

The Second Epistle of Peter

8

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 read Peter's second epistle right through once again. As we've already seen, this letter can be divided into three main sections, corresponding with the three chapter divisions:

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

The key word in Peter's second epistle is the word "knowledge." Note the following verses:

- **1:2** – Grace and peace come in abundance through our knowledge of God.
- **1:3** – We have received everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of God.
- **1:8** – We are to become productive in our knowledge of God.
- **2:20** – We escape the corruption in the world through our knowledge of God.
- **3:18** – We are to grow in the knowledge of God.

2 Peter 1:4 is a defining verse. The fact that his readers have been called to participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world sets the pace for the whole letter. In **chapter 1, 1:4** describes how Peter expects his readers to live. In **chapter 2, 1:4** shows the heretics up for what they really are – those who have become ensnared again in the corruption of this world. And in **chapter 3, 1:4** prescribes the hope for which Peter's readers are longing – the promised end of the corruption of this world and the beginning of the full participation in God's eternal glory.

With this in mind, let's pull up a comfortable chair and read through the entire book of **2 Peter** one more time.

Memory Verse

But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness. So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him.

2 Peter 3:13-14

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!