2 Peter

Introduction of 2 Peter & Greeting the Faithful (2 Peter 1:1-4)

Part 1: Introduction of 2 Peter

Where is 2 Peter in the Bible?
What is 2 Peter about?
Who was Peter?
Where was Peter? Who did he write to?
When was 2 Peter written?

- Becomes a disciple of Jesus (A.D. 28/30)
- Preaches at Pentecost . . . (30/33)
- Becomes key church leader (30/33)
- Imprisoned . . . rescued (41-44*)
- Leaves Jerusalem (44)
- Goes to Rome (50-54*)
- Nero’s reign (54-68)
- Writes first letter . . . (62-63*)
- Fire in Rome; Nero blames, kills many Christians (64 [July 19])
- After writing second letter, is martyred . . . (64-67*)

What about 2 Peter’s canonicity?

Part 2: Greeting the Faithful (2 Peter 1:1-4)

Read: Greeting the Faithful (1:1-4)

1 Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ,

To those who have obtained like precious faith with us by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ:

2 Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, 3 as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, 4 by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

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1 ESV Study Bible (Wheaton, Illinois: Crossway, 2016), 2,416
Explain: Greeting to the Called & Contend for the Faith (1:1-4)

Are there any literary/structural observations?

What are the most repeated words in 2 Peter?

Their/them/themselves/they (42), you/your (28), he/his/him (22), our/us/we (21), ______ (21), Lord (15), I/my (11), day (9), Jesus (9), ______/knowing/known/knows (9), Christ (8), God (7), knowledge (7), righteous/righteousness (7), beloved (6), destruction/destructive (6), holy (6), own (6)

What are the most repeated words in this text?

Us/our (6), Jesus (3), Christ (2), divine (2), given (2), God (2), him/his (2), __________ (2), precious (2), you (2)

What do the words mean?

1 Simon [“harkening;” Simeon, Simon] Peter [a (piece of) rock; as a name, Petrus, an apostle: Peter, rock], a bondservant [doulos; a slave (literal or figurative, involuntary or voluntary; frequently, therefore in a qualified sense of subjection or subserviency): bond(-man), servant] and apostle [a delegate; specially, an ambassador of the Gospel; officially a commissioner of Christ (“apostle”) (with miraculous powers): apostle, messenger, he that is sent] of Jesus [“Jehovah is salvation”] Christ [“anointed”].

To those who have obtained [second aorist active participle; to lot, i.e., determine (by implication, receive) especially by lot: his lot be, cast ______, obtain] like precious [of ______ value or honor: like precious] faith [pistis; persuasion, i.e., credence; moral conviction (of religious truth, or the truthfulness of God or a religious teacher), especially reliance upon Christ for salvation; abstractly, constancy in such profession; by extension, the system of religious (Gospel) truth itself: assurance, belief, believe, faith, fidelity] with us by the righteousness [equity (of character or act); specially (Christian) justification: righteousness] of our God [theos] and Savior [soter; a deliverer, i.e., God or Christ: savior] Jesus Christ: [The one definite art. governing the two nouns . . . indicates that they are the same person, thus stressing the deity of Jesus2]

2 Grace [charis; graciousness (as gratifying), of manner or act (abstract or concrete; literal, figurative or spiritual; especially the divine influence upon the heart, and its reflection in the life; including gratitude): acceptable, benefit, favor, gift, grace(ious), joy, liberality, pleasure, thank(-s, -worthy)] and peace [peace (literally or figuratively); by implication, prosperity: one, peace, quietness, rest, set at one again] be multiplied [aorist passive optative; to increase (transitively or intransitively): abound, multiply] to you in the knowledge [epignosis; recognition, i.e., (by implication) ______ discernment, acknowledgement: (ac-)knowledge(-ing, -ment)] of God and of Jesus our Lord [kyrios; supreme in authority, i.e., (as noun) controller; by implication, Master (as a respectful title): God, Lord, master, Sir], 3 as His divine [theios; godlike (neuter as noun, divinity): divine, godhead] power [dynamis; force (literally or figuratively); specially, miraculous power (usually by implication, a miracle itself): ability, abundance, meaning, might(-ily, -y, -y deed), (worker of) miracle(-s), power, strength, violence, mighty (wonderful) ______] has given [perfect passive participle; to bestow gratuitously: give] to us all things that pertain to life [zoe; life (literally or figuratively): life(-time)] and godliness [piety; specially, the gospel scheme: godliness, holiness; used in 1:3, 6, 7; 3:11], through the knowledge [epignosis] of Him who called [aorist active participle; to “call” (properly, aloud, but used in a variety of applications, directly or otherwise): bid, call (forth), (whose, whose sur- name (was (called))) us by glory [doxa; glory (as very apparent), in a wide application (literal or figurative, objective or subjective): dignity, glory(-ious), honor, praise, worship] and virtue [properly, manliness (valor), i.e., excellence (intrinsic or attributed): praise, virtue], 4 by which have been given [perfect passive (Robertson: middle) indicative; to bestow gratuitously: give] to us exceedingly great [____istos; greatest or very great: exceeding great] and precious [valuable, i.e., (objectively) costly, or (subjectively) honored, esteemed, or (figuratively) beloved: dear, honorable, (more, most) precious, had in reputation] promises [a self-committal (by assurance of conferring some good): promise], that through these you may be [second aorist middle deponent subjunctive; to cause to be (“gen”-erate)] partakers [koinonos; a__________, i.e., associate: companion, partaker, partner] of the divine [theios] nature [physis; growth (by germination or expansion), i.e., (by implication) natural production (lineal descent); by extension, a genus or sort; figuratively, native disposition, constitution or usage: (man-)kind, nature(-al)], having escaped [second aorist active participle; to escape: escape] the corruption [decay, i.e., ruin (spontaneous or inflicted, literally or figuratively): corruption, destroy, perish] that is in the world [kosmos; orderly arrangement, i.e., decoration; by implication, the world (in a wide or narrow sense, including its inhabitants, literally or figuratively (morally)): adorning, world] through lust [a longing (especially for what is forbidden): concupiscence, desire, lust (after)].
Apply (What is the point?)

1. All believers are on equal ________ footing
2. Jesus is God
3. We have _____ we need
4. God protects His own

Personalize (What do we do with that?)

1. Rejoice that we are not second-class children
2. __________ that Jesus is God
3. Trust Him
4. __________

Next week: Fruitful Growth in the Faith (1:5-11)

5 But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, 6 to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, 7 to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. 8 For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins.

10 Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; 11 for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Homework

1. Ask the Holy Spirit for help
2. Read next week's text (multiple times in multiple ways) (2 Peter 1:5-11)
3. Talk to someone about the text (fb.com/OurSundaySchool or in person)
4. Share (fb.com/OurSundaySchool) insights and questions by Thursday
5. Invite a member or non-member

Extra Credit

Watch: The Bible Project video on 2 Peter (youtube.com/watch?v=wWLv_lTyKyc)

Resources