

THE SECOND EPISTLE OF PETER
INTRODUCTION, BACKGROUND, AND CONTEXT (1 Peter 1:1-2)

BIBLE STUDY RESOURCES

- Holy Bible
- 2 Peter Teaching Schedule
- Participant Questionnaire/Worksheet
- Outline of the Epistle of 2 Peter

TOPICS

Author, Audience/Addressees, Date Written and Setting, Occasion/Purpose for Writing, Message and Main Themes: Diligence, False Teachers, Christ's Return

OPEN IT QUESTIONS

A. Who did you rely on to teach you new life skills, or important new information?

B. What can Christians do to avoid being misled concerning how we should live and persevere in our faith until Christ's return?

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT (1 Peter 1:1-2)

1. Author: Who wrote the Epistle of Second Peter? (1:1)
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*¹Simon 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. **Audience/Addressees:** To whom was the Epistle of Second Peter written? (1:1) [Also See the Map]

*¹Simon 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:*

Christians scattered throughout Asia Minor.



3. **Date of Writing and Setting:** Approximately when and where was the Epistle of Second Peter written?
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As was mentioned in the Introduction to 1 Peter, the traditional view is that Peter was executed by crucifixion in Rome by Nero in A.D. 67. Thus this letter would have been written just before his death.

4. **Occasion/Purpose for Writing:** What was the occasion or purpose for writing the Epistle of Second Peter?

Peter knew that he was about to die at the order of Nero and at the hands of a Roman executioner (1:13-15), so he wrote to remind believers to be strong in their faith after his departure (1:3-11, 19-21; 3:1-7).

Peter also had heard of “false teachers” who were twisting the truth, teaching for their own financial gain, and leading believers astray. Evidently, these teachers were elevating themselves and their own ideas and interpretations (“clever lies” 2:3) above Christ (2:1). So Peter wrote to warn believers of these greedy men, exposing their heresies and predicting their punishment (2:1-22).

Peter concludes this brief letter by reminding his readers of the sure second coming of their Lord and urging them, in light of Christ’s return, to guard their faith and to be ready (3:3-18).

Main Message

5. What is the main message in the Epistle of Second Peter?

Peter concludes his brief letter by explaining why he has written it (3:1-18): to remind them of the words of the prophets and apostles that predicted the coming of false teachers, to give the reasons for the delay in Christ’s return (3:1-13), and to encourage them to beware of heresies and to grow in their faith (3:14-18).

Main Themes

6. What are the main themes in the Second Epistle of Peter?

The main themes in the book of 2 Peter include: **Diligence, False Teachers, and Christ's Return.**

7. What is the importance of **Diligence** for today?

How is your spiritual maturity?

Are you growing in your faith?

8. What is the importance of being aware of **False Teachers** for today?

How well grounded are you in the basic doctrines of the Christian faith?

How well do you know your Bible?

9. What is the importance of being knowledgeable about **Christ's Return** for today?

What should you do to be ready for Christ's return?

What can you say to those who don't believe in the Second Coming because it hasn't happened yet?

Commentary Sources: 1. Adult Questions for LESSONmaker (via LOGOS).
2. Life Application New Testament Commentary.

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church of Southfield, Michigan



Facilitators

Rev. Valerie Crump
Dean Donna Wilson
Supt. Robbin Cooper
Kendall Taylor
Jacqueline Bray
Vineta Mitchell

Welcome to Bible Study!

**2 Peter 1:1-2
Introduction,
Background, and
Context**

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth (2 Timothy 2:15 KJV)

Bible Study



Agenda

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church of Southfield, Michigan

- Welcome
- Facilitator Intros
- Prayer
- Topics
- Reflection Q's
- Lesson Intro
- Background/Context Q's
- Life Application
- News & Events
- Prayer

Bible Study



Resources

www.newhope-mbc.org

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church of Southfield, Michigan

- Holy Bible
- 2 Peter Teaching Schedule
- Participant Questionnaire/Worksheet
- Map of Scattered 1st Century Churches
- Outline of the Epistle of 2 Peter

Bible Study



Topics

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church of Southfield, Michigan

- Author
- Audience/Addressees
- Date Written/Setting
- Occasion/Purpose for Writing
- Main Message

Major Themes

- Diligence
- False Teachers
- Christ's Return

Bible Study



New Hope Missionary Baptist Church
of Southfield, Michigan

Reflection Q's

- A. Who did you rely on to teach you new life skills, or important new information?

Bible Study



New Hope Missionary Baptist Church
of Southfield, Michigan

Reflection Q's



Bible Study



Reflection Q's

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church
of Southfield, Michigan

- B. What can Christians do to avoid being misled concerning how we should live and persevere in our faith until Christ's return?

Bible Study



Introduction, Background, and Context 2 Peter 1:1-2

We have benefited greatly from wise and trustworthy teachers.

False teachers are dangerous, misuse their privileged position, betray trust, prey on the unsuspecting, and lead many astray.

Lesson Intro

Bible Study



Introduction, Background, and Context 2 Peter 1:1-2

Lesson Intro

Knowing this powerful influence of teachers, the apostles and other church leaders continually warned against those who would twist the truth and lead believers astray. That was the purpose of 2 Peter. Written to strengthen the church to resist the internal challenge to their faith, this brief letter warns of false teachers who deny Christ and scoffers who mock his return. Believers are to beware and to keep their focus on Christ.

Bible Study



Introduction, Background, and Context 2 Peter 1:1-2

Lesson Intro

Our world is filled with cult leaders, religious scams, and others who would lead people astray. Estimates of the number of cults worldwide run as high as ten thousand. Some of these cults and many false teachers have infiltrated the church. Read 2 Peter and determine to grow in your faith and to reject every type of false teaching.

Bible Study



Background & Context Q's

Introduction, Background, and Context

2 Peter 1:1-2

1. **Who wrote the Epistle of Second Peter? (1:1)**

This letter is from Simon Peter, a slave and apostle of Jesus Christ. I am writing to you who share the same precious faith we have. This faith was given to you because of the justice and fairness of Jesus Christ, our God and Savior.

Bible Study



Background & Context Q's

Introduction, Background, and Context 2 Peter 1:1-2

2. To whom was the Epistle of Second Peter written? (1:1)

This letter is from Simon Peter, a slave and apostle of Jesus Christ. I am writing to you who share the same precious faith we have. This faith was given to you because of the justice and fairness of Jesus Christ, our God and Savior.

Bible Study



Introduction, Background, and Context 2 Peter 1:1-2

Background & Context Q's



Bible Study



Background & Context Q's

Introduction, Background, and Context 2 Peter 1:1-2

3. Approximately when and where was the Epistle of Second Peter written?

As was mentioned in the Introduction to 1 Peter, the traditional view is that Peter was executed by crucifixion in Rome by Nero in A.D. 67. Thus, this letter would have been written just before his death.

Bible Study



Background & Context Q's

Introduction, Background, and Context 2 Peter 1:1-2

4. What was the occasion or purpose for writing the Epistle of Second Peter?

To warn Christians about false teachers and to urge them to grow in their faith and in their knowledge of Christ.

Bible Study



Background & Context Q's

Introduction, Background, and Context 2 Peter 1:1-2

Peter knew that he was about to die at the order of Nero and at the hands of a Roman executioner (1:13-15), so he wrote to remind believers to be strong in their faith after his departure (1:3-11, 19-21; 3:1-7).

Bible Study



Background & Context Q's

Introduction, Background, and Context 2 Peter 1:1-2

Peter also had heard of “false teachers” who were twisting the truth, teaching for their own financial gain, and leading believers astray. Evidently, these teachers were elevating themselves and their own ideas and interpretations (“clever lies” 2:3) above Christ (2:1). So Peter wrote to warn believers of these greedy men, exposing their heresies and predicting their punishment (2:1-22). Jude also warns of this heresy.

Bible Study



Background & Context Q's

Introduction, Background, and Context 2 Peter 1:1-2

5. What is the main message in the Epistle of Second Peter?

The main message to Peter's addressees was to remind them of the words of the prophets and apostles that predicted the coming of false teachers, to give the reasons for the delay in Christ's return (3:1-13), and to encourage them to beware of heresies and to grow in their faith (3:14-18).

Bible Study



Background & Context Q's

Introduction, Background, and Context 2 Peter 1:1-2

6. **What are the main themes in the Second Epistle of Peter?**
 - Diligence
 - False Teachers
 - Christ's Return

Bible Study



Introduction, Background, and Context 2 Peter 1:1-2

Diligence

What is *diligence*?

Background & Context Q's

steady, earnest, and energetic effort:
devoted and painstaking work and
application to accomplish an under-
taking (Merriam-Webster)

Bible Study



Background & Context Q's

Introduction, Background, and Context

2 Peter 1:1-2

Diligence

(1:5-11, 19-21; 3:14-18). With his last words to the faithful followers of Christ, Peter urges them to continue to grow in their goodness, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, kindness, and love (1:5-7). Real faith is demonstrated by faithful behavior. Peter knew that believers who are diligent in Christian growth won't backslide or be deceived by false teachers.

Bible Study



Background & Context Q's

Introduction, Background, and Context 2 Peter 1:1-2

7. **What is the importance of *Diligence* for today?**

Just as babies and children need to grow and mature physically and mentally, so too Christians need to grow spiritually.

Bible Study



Background & Context Q's

Introduction, Background, and Context 2 Peter 1:1-2

How does that happen?

Our growth began, by faith, at our spiritual birth. The spiritual maturation process continues by faith and culminates in love for others. To keep growing, we need to know God, stay close to Him, and **remember** what we have learned from Him. And we must **faithfully obey** Him. How's your spiritual maturity? Are you growing in your faith?

Bible Study



Introduction, Background, and Context 2 Peter 1:1-2

- How is your spiritual maturity?
- Are you growing in your faith?

Background & Context Q's

Bible Study



Background & Context Q's

Introduction, Background, and Context

2 Peter 1:1-2

False Teachers (heterodox)

1. Not in **agreement** with accepted beliefs, especially in church doctrine (teaching) or dogma.
2. Holding unorthodox opinions.

Bible Study



Background & Context Q's

Introduction, Background, and Context

2 Peter 1:1-2

False Teachers (heterodox)

(2:1-22; 3:3-5, 17). Peter warned believers to beware of false teachers. These men were proud of their position, promoted sexual sin, and advised against keeping the Ten Commandments. Peter countered these teachers by exposing their lies (2:1-3, 10-11, 14, 18-19; 3:3, 16), predicting their eventual punishment (2:1, 3-10, 12-22; 3:16), and emphasizing the Spirit-inspired Scriptures as the ultimate authority (1:16-21; 3:2, 15-16).

Bible Study



Background & Context Q's

Introduction, Background, and Context 2 Peter 1:1-2

8. **What is the importance of being aware of False Teachers for today?**

Today, false teachers wrench **Bible verses out of context**, entice believers down doctrinal tangents, **build large followings for their own power and profit**, and **exploit the gullible and weak**.

Bible Study



Background & Context Q's

Introduction, Background, and Context

2 Peter 1:1-2

[Saint Petersburg, FL](#)

A drag queen dressed as a demon gives a sermon to children in a United Methodist Church

Margaret Minnicks 2 days ago

Bible Study



Background & Context Q's

Introduction, Background, and Context 2 Peter 1:1-2

Christians need discernment in order to discover false teachers and courage to resist and refute their lies. God will give us what we need if we read, study, and apply his Word, the Bible.

Bible Study



Background & Context Q's

Introduction, Background, and Context 2 Peter 1:1-2

- To reject error, we need to know the truth.
- How well grounded are you in the basic doctrines of the Christian faith?
- How well do you know your Bible?

Bible Study



Background & Context Q's

Introduction, Background, and Context

2 Peter 1:1-2

Christ's Return

[\(3:3-14\)](#). The day of the Lord will come. That's when Christ suddenly will return, to rescue his own from this evil world, to punish the ungodly—those who refuse to believe in Christ—and to create a new heaven and earth where believers will live forever. “Scoffers” mock the second coming of Christ ([3:3-4](#)), but God's people know that it is sure. No one knows when Christ will return; but when it happens, everyone will know. Christians take hope in this promise.

Bible Study



Introduction, Background, and Context 2 Peter 1:1-2

9. What is the importance of being knowledgeable about Christ's Return for today?

The cure for complacency, lawlessness, and heresy is found in the confident assurance that Christ will return. He has not come yet because God is still giving unbelievers time to repent of their sins and to turn to him.

Background & Context Q's

Bible Study



Background & Context Q's

Introduction, Background, and Context 2 Peter 1:1-2

To be ready for Christ's return, Christians must stay strong in their faith, trusting God and resisting the pressures and temptations of the world.

Bible Study



Background & Context Q's

Introduction, Background, and Context 2 Peter 1:1-2

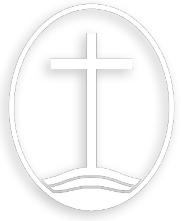
- What should you do to be ready for Christ's return?
- What can you say to those who don't believe in the Second Coming because it hasn't happened yet?



**New Hope
Missionary
Baptist Church
Southfield,
Michigan**

**NEWS
AND
EVENTS**





**ANNOUNCING PASTORAL CANDIDATE
SECOND VISIT**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2022 @ 11:00AM

Dr. T. Lamont Holder

Preaching

**Meet and Greet Reception in the
Dotson Fellowship Hall**

Immediately following Worship Service

NEW HOPE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF SOUTHFIELD, MICHIGAN

NEXT WEEK'S LESSON

**1 Peter 1:3-11
“Making One’s Calling
and Election Sure”**

Wednesday, October 26, 2022

@12:00 Noon In-Person

**@7:00pm Evening Virtual
via Zoom**

2 PETER OUTLINE

1. Guidance for growing Christians ([1:1-21](#))
2. Danger to growing Christians ([2:1-22](#))
3. Hope for growing Christians ([3:1-18](#))

Life Application Study Bible