

## **2 Peter**

### **Lesson #2, Chapter 1 Overview**

The goal of this lesson is to teach you how to look at and begin to study a text of Scripture. Observation is a necessary part of Bible study, but can often be overlooked or rushed through. Observation begins with reading through the chapter and then reading and rereading it again and again! At this stage in our Bible study you're noticing and then recording what God has put into the chapter. You're not making any interpretations about what it means or how it applies to your life—that will come later. Don't rush through this lesson. Set aside time this week to peer into the living and abiding word of God. You'll be glad you did!

I've included Chapter 1 at the end of this lesson so you can print it out and mark it up if you'd like. I find it helps me see items more easily if I'm marking and noting things as I go.

1. To begin, read through Chapter 1. Now, summarize the contents of Chapter 1. This is not the time to be super detailed; instead, think of trying to tell a 4<sup>th</sup> grader the contents of the chapter.
  - a. Summarize paragraph 1 (verses 1-11).
  - b. Summarize paragraph 2 (verses 12-15).
  - c. Summarize paragraph 3 (verses 16-21).
2. After reviewing the chapter and what you wrote for your paragraph summaries, ask yourself: What is the main point of this chapter? How do all these details and events reveal the main idea of the chapter? Now record your answer.

3. Next, look for a verse in the chapter that *best* summarizes the contents of the chapter. You might be tempted to choose your favorite verse here, but please don't do that. Instead, consider which verse best sums up what's in the chapter. Write down the verse you chose here.
  
4. Now you're ready to title your chapter. Your 3-5 word title should reflect the contents of the chapter. Remember, a title's purpose is to help you remember what is in each chapter.
  
5. List the things *God* did in this chapter. Be sure to list the verse reference with your answers.
  
6. List what you learn about *Jesus Christ* in this chapter. Be sure to list the verse reference to support your answer.
  
7. What do you learn about *God's promises* in verses 2-11? Be sure to include the verse reference that supports your observations.
  
8. What do you learn about the *Scriptures* in this chapter? Be sure to include the verse references with your answer.
  
9. Compare what you learn from verses 8-9 about the "qualities" discussed.

There's more observations to be found to this chapter than what I've asked you here. If you're eager for more, try looking for and noting:

- *References to time*
- *Repeated words*
- *Transition words like "for," "therefore," "so," "finally."*
- *Commands*
- *Comparisons*
- *Contrasts*
- *Lists of words, phrases or related thoughts*

10. Write down at least one thing you thought was interesting from this chapter.

## **2 Peter Chapter 1**

1 Simon Peter, a bond-servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have received a faith of the same kind as ours, 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 seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.

4 For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust.

5 Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in your moral excellence, knowledge,

6 and in your knowledge, self-control, and in your self-control, perseverance, and in your perseverance, godliness,

7 and in your godliness, brotherly kindness, and in your brotherly kindness, love.

8 For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9 For he who lacks these qualities is blind or short-sighted, having forgotten his purification from his former sins.

10 Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble;

11 for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied to you.

**12** Therefore, I will always be ready to remind you of these things, even though you already know them, and have been established in the truth which is present with you.

13 I consider it right, as long as I am in this earthly dwelling, to stir you up by way of reminder,

14 knowing that the laying aside of my earthly dwelling is imminent, as also our Lord Jesus Christ has made clear to me.

15 And I will also be diligent that at any time after my departure you will be able to call these things to mind.

**16** For we did not follow cleverly devised tales when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of His majesty.

17 For when He received honor and glory from God the Father, such an utterance as this was made to Him by the Majestic Glory, “This is My beloved Son with whom I am well-pleased”—

18 and we ourselves heard this utterance made from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain.

19 So we have the prophetic word made more sure, to which you do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts.

20 But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation,

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