

## 2 Peter

### Lesson #3, Chapter 1:1-11

Read through Chapter 1 before beginning this lesson. Beseech the Lord for His help and insight before you dive into the lesson.

1. Peter identifies himself as both a *bond-servant* and *apostle* of Jesus Christ in verse 1. Look up Ex. 21:1-6; Matt. 8:9; Mk. 10:44; and Luke 17:10 to define *bond-servant*. Now turn to Rom. 1:1 and Titus 1:1 to see how Paul describes an *apostle*. Record your findings.
2. What do you learn about those Peter is writing to in verse 1? Now look at 3:1. What do you learn? Compare and contrast Peter's description of his readers in 2 Pet. 1:1 with 1 Pet. 1:1-2.
3. What blessings does Peter desire to be abundantly given to his readers according to verse 2? Where do those blessings come from (verse 2)?
4. What has His divine power granted to us (verse 3)? What means does He use to grant those things to us according to verse 3?
5. Review verses 2 and 3. What things are given to us through a true knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord? How do you gain a true knowledge of God and of Christ? See Prov. 2:1-5; Matt. 7:20-23; Jn. 17:3; 1 Cor. 1:21; Gal. 4:8-9; 1 Jn. 2:1-6.

6. What does that little word *everything* in verse 3 imply, especially when applied to your life? All of us have areas in our lives that don't reflect the truths found in verse 3. What do you think would change in your life if you began to live with a real understanding that God's divine power was aiding you to live for Christ in every area?
  
7. How were we called (verse 3)?
  
8. What things have been granted to us by God's glory and excellence (His goodness) according to verse 4? For what purpose (verse 5)?
  
9. What does it mean to become partakers of the divine nature? See Jn. 1:12-13; 2 Cor. 3:18; Eph. 4:23-24; Col. 3:10; 1 Jn. 3:2.
  
10. Define the *italicized* words from verses 5-7 in the chart below.

Because you have been given everything you need to live this life in godliness, been given the promises of God, and because you have escaped sin's power over you, then		
applying all <i>diligence</i> ,	in your faith <i>supply</i>	<i>moral excellence</i> ,

<i>knowledge,</i>	<i>self-control,</i>	<i>perseverance,</i>
<i>godliness,</i>	<i>brotherly kindness,</i>	<i>love.</i>

11. What observations can you make about the construction of the sentence in verses 5-7 *and* what Peter wants you to understand about the Christian life?
  
12. What further information does Peter give us about godliness in verse 8?
  
13. If those qualities are not yours, and they are not increasing in your life, what does that say about you according to verse 8? Now see Matt. 7:15-20; Jn. 15:1-8; and Rom. 7:4. What do those verses tell you about being fruitful?
  
14. Peter further explains what kind of person would be lacking the godly characteristics of verses 5-7. What do you learn about that person (verse 9)?

15. How would remembering that you have been cleansed from your sins be a remedy for spiritual short-sightedness?
  
16. Peter begins verse 10 with *therefore*. Explain what Peter's train of thought is from the previous verses as he moves into verse 10.
  
17. How can you tell if you are *called* and *chosen* by God according to verses 4-10? See also 2 Cor. 13:5.
  
18. Why won't you stumble if you *practice* these things? See Ps. 37:24; Jn. 10:28-29; Rom. 8:38-39; 1 Cor. 1:8; Phil. 1:6; 1 Pet. 1:5; 2 Pet. 1:3, 8.
  
19. If you are faithful to apply all diligence to your faith which was granted to you by God and to persevere in the Christian life, what will the end result be (verse 11)? See Jude 24 for an illustration of this truth.
  
20. Peter is not alone in telling us to be diligent in our walks. Look up the following verses about Christian growth. What do you learn? See 1 Cor. 15:10; Phil. 2:12-13; 1 Thess. 3:12; 4:1.

21. Peter urges us to continue to grow, to continue to persevere, to show fruit, and to be useful for the kingdom of God. These verses exhort us to examine our lives, to chop away at sin and strengthen weak areas, to excel still more. *Are you?* Are these qualities yours and are they increasing in your life?

May every heart confess Thy name,  
And ever Thee adore,  
And, seeking Thee, itself inflame  
To seek Thee more and more.  
~unknown hymn

Since first Thy word awaked my heart,  
like new life dawning o'er me,  
where e'er I turned mine eyes Thou art,  
all light and love before me,  
naught else I feel or hear or see,  
all bonds of earth I sever,  
Thee O God, and only Thee,  
I live for now and ever!

Like him whose fetters dropped away,  
when light shone o'er his prison,  
my spirit touched by mercy's rays,  
hath from her chains arisen,  
and shall a soul Thou bidst be free,  
return to bondage? Never!  
Thee O God, and only Thee,  
I live for now and ever!  
~Thomas Moore