then refers to what is fully dependable, i.e. worthy of confidence because on "*solid footing*." This describes what is fully *secure* (stable), and therefore can be trusted to give *full support*.

<http://biblehub.com/greek/949.htm>

Psa. 119:9 Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way?  
**by taking heed *thereto* according to thy word.**

4. Its illumination, 1:19b "...as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:"

Mt. 17:2 And was transfigured before them: and **his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light.**

Rev. 22:16 I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. **I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.**



Isa. 14:12

New International Version

How you have fallen from heaven, **morning star**, son of the dawn!  
You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the  
nations!

New American Standard Bible

"How you have fallen from heaven, O **star of the morning**, son of the  
dawn! You have been cut down to the earth, You who have  
weakened the nations!

Holman Christian Standard Bible

Shining **morning star**, how you have fallen from the heavens! You  
destroyer of nations, you have been cut down to the ground.

King James Bible

How art thou fallen from heaven, **O Lucifer**, son of the morning! *how*  
art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!

<http://biblehub.com/isaiah/14-12.htm>

## 5. Its inspiration, 1:20-21

2 Pet. 1:20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake *as they were* moved by the Holy Ghost.

Original Word: ἴδιος

Transliteration: idios

Definition: one's own, belonging to one, private, personal; one's own people, one's own family, home, property.

*ídios* (a primitive word, *NAS dictionary*) – properly, *uniquely one's own, peculiar to the individual*. *ídios* ("uniquely one's own") is "stronger than the simple possessive pronoun ('own'). This emphatic adjective means '*private, personal*' "

<http://biblehub.com/greek/2398.htm>

Original Word: ἐπίλυσις

Transliteration: epilusis

Phonetic Spelling: (ep-il'-oo-sis)

Definition: solution, explanation, interpretation; release.

*epílysis* (from *epí*, "on, fitting" and, "to loose") – properly, unloosing (unpacking) in an *apt* (*appropriate*) manner, i.e. that builds on sound hermeneutical principles (note the *epi*, "upon").

*epílysis* ("sound *interpretation*") only occurs in 2 Pet 1:20 and refers to "untying interpretation knots" to discern the *true meaning* of future Bible prophecy.

<http://biblehub.com/greek/1955.htm>

Gen 40:8 And they said unto him, We have dreamed a dream, and *there is* no interpreter of it. And Joseph said unto them, **Do not interpretations belong to God?** tell me *them*, I pray you.

Gen 41:16 And Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, *It is not in me: **God shall give*** Pharaoh an answer of peace.

Dan. 2:28 But **there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets**, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days. Thy dream, and the visions of thy head upon thy bed, are these;

2 Pet. 1:21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake *as they were moved* by the Holy Ghost.

Original Word: φέρω

Transliteration: pheró

Definition: **moved**, I carry, bear, bring; I conduct, lead; perhaps: I make publicly known.

<http://biblehub.com/greek/5342.htm>

Acts 27:15 And when the ship was caught, and could not bear up into the wind, we let *her* **drive**. ... 17 Which when they had taken up, they used helps, undergirding the ship; and, fearing lest they should fall into the quicksands, strake sail, and so **were driven**.

Jn. 3:8 The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

Jer. 23:16 Thus saith the LORD of hosts, Hearken not unto the words of the prophets that prophesy unto you: they make you vain: **they speak a vision of their own heart, and not out of the mouth of the LORD.**

17 They say still unto them that despise me, The LORD hath said, Ye shall have peace; and they say unto every one that walketh after the imagination of his own heart, No evil shall come upon you. ...

21 I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran: **I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied.**

22 But if they had stood in my counsel, and had caused my people to hear my words, then they should have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their doings. ...

25 I have heard what the prophets said, that **prophecy lies in my name**, saying, I have dreamed, I have dreamed.

26 How long shall *this* be in **the heart of the prophets that prophecy lies? yea, they are prophets of the deceit of their own heart;**

Ezek. 13:3 Thus saith the Lord GOD; **Woe unto the foolish prophets, that follow their own spirit, and have seen nothing!**

2 Pet. 3:3 Knowing this first, that **there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,**

### Westcott and Hort / [NA27 variants]

οὐ γὰρ θελήματι ἀνθρώπου ἠνέχθη προφητεία ποτέ, ἀλλὰ ὑπὸ πνεύματος ἁγίου φερόμενοι ἐλάλησαν ἀπὸ **θεοῦ ἄνθρωποι**.

### Scrivener's Textus Receptus 1894

οὐ γὰρ θελήματι ἀνθρώπου ἠνέχθη ποτέ προφητεία, ἀλλ' ὑπὸ Πνεύματος Ἁγίου φερόμενοι ἐλάλησαν **ἅγιοι Θεοῦ ἄνθρωποι**.

### Stephanus Textus Receptus 1550

οὐ γὰρ θελήματι ἀνθρώπου ἠνέχθη ποτέ προφητεία ἀλλ' ὑπὸ πνεύματος ἁγίου φερόμενοι ἐλάλησαν οἱ **ἅγιοι θεοῦ ἄνθρωποι**

[http://biblehub.com/text/2\\_peter/1-21.htm](http://biblehub.com/text/2_peter/1-21.htm)

## New International Version

For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but **prophets, though human**, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

## New American Standard Bible

for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, **but men** moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

## Holman Christian Standard Bible

because no prophecy ever came by the will of man; instead, **men** spoke from God as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.

## King James Bible

For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but **holy men of God** spake *as they were* moved by the Holy Ghost.

[http://biblehub.com/2\\_peter/1-21.htm](http://biblehub.com/2_peter/1-21.htm)



## Conclusion

Psa. 19:7 The law of the LORD *is* perfect, **converting the soul**:  
the testimony of the LORD *is* sure, **making wise the simple.**

8 The statutes of the LORD *are* right, **rejoicing the heart**: the  
commandment of the LORD is pure, **enlightening the eyes.**

9 The fear of the LORD *is* clean, **enduring for ever**: the  
judgments of the LORD *are* true *and* **righteous altogether.**

10 **More to be desired *are they* than gold, yea, than much  
fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.**

11 Moreover by them **is thy servant warned: *and* in keeping  
of them *there is* great reward.**

Psa. 119:140 **Thy word** *is* very pure: therefore **thy servant  
loveth it.**