The Second Epistle of Peter



Morning Devotions

Select a passage in God's Word. Talk with the Lord as you read the passage, then go back and find one or two verses which the Lord has impressed on your heart and meditate on them.

Morning Study

This morning we continue reading Peter's second epistle, this time putting his letter through a fine tooth comb. His letter can be divided into three main sections, corresponding with the three chapter divisions of the book.

- **Chapter 1** Foundations
- **Chapter 2** Danger
- **Chapter 3** Hope

Let's take a closer look at **chapter 1**, which can be divided into three subsections:

Read 2 Peter 1:1-4

- **○** What did Peter consider precious? (1:1) (note how this relates to 1 Peter 1:7).
- **⇒** What did Peter wish his readers would have in abundance (1:2).
- **○** What does that abundance come through? (1:2) (note how this relates to 1:3).
- **○** What has given us everything we need for life and godliness? (1:3).
- \bigcirc How did God call us? (1:3).
- → Through his "great and precious promises" God has called us to do what two things? (1:4).

Read 2 Peter 1:5-11

- ⇒ For what reason should we make every effort to add to our faith goodness, etc? (1:4-5).
- ⇒ How will these qualities "keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ"? (1:8).
- **⊃** You "will never fall" if you do *what* things? (1:5-10).

Read 2 Peter 1:12-21

- **○** Why did Peter want to remind his readers "of these things"? (1:12-15).
- ⇒ What was Peter an eyewitness of and what example does he give? (1:16-18)
- **○** Where did prophecy have its origin? (1:19-21).

Memory Verse

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.

2 Peter 1:4

Here are a few suggestions that may help you to memorize your memory verse:

- Ask the Lord to help you remember his Word (see **John 14:26**).
- Use the version of the Bible you are most familiar with. What you normally read in your Bible is what you need to be memorizing.
- Don't just memorize the contents of the verse; memorize its "address" (the verse reference) as well. You can do this by following this pattern: Step 1: reference; Step 2: verse content; Step 3: reference. Then repeat steps 1-3. Note that you are quoting the reference twice as many times as you quote the actual verse content. This gives the verse a clear "reference tag."
- ◆ After you have read your memory verse out aloud several times, try going through your memory verse without reading your computer screen.
- Look up your memory verse in your Bible. Look at its immediate context and read the verses that come before and after your memory verse.
- Print out your memory verse or jot it down on a piece of paper. Take this paper with you when you go to work or do other daily activities. Meditate on the meaning of the verse throughout the day.
- During your noon appointment with the Lord, take out your memory verse and go over it again. Talk to the Lord about what this verse means to you personally.
- In the evening (at either your evening study or your evening devotions), see if you can quote your memory verse from memory. Then, without looking at the memory verse itself, see if you can find it in your Bible.
- The next day, before you begin committing a new verse to memory, rehearse your previous day's memory verse and see if you can remember it (without cheating!).
- ➡ Finally, at the end of the week (possibly on the Sunday), collect all your week's memory verses, rehearse them and see if you can recall them without reading them. Spend a little extra time on any verses you have difficulty recalling.
- Remember: Don't just memorize a verse. Put it into practice (James 1:22). It is not being able to quote a verse from memory that counts. It is His Word *abiding* in your heart that counts (John 15:7). When you actually apply a verse consistently to your daily life, that is when you *truly* know that verse!