

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a sunset or sunrise. The sky is filled with dark, heavy clouds, but a bright, golden light emanates from the horizon, creating a dramatic silhouette effect on the clouds and the trees in the distance. The light reflects on the surface of the water, which occupies the middle ground. In the foreground, the dark, vertical silhouettes of reeds or tall grasses are visible, partially obscuring the water. The overall mood is serene yet powerful, with a strong contrast between the dark silhouettes and the bright, glowing light of the sun.

Living Powerfully in the Family of God

2 Peter

Bert Allen

Published by Christ Assembly
ChristAssembly.org

www.ChristAssembly.org

Permissions

You are granted a limited, revocable license to distribute this material through all lawful means, provided that you do not alter the wording or format and do not charge for copies or seek to recover any costs of publication; you may not receive any donations related to this work. Notice of revocation may be posted at ChristAssembly.org/book-notices and be sufficient to revoke all licenses without further notice. You maintain the sole obligation to stop any dissemination after the notice is published. Furthermore, you may not derive any economic benefit from such publication or distribution. All rights reserved by Herbert L. Allen, Jr. Please post a link to ChristAssembly.org for all web publications.

All Scriptural quotations are from the New American Standard Bible, Giant Print Hardcover edition. Page numbers, if any, refer to that Giant Print, Hardcover Bible.

"Scripture quotations taken from the New American Standard Bible® (NASB), Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995, 2020 by The Lockman Foundation. Used by permission. www.Lockman.org"

Acknowledgment

My wife, Beverly Allen, has devoted herself to ChristAssembly.org. Most days her body gives her trouble, but she spends time helping ChristAssembly.org. She brings her doctoral training in biochemistry and molecular biology to her work and greatly improves the quality of ChristAssembly.org. She has spent many hours creating graphics, reviewing articles and books, and providing careful proof reading, even when she does not feel her best. Other friends from Korea have helped in proof reading books for ChristAssembly.org, with our thanks in Christ Jesus for their friendship and faithful labors.

Beverly and I have been married more than forty years and Jesus used her life to make my life so much better in so many ways. Her constant love and support changes my life daily. She also provides honest feedback and careful analysis. I love my wife and want everyone to know that she spends her time serving Jesus behind the scenes at ChristAssembly.org.



Table of Contents

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Divine Power Today**
- 3. Apply Diligence Today**
- 4. Established in Truth Today**
- 5. Eyewitnesses Today**
- 6. False Prophets Today**
- 7. Reserved for Judgment Today**
- 8. Warning about Mockers Today**
- 9. New Heavens and New Earth Today**
- 10. Spotless and Blameless Today**
- 11. Conclusion**

1

Introduction

Simon Peter described himself as a slave and apostle of Jesus Christ. He wrote to those people who had a faith of the same kind as ours, by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ.

Peter wrote as someone who knows his life is coming to an end by the will of God. He wrote about the future with a focus upon today. Peter stressed the importance of adding spiritual qualities to our lives, so that we are prepared to live fruitfully for Jesus Christ. Peter reminded his audience of the truth in which they had already been established.

Peter also wrote as an eyewitness of the Lord Jesus Christ. He assured his audience of the prophetic word made more sure. As a matter of first importance, Peter wanted everyone to know that prophecy was never a product of human will or human interpretation, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Peter then described the problems with false prophets introducing destructive heresies. He reminded his audience that God did not spare the angels nor the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. Likewise, God flooded the entire world in the days of Noah. Peter further described the false prophets as people who speak out arrogant words of vanity and entice people by fleshly desires and sensuality. They promise people things they know nothing about and have never experienced, freedom from sin.

As Peter closed the second epistle, he reaffirmed the truth spoken beforehand by the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior spoken by your apostles. He looked off to the future and described the Day of the Lord, but warned that mockers would come, claiming that God was slow about His promise and nothing had changed since the foundation of the world.

Peter described the Day of the Lord as a time of tremendous judgment upon the unGodly and the destruction and burning up of the heavens and the earth. Peter urged the Christians to hasten the coming of the Day of the Lord and to live today according to His promise, so that we

are looking for a new heavens and a new earth where righteousness dwells. In passing, Peter also affirmed that Paul wrote according to the wisdom God gave to him so that he produced Scripture of equal authority as the Old Testament. When people distort the Scriptures, they do so to their own destruction. Peter's final warning reminded the Christians to stay on guard against the error of unprincipled men. The Christians must grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

HALLELUJAH !

2

Divine

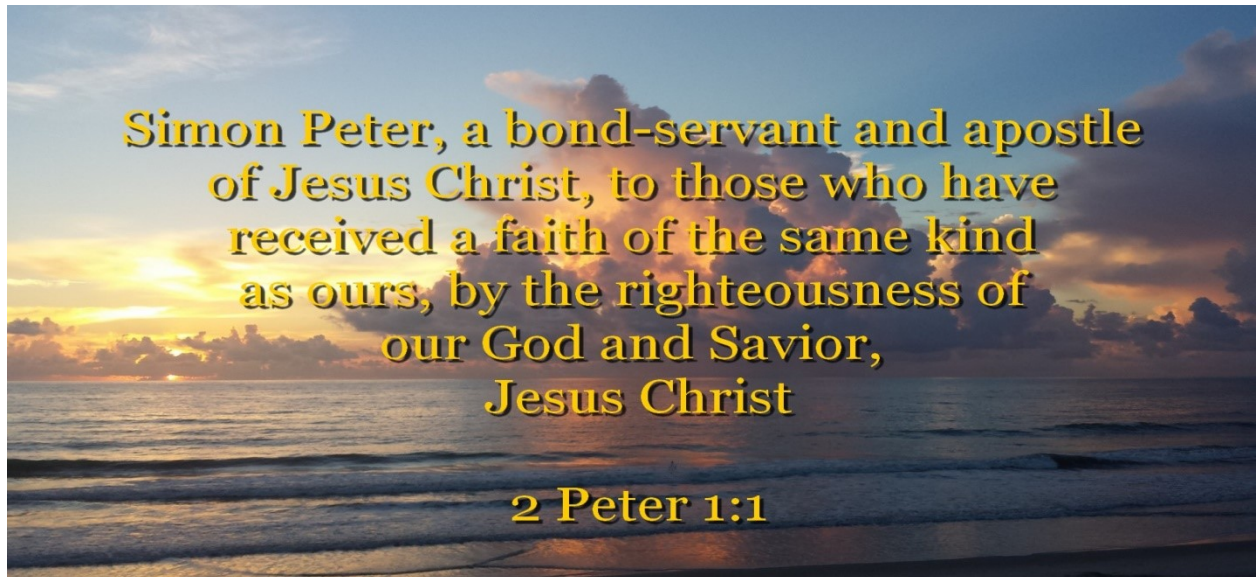
Power Today

Peter addressed the people who had received the faith of the same kind as ours. He declared that the divine power of our God and Savior, Jesus Christ, has granted us everything pertaining to life and Godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence. The Lord Jesus has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them we may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust.

HALLELUJAH !

Day One

Peter Today



To whom did Peter write? Peter wrote to a general audience, not a specific church.

Peter identified himself as a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ. Because he was writing to a general audience, he addressed general themes important to everyone in Christ. He wrote to those who received a faith that is the same kind as the apostles. He wrote about like precious faith, shared among believers. Peter explained believers received that faith from God. By the righteousness of our God and Savior, Jesus Christ, they received that faith common to all Christians.

Peter indicated that the righteousness of God was linked to our faith. God called us to be righteous and gave us faith according to His righteousness. In other words, by faith God makes us righteous and by His righteousness He gave us faith. Peter went into the depths of our salvation so that we could understand how righteousness played an important role in bringing us to God by faith. Peter served as a bondservant and apostle of

Jesus Christ by proclaiming the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ and many different places, but always like precious faith of Jews and Gentiles.

Righteousness

1. **Peter**. How did Peter identify himself? He identified himself as Simon Peter, a slave and apostle of Jesus Christ.

2. **Apostle**. Peter held the office of apostle, being handpicked by Jesus for that purpose.

3. **Faith**. Peter wrote to people who had the same kind of faith that the apostles held.

4. **Kind**. Peter use the word “like precious” to describe faith among the brethren and apostles.

5. **Righteousness**. We obtained our faith in the righteousness of God.

6. **God**. Living powerfully in the family of God means Jesus Christ was God in the flesh, with all the righteousness of God dwelling in Him.

7. **Savior**. We rejoice today because Jesus Christ remains both God and Savior.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by thanking God for the righteousness we obtain through Jesus Christ our God and Savior.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by praising God that we have like precious faith with other believers.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to remember the righteousness we have in our God and Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.**

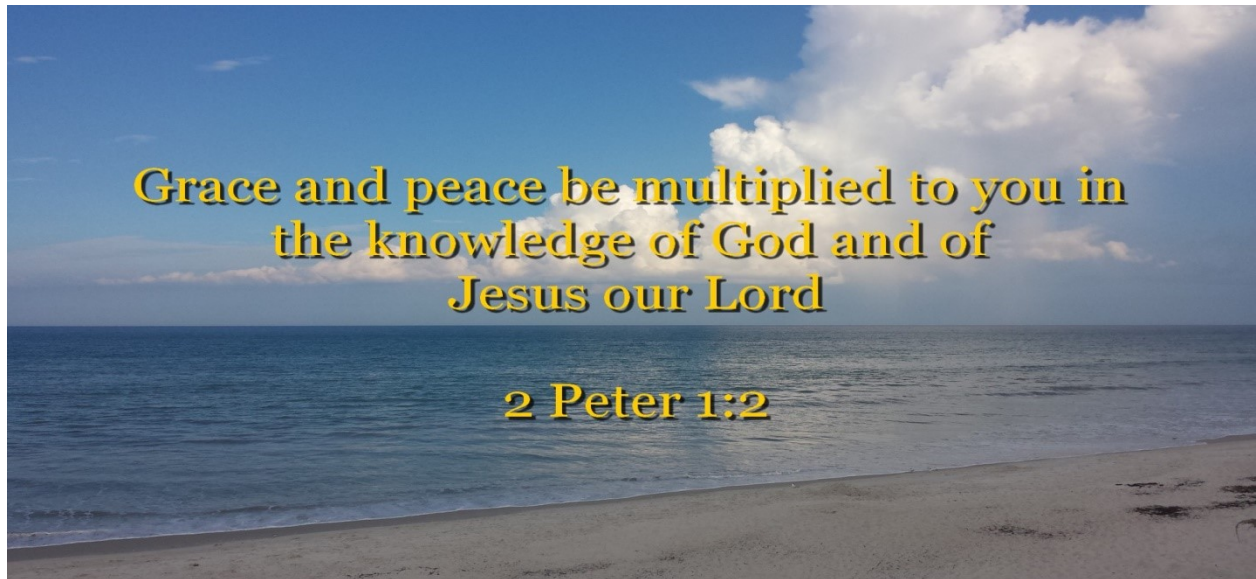
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by praising God for other believers with like precious faith. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by celebrating your like precious faith which brought you the righteousness of God through our Lord Jesus Christ?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two

Grace and Peace Today



What did Peter want multiplied to the saints? Peter wanted grace and peace multiplied to the saints.

In other words, Peter wanted God to help the saints of like precious faith enjoy His grace and peace. Grace brought peace into our lives through the Lord Jesus Christ, and He came into our lives by faith, a gift of God.

The grace of God refers to giving us things we did not earn or deserve. By the grace of God, we received faith from God for salvation. By the grace of God, we receive everything we need for life and Godliness. Grace continues to dominate our life in every aspect because God gives us things we do not deserve.

Having been justified by faith, we now have peace with God. Therefore, when Peter greeted the saints by bidding them peace, it was asking for God's activity to abound in their life. We have peace with God because He found us and called us to Himself through the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. Because Christ shed His precious blood, the wrath of God has been taken away from us once and for all.

Multiplied

1. **Grace**. What greeting did Peter give to the saints? Peter greeted the saints with the word grace, meaning that God gives us things we do not earn or deserve out of the kindness of His heart.
2. **Peace**. God also gives peace, unlike the world gives.
3. **Multiplied**. God wants that grace and peace that He gives to be multiplied to us.
4. **You**. Peter addressed his audience of people with like precious faith with the word you, indicating that he is writing to a wide audience in a personal way.
5. **Knowledge**. Peter tied grace and peace to the knowledge of God.
6. **God**. Living powerfully in the family of God means God multiplies peace and grace to us by expanding our knowledge of the word of God in the Scriptures.
7. **Jesus**. We rejoice today because today because Jesus is our Lord and brings grace and peace into our lives at the moment of salvation and then multiplies those things through the increasing knowledge of His word.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by God increasing grace and peace in our lives through the knowledge of His word.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by rejoicing in the grace and peace of Jesus Christ being multiplied in our lives as we learn more of His word through the Scriptures.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to learn more about Jesus through the Scriptures so that grace and peace are multiplied in our lives.**

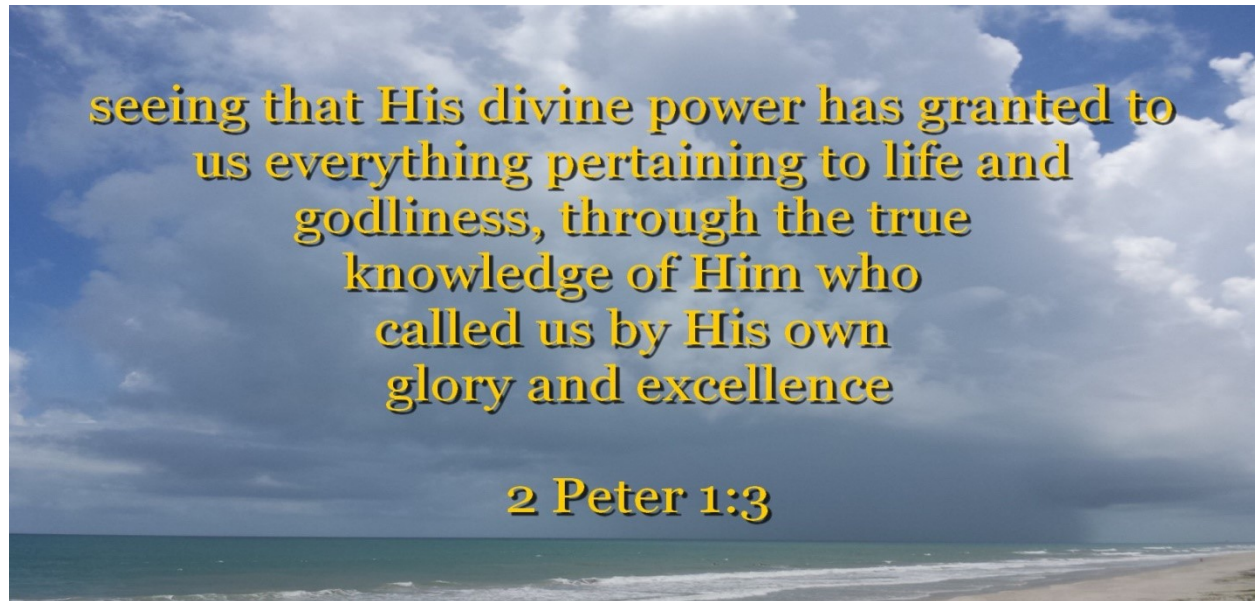
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by opening the Scriptures and learning more about God so that grace and peace are multiplied in our lives. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by opening your Bible today and learning more about God so that grace and peace will be multiplied in your life?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three

Divine Power Today



What do we see? We see God's divine power has granted us everything pertaining to life and Godliness.

Peter explained the importance of spiritual knowledge. The divine power of God has granted us everything pertaining to life and Godliness. That divine power helps us with the true knowledge of God, Who called us by His own glory and excellence. Taking those thoughts in parts, God used His divine power for our benefit. God wanted us to have everything we need pertaining to life and Godliness. He meant that we learn about life and Godliness through the knowledge of God Who called us to Himself. The power of God helps us with the knowledge of God.

God called us by His own glory and excellence. God did not need anyone's help to get us into heaven. God does not share His glory with another. God also demonstrates His excellence in all things and with all people. Because of God's glory and excellence, He alone has the power and authority to deal with our sins once and for all. By sending His Son,

Jesus Christ, God fulfilled His plan to bring sinners into the kingdom of God, having sanctified them through the precious blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Knowledge

1. **Divine**. What has God granted to us? God has granted to us everything pertaining to life and Godliness.
2. **Power**. God granted those things to us through His divine power.
3. **Granted**. God gave us those things as a free gift of His grace.
4. **Everything**. Because the knowledge of God grants us everything pertaining to life and Godliness, we do not need other spiritual guides.
5. **Life**. God declared that He provided to us everything pertaining to life through the knowledge of Him.
6. **Godliness**. Living powerfully in the family of God means God granted to us everything pertaining to Godliness through the knowledge of Him.
7. **Knowledge**. We rejoice today because through the knowledge of God who called us by His own glory and excellence, we have been granted everything pertaining to life and Godliness.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by understanding that God has granted us everything pertaining to life and Godliness.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by remembering that we have everything in the knowledge of God Who called us by His own glory and excellence.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to praise God for granting to us everything pertaining to life and Godliness.**

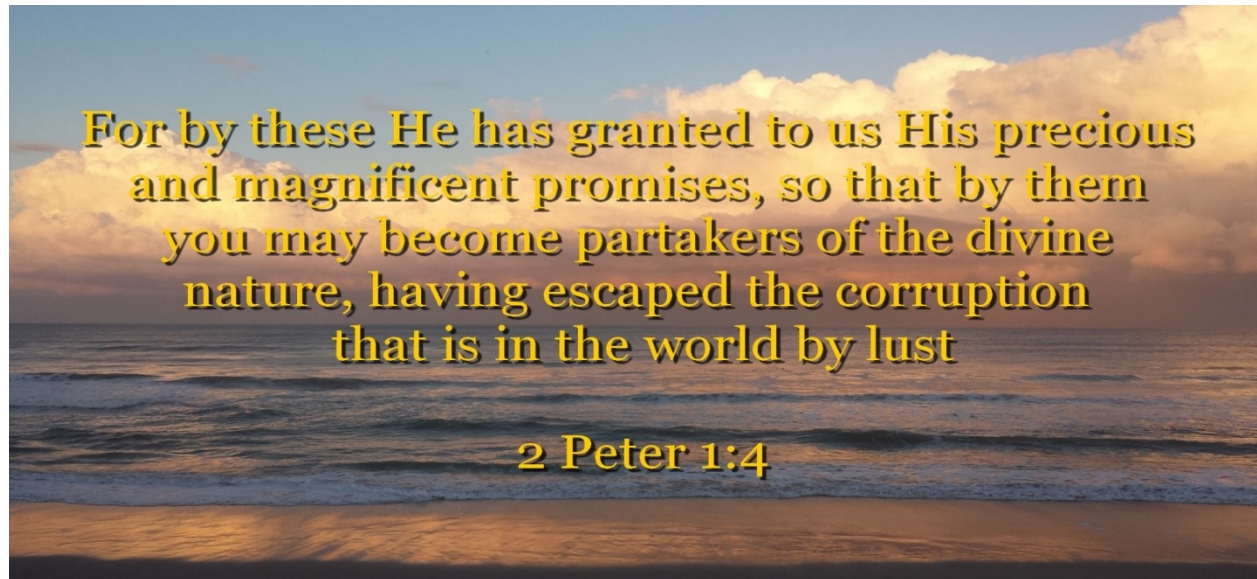
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by living praising God that He has granted us everything pertaining to life and Godliness. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by living in Godliness?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four

Granted Today



How did we receive the precious and magnificent promises of God? We received the precious and magnificent promises of God because He granted them to us according to His glory and excellence.

We did not deserve the precious and magnificent promises and we had done nothing to commend ourselves to God. By the grace of God, He bestowed the precious and magnificent promises upon us.

What benefit were those promises? Those precious and magnificent promises made it so we could become partakers of the divine nature. In other words, we became a new creation at the moment of salvation, born of the seed of God, so that the new creation cannot sin.

By the glorious and magnificent promises of God, we not only became partakers of the divine nature, but we also escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust. The lusts of man continually corrupt the world in many different ways, all of which offend God and grieve the Holy Spirit. Only by the glorious and magnificent promises of God joined with faith in our hearts do we overcome the corruption of lusts in the world.

Partakers

1. **Granted**. What has the glory and excellence of God provided to us? He has provided His precious and magnificent promises.
2. **Precious**. The promises of God are precious because God gave them to us and they are divine in nature.
3. **Magnificent**. The promises of God are magnificent because they build us up and strengthen us in Christ, glowing with the beauty of God.
4. **Promises**. God always speaks the truth and the promises of God never fail.
5. **Partakers**. By the promises of God, we have become partakers of the divine nature.
6. **Nature**. Living powerfully in the family of God means we no longer live under the human nature of sin, but now we live as partakers of the divine nature.
7. **Corruption**. We rejoice today because by the promises of God, and having become partakers of the divine nature, we have escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by praising God that we have received His magnificent and precious promises.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by rejoicing that by the promises of God we have become partakers of the divine nature and escape the corruption that is in the world by lust.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to praise God for His precious and magnificent promises.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by worshiping God that we have become partakers of the divine nature by His magnificent and precious promises. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by thanking God that He freed you from the corruption that is in the world by lust?

HALLELUJAH !

3

Apply

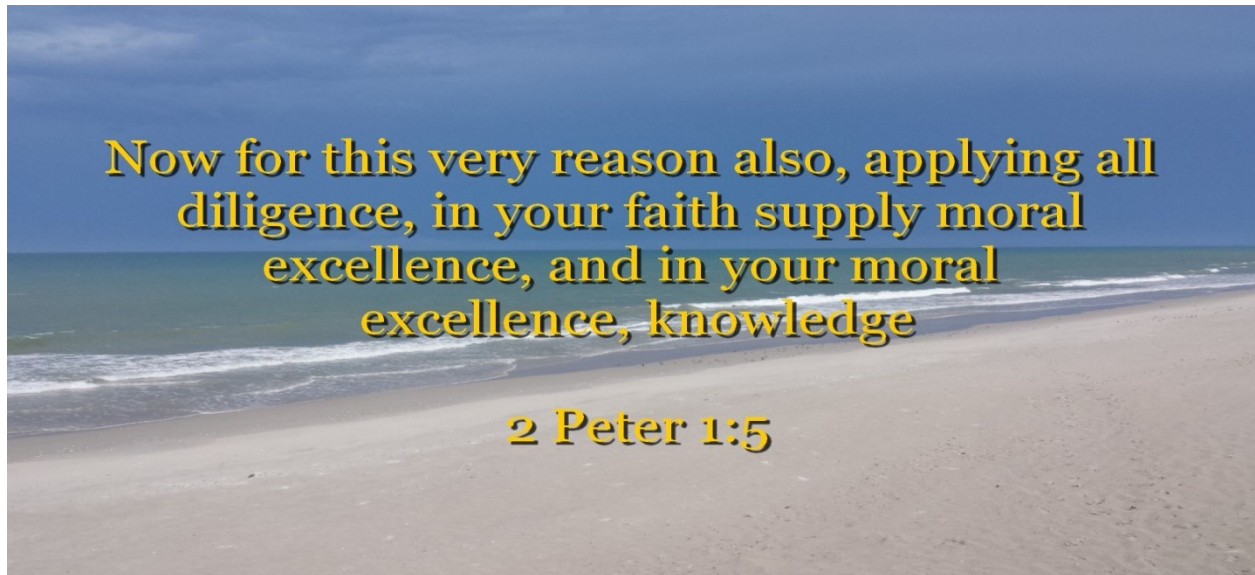
Diligence Today

Peter commanded the saints to apply all diligence so that in their faith they would supply moral excellence, and then knowledge, and then self-control and then perseverance and then Godliness and then brotherly kindness and finally love. Anyone who lacks those qualities is blind and shortsighted, having forgotten his purification from his former sins.

HALLELUJAH

Day Five

Diligence Today



What qualities does God want in our lives as Christians? God wants moral excellence and knowledge.

You may recall that God has granted us everything pertaining to life and Godliness through the true knowledge of Him. As we know God better and better through the proper application of the Scriptures to our lives, then we grow in the true knowledge of Him.

God has a spiritual building plan for our lives. He has given to us everything pertaining to life and Godliness to the true knowledge of God. By His precious and magnificent promises, we have escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust. We have become new creatures in Christ and all the old things passed away.

As God matures our spiritual life over our time on earth, God asked us to apply all diligence in supplying moral excellence to our faith. In other words, God does not want us to live in licentiousness, pleasing ourselves in all things. God wants us to increase our knowledge of Him to at every turn.

Supply

1. **Reason**. How should we live, having escaped the corruption in the world by lust? We should apply diligence to maintain moral excellence.
2. **Apply**. Diligence must be applied by God in our lives.
3. **Diligence**. Diligence means that we pursue moral excellence all the time, not just when it is convenient.
4. **Faith**. We supply moral excellence with diligence to our faith.
5. **Supply**. We supply moral excellence, because we have already been freed from the corruption of the world by lust.
6. **Moral**. Living powerfully in the family of God means God wants us to be diligent to supply moral excellence to our faith all the time.
7. **Knowledge**. We rejoice today because God wants us to supply knowledge to our moral excellence so that they work together.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by being diligent to supply moral excellence to our faith.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by being diligent to supply knowledge to our moral excellence.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to supply both knowledge and moral excellence to our faith.**

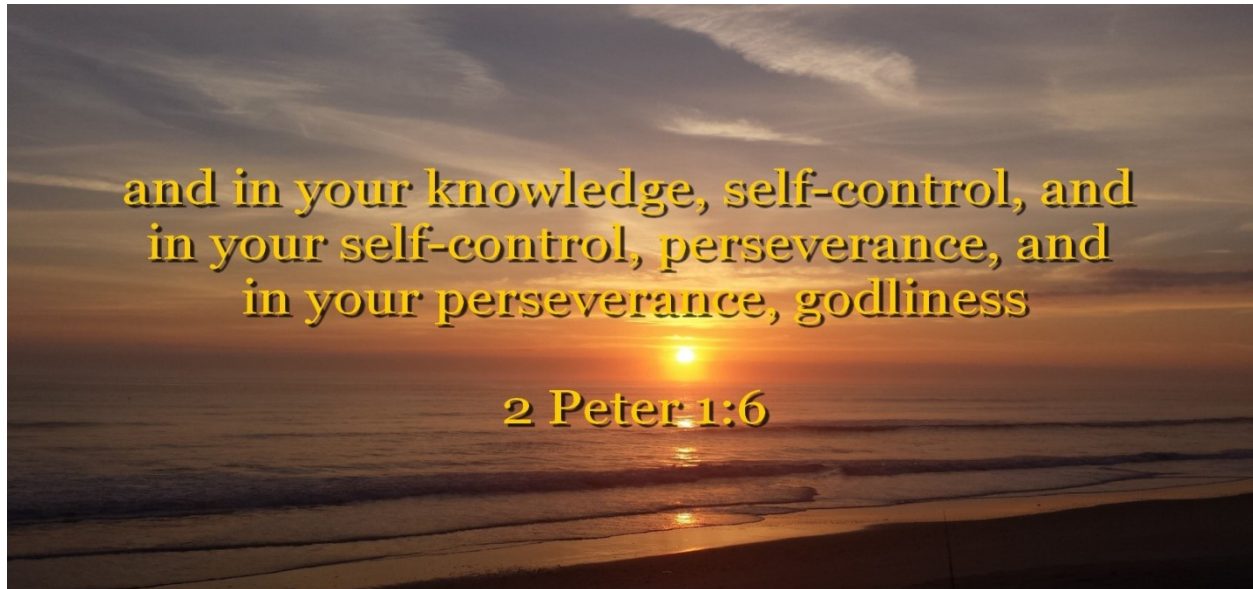
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by living supplying moral excellence and knowledge to our faith. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by being diligent to supply moral excellence and diligence to your faith?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Six

Knowledge Today



What spiritual qualities does God highly value in our lives? God values knowledge, self-control, perseverance, and Godliness.

Peter commanded us to apply all diligence to acquiring knowledge, meaning we study the Scriptures to learn more about God and His ways. The knowledge of God helps us with all that we need for life and Godliness. Peter said we start with knowledge then move to self-control. The knowledge provides a firm foundation for our entire lives. Self-control means that we allow the Holy Spirit to take complete control of our lives. Then we add perseverance, which means that the Holy Spirit exercises control over our lives every day, not just some days. God also wants us to have Godliness, meaning piety, a devotion to God and His ways.

Peter understood what it takes to endure suffering. When we suffer for the cause of Jesus Christ, God supplies supernatural power to help us. We share in the sufferings of Christ. While we are suffering, God commands us to add spiritual qualities to our life. Some folks may think when the suffering ends, then their lives will get better. God emphasizes that our spiritual lives get better while we suffer, and then they get better still after we suffer.

Godliness

1. **And**. How do we exercise self-control? We start with knowledge and add self-control to knowledge.
2. **In**. Once we have knowledge in our lives, then we add more qualities to it.
3. **Knowledge**. Knowledge centers around knowing God, Who provides all that we need for Godliness and life.
4. **Add**. Adding means were not satisfied with what we have yet, but follow the commands of God to add more spiritual qualities to our lives.
5. **Self-Control**. In our knowledge, we add self-control, meaning we put ourselves under the control of the Holy Spirit in our lives.
6. **Perseverance**. Living powerfully in the family of God means in our self-control, we add perseverance, so that we keep it up.
7. **Godliness**. We rejoice today because in our perseverance, we add Godliness, meaning we focus on more piety.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by diligently adding qualities to our spiritual lives so that God perfects us over time.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by diligently adding qualities of knowledge, self-control, endurance and Godliness.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to add spiritual qualities to our lives by the power of God.**

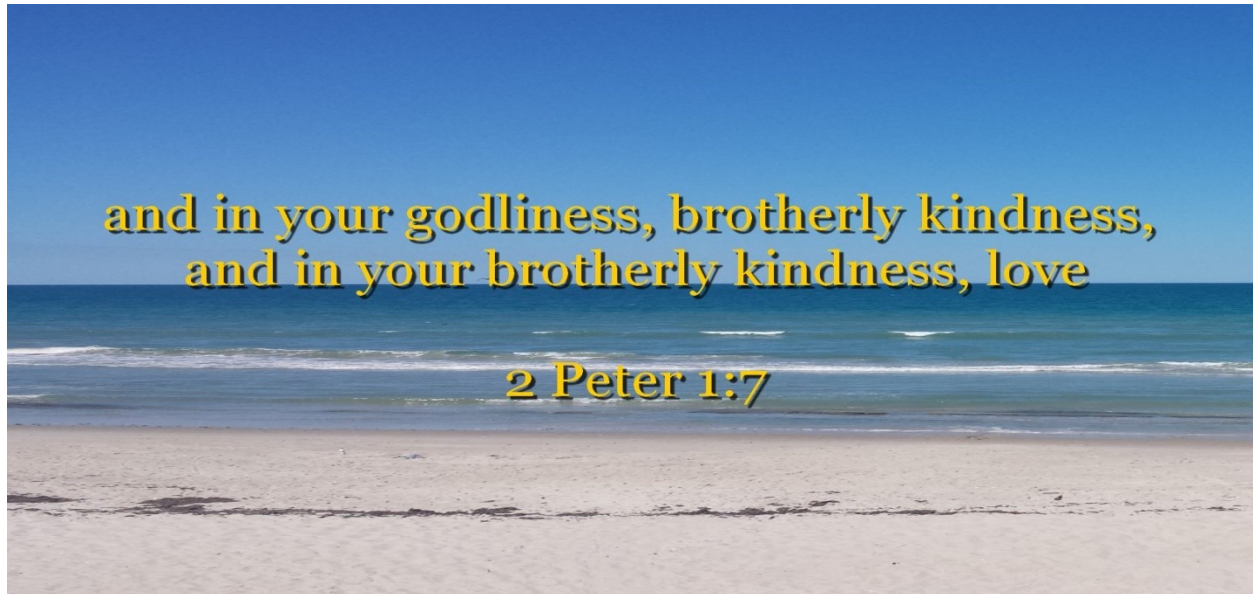
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by adding spiritual qualities to our lives through the power of God. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by adding knowledge, self-control, endurance, and Godliness to your life?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Seven

Brotherly Kindness Today



What other spiritual qualities does God want in our lives? God also wants brotherly kindness and love in our lives.

Peter explained a building block process for the spiritual qualities in our lives. Each block represents a special spiritual quality that God adds to our lives. We need all the blocks to make a complete structure. We need all the blocks to stay in the structure and not drop out.

Peter emphasized that God wants us to apply diligence to adding these spiritual qualities to our lives, while we are suffering. Peter talked about brotherly kindness. This spiritual quality means a love that brother has for brother, or sister for sister. God blesses this love which unifies believers together in sweet fellowship. The Holy Spirit produces this kind of love for believers.

Peter also commanded us to add agape love to our lives. Agape love means that God produces a love for us so that we are willing to sacrifice anything for the love of God. God set the example because He had agape love

for the world and so gave up His Son to death for us so that we might live. In fact, God said that we love, because He first loved us.

Love

1. **And**. What other spiritual qualities should we add to our lives through the power of God? Peter used the term “and” to describe additional spiritual qualities we need in our lives and said we should add brotherly affection and love.

2. **Godliness**. Peter linked a long series of spiritual qualities together, saying Christians should add one to the other so that we have a chain of spiritual qualities added to our lives.

3. **Brotherly Affection**. Peter described brotherly affection as separate from, but related to, agape love.

4. **And**. Peter used the term “and” to continue the chain of spiritual qualities to add with diligence to our lives.

5. **In**. Living powerfully in the family of God means in our brotherly affection, we add agape love to it.

6. **The**. Living powerfully in the family of God means that Peter used the definite article (“the”) to describe the spiritual qualities we need in our lives, indicating these are special spiritual qualities that only God provides.

7. **Love**. We rejoice today because God provides agape love to Christians, the same love which moved Him to give us His Son as the perfect sacrifice for our sins.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by adding the spiritual qualities of brotherly affection and love.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by remembering that we must be diligent to add those spiritual qualities to the power of God to our lives.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to add the spiritual qualities of brotherly affection and love to our lives through the power of God.**

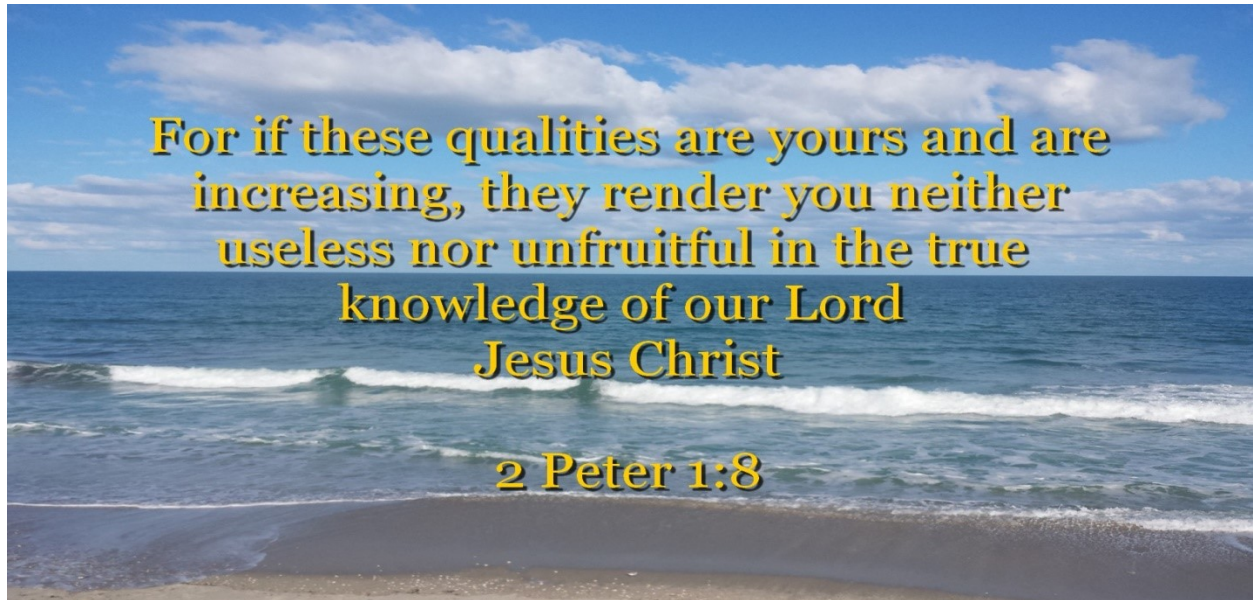
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by adding brotherly affection and love to our spiritual lives by the power of God. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by adding brotherly affection and love to your spiritual life by the power of God?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Eight

Increasing Today



How can we be fruitful for God? We bear fruit for God by increasing the spiritual qualities Peter described.

Peter said that if those spiritual qualities he described are ours and are increasing, they render us neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Peter said that not only must we have the spiritual qualities, but they must be increasing. God wants our lives to be moving forward in Him, by building those spiritual qualities one upon another in a continuing building project.

As those spiritual qualities increase in our lives, we become useful to God. Our usefulness is tied to the true knowledge of God. Remember that knowledge was foundational to the other spiritual qualities. So, as we know God better, the spiritual qualities cause us to bear fruit for God and we become useful for Him.

Knowledge

1. **Increasing**. What qualities need to be increasing in our lives? Peter outlined the spiritual qualities that we need to be increasing in our lives.
2. **Render**. When those spiritual qualities are increasing in our lives, they do not render us useless for God's program.
3. **Useless**. When we lack those qualities and they are not increasing in our lives, then we can become useless for God's purposes.
4. **Unfruitful**. Likewise, we can become unfruitful without those qualities increasing in our lives.
5. **True**. Peter described the true knowledge of God, in contrast to false knowledge, where people are lying about knowing God.
6. **Knowledge**. Living powerfully in the family of God means our knowledge of God increases as we add spiritual qualities to our lives and learn more about His precious and magnificent promises.
7. **Lord**. We rejoice today because God helps us to add spiritual qualities to our lives that increase our knowledge of Him and increase our usefulness to Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by increasing the spiritual qualities that make us more useful and fruitful for God.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God when we have the spiritual qualities God desires in our lives and we become more fruitful for Him.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by living useful and fruitful lives for God, based upon the spiritual qualities that He added to our lives through His power so that we would know Him better.**

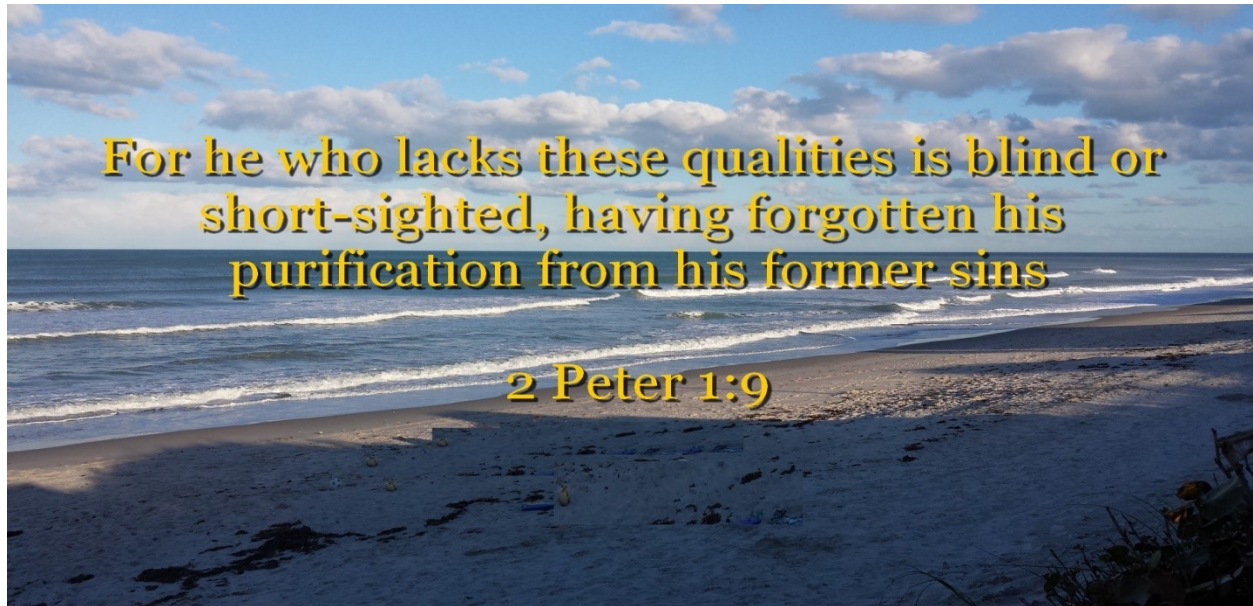
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by thanking God that He increases the spiritual qualities in our lives that He desires. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by adding the spiritual qualities God desires in your life so that you become more useful and fruitful for Him?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Nine

Lacks Today



What happens if you forget your purification from your former sins? You become shortsighted or blind concerning the spiritual qualities.

Peter explained that he who lacks the spiritual qualities he described as blind or shortsighted. God intends for the spiritual qualities to be in us and increasing so that we are fruitful and useful for His service. When we lack those qualities, and do not care about those qualities, Peter told us that we are shortsighted or blind. He meant that we do not see the value of doing God's will. We will experience very unpleasant consequences for our shortsighted views or spiritual blindness.

God really wants us to pursue those spiritual qualities in our lives. He wants us to be useful and productive slaves for Him. He paid the ultimate price by giving His only Son to die for our sins. He loved us so much that He withheld nothing. Therefore, when we lack the qualities He seeks to put into our lives, He wants us to know that we are shortsighted or blind. That spiritual problem with our vision hinders our spiritual life and obscures our knowledge of God, which is foundational to the other spiritual qualities.

Forgotten

1. **Lacks**. What if you lack the spiritual qualities Peter described? Then you are blind or shortsighted.
2. **Qualities**. Peter listed the spiritual qualities and commanded us to add them to our lives by the power of God.
3. **Blind**. If we lack those qualities, God said that we are blind or shortsighted, in both cases not seeing properly.
4. **Short-Sighted**. Being shortsighted means that we do not see the greater picture, having a myopic focus only upon the near things.
5. **Forgotten**. Our eye troubles result from the fact we have forgotten our purification from our former sins.
6. **Purification**. Living powerfully in the family of God means God tied the purification in the past to living in the present and future with spiritual qualities that must be increasing in our lives.
7. **Sins**. We rejoice today because God has purified us from sins, but we must press on by adding spiritual qualities that make us useful and fruitful for God's purposes

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering our purification from sins.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by being sure we do not lack the spiritual qualities Peter described in detail and commanded us to make sure they are increasing in our lives.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another not to forget our purification from former sins so that we do not become blind or shortsighted.**

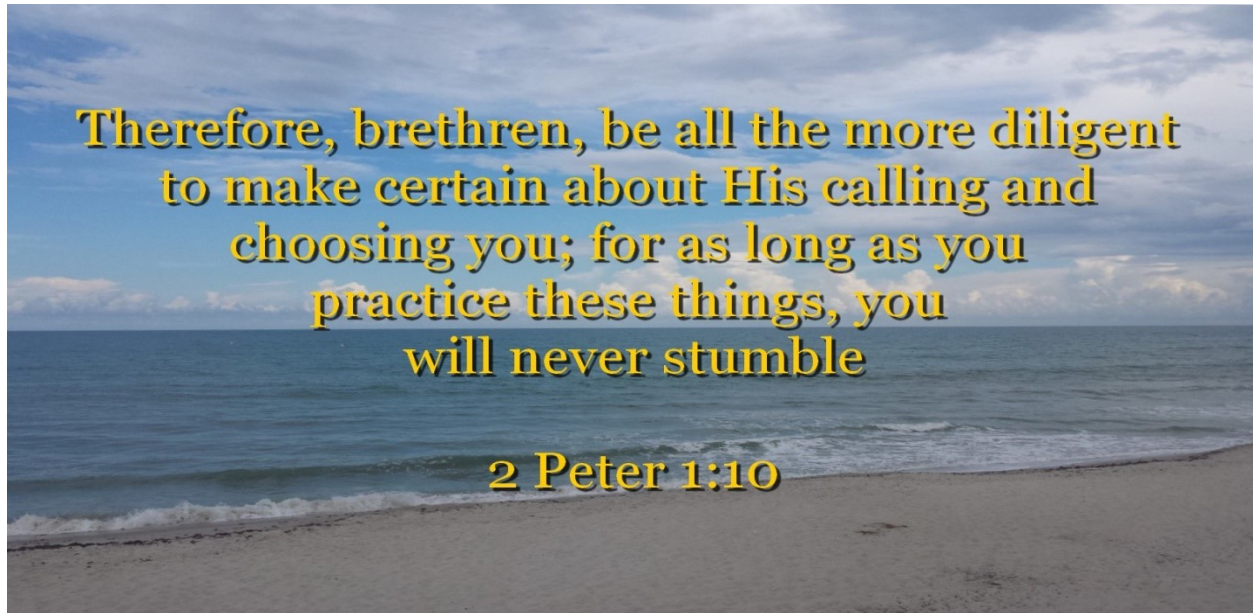
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by remembering our purification from our former sins, so that we do not become blind or shortsighted. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by adding the spiritual qualities to your life, because you are not blind or shortsighted, but remember your purification from former sins?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Ten

Certain Today



How do Christians avoid stumbling? They avoid stumbling by practicing the things Peter described.

Peter described adding spiritual qualities to your life, so that those qualities are constantly increasing. When anyone ignores those spiritual qualities, or they are not increasing, then they are shortsighted or blind. Furthermore, God does not use shortsighted or blind people in His service. They are unfruitful for God.

In contrast, people who add those spiritual qualities put block upon block, spiritual quality upon spiritual quality, are not unfruitful for God's service. Those spiritual qualities make us useful and fruitful for God. In other words, spiritual growth and development are not optional for believers. God intends for every believer to grow constantly in the knowledge of God, the foundation of the other spiritual qualities. As we add spiritual quality upon spiritual quality, we become more and more useful and fruitful for God. God promised as we are adding those spiritual qualities, then we will not stumble, because we are actively pursuing the knowledge of God.

Practice

1. **Therefore**. What conclusions did Peter draw? Peter drew the conclusion that we should be all the more diligent to make certain of His calling and choosing of us.

2. **Diligent**. Just as we must be diligent to add the spiritual qualities Peter described, so also we must be diligent to make certain of His calling and choosing of us.

3. **Calling**. The calling of God relates to His speaking the word to us for us to come to Him.

4. **Choosing**. God indicated His choosing means that He chose us before the foundation of the world to be a part of the family of God.

5. **Practice**. So long as we practice these things, we will never stumble.

6. **Never**. Living powerfully in the family of God means that God promised that we would never stumble when we practice these things.

7. **Stumble**. We rejoice today because God promised we do not have to stumble, but can practice the things of God and never stumble.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by practicing the things of God so that we never stumble.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by making certain of our calling and choosing by God.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to make certain of our calling by practicing the things of God.**

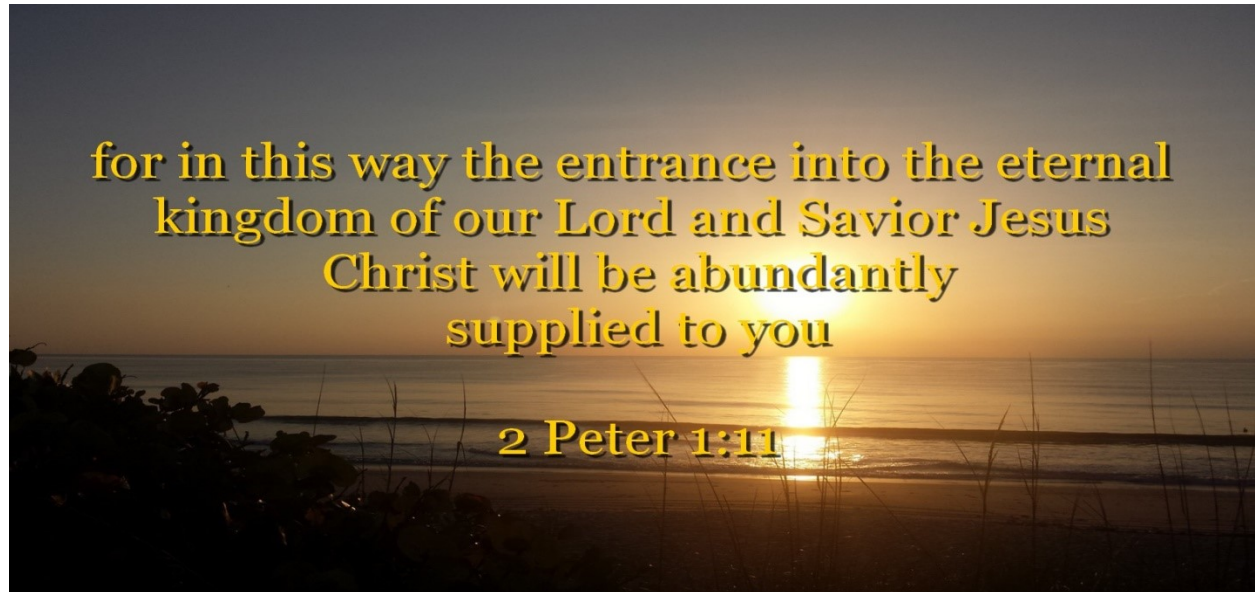
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by practicing the things of God so that we will never stumble. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by practicing the things of God so that you will never stumble?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Eleven

Entrance Today



What conclusion did Peter draw about entering the kingdom? Peter drew the conclusion that having those spiritual qualities makes our entrance into the kingdom of God more abundant.

Writing under the inspiration of God, Peter revealed that when we have the spiritual qualities that God wants us to have in our lives, then our entrance into the kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied to us. Therefore, Peter made the point that how we live today influences our entrance into the kingdom of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. As we have Godly qualities that make us useful for God's purposes, then our entrance into the kingdom of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, will be supplied more abundantly.

Peter looked forward to entering the kingdom of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. As he looked forward, he focused too upon the presence of the spiritual qualities we have in our lives. How we live today affects our entrance into the kingdom of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Abundantly

1. **For**. What does the term “for” indicate? The term “for” signals verse 11 is related to the previous verse, giving an explanation in more detail.

2. **Way**. Peter described how the entrance into the eternal kingdom of God will be supplied to the saints.

3. **Entrance**. Our obedience and diligence determine our entrance into the kingdom of God, meaning we will all enter the kingdom of God, but what we are like when we enter the kingdom of God makes all the difference

4. **Kingdom**. We make certain of our entrance into the kingdom of God and strive to be useful and fruitful servants of God so that we have a better entrance into the kingdom of our Lord and Savior.

5. **Lord**. Peter described the kingdom of our Lord, indicating He will be the ruler of that eternal kingdom, including the millennial kingdom of Jesus when we return to reign with Him on earth.

6. **Savior**. Living powerfully in the family of God means our Savior, Jesus Christ, reigns in the eternal kingdom of God and it will come to earth one day when Jesus sets His feet on the Mount of Olives and begins His earthly reign for 1000 years.

7. **Supplied**. We rejoice today because as we practice the things of God, then our entrance into the eternal kingdom of Jesus will be abundantly supplied to us.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering our entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by being diligent today to practice the things of God so that our tomorrow will produce an abundant entrance into the kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to seek an abundant entrance into the kingdom of our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ**

Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by being diligent today to assure an abundant entrance into the kingdom of our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by looking forward to your abundant entrance into the eternal kingdom of God?

HALLELUJAH !

4

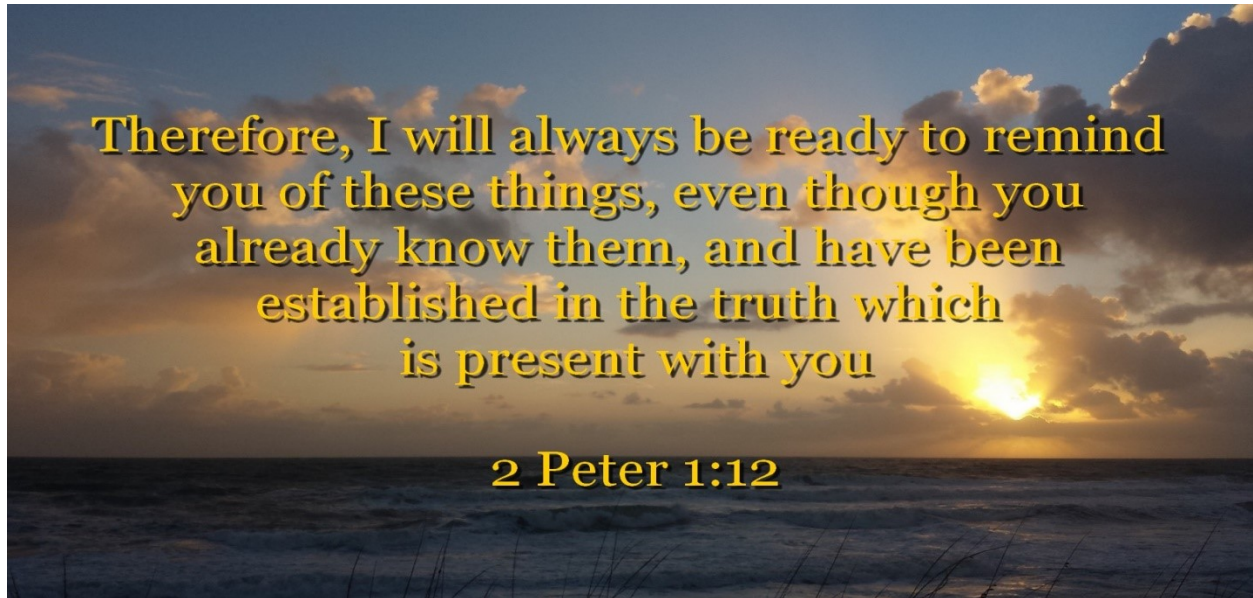
Established in the Truth Today

Peter recognized that his audience had been established in the truth. Even so, as long as he was in his earthly dwelling, Peter was determined to stir up those people by way of reminder. He did so because he knew that he would be laying aside his earthly body, because the Lord Jesus had made it clear to him. Peter also wanted to be sure that he could stir up the Christians after he had died and so we wrote his second epistle.

HALLELUJAH !

Day Twelve

Remind Today



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

2 Peter 1:12

What was Peter always ready to do? Peter was always ready to remind the saints of these things.

Peter said he was not writing about new things, but things they already knew about. Peter also said they had been established in the truth which was present in them. Therefore, Peter was happy with the growth and development of the saints in the church that was scattered abroad. He was concerned about their spiritual growth and development.

Peter understood the link between spiritual growth and usefulness for the kingdom of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. As the spiritual qualities he described are ours and increasing, then we become useful and fruit-bearing for the Lord Jesus Christ. As we bear fruit for the Lord Jesus Christ, then God supplies more abundantly the entrance into the kingdom of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Peter also looked to the future and explained how it affects our present. How we live today not only enables us to serve the Lord Jesus Christ on earth,

but it also provides a better entrance into the kingdom of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Truth

1. **Therefore**. As Peter looked off to the future, what did Peter conclude about the present? Peter remained ready to remind the saints to seek an abundant entrance into the kingdom of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

2. **Ready**. Peter said he was ready always to remind the saints.

3. **Remind**. He felt the need to remind the saints of the truth of God's word and the spiritual qualities they needed in their lives.

4. **Already**. Peter acknowledged that they are ready to those things of God.

5. **Know**. Peter valued knowledge of God very highly and indicated it was foundational to many other qualities of the Christian life.

6. **Established**. Living powerfully in the family of God means we are established in the truth by the knowledge of God and faith in Him.

7. **Truth**. We rejoice today because God wants us to know the truth of the grace of God and His power in our lives.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by being ready to remind people of the truth of God.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by reminding people of the truth of God even when they are already established in the truth of God.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to remember the truths of God so that our entrance into the eternal kingdom of God will be more abundant.**

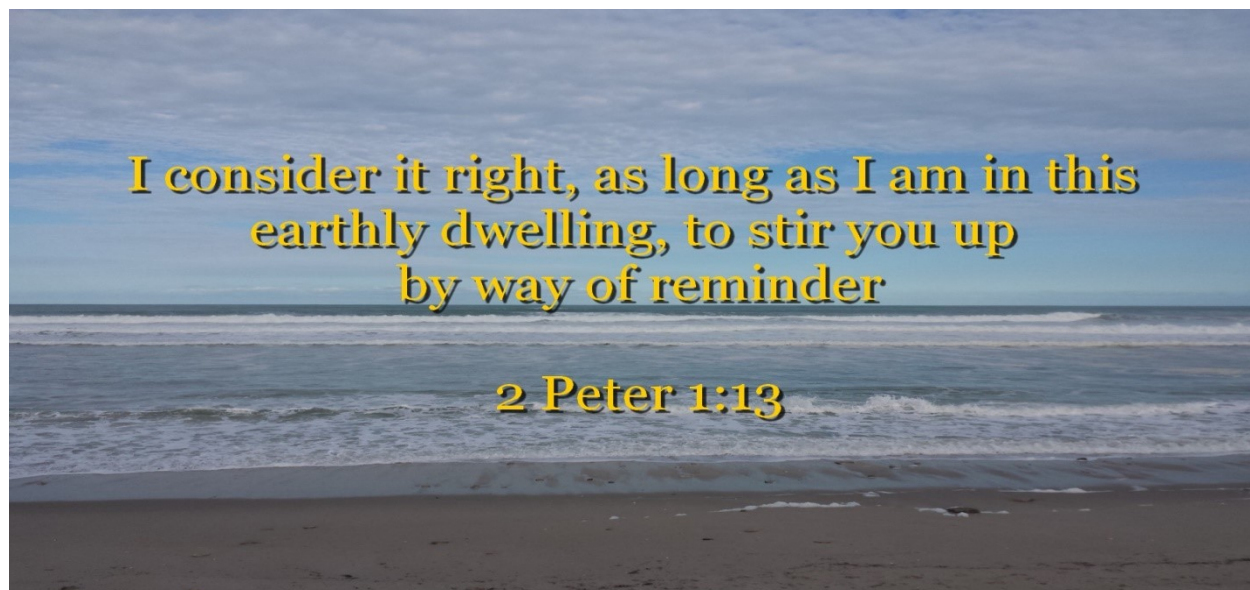
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by being ready to remind one another of the eternal truths of God. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by being ready to remind people of the truth of God, even those people already established in the truth?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Thirteen

Right Today



What did Peter plan to do as long as he was in his earthly dwelling? He planned on stirring up saints by way of reminder.

Peter already said he was happy with the growth and development of the Christians. They were established in the truth. Even so, Peter wanted to stir them up by way of reminder.

Peter never thought his work was done so long as he was in his earthly dwelling. In other words, as long as Peter lived and breathed in his earthly body, he knew that the Lord Jesus Christ had further work for him to do. Part of that earthly work was to stir up the saints and remind them of the need to be useful to the Lord Jesus Christ on earth.

Peter was not so wrapped up in himself that he did not focus upon the needs of others. He knew that the time of his departure was near, but he still wanted to stir up saints by way of reminder. We should learn from Peter that as long as God keeps us in our earthly bodies, we too should be stirring up people by way of reminder. Peter continued to labor and serve the Lord Jesus

like caring about the flock and promoting essential spiritual qualities in the Christians.

Reminder

1. **Consider**. What did Peter consider right? Peter considered it right to stir up Christians.

2. **Right**. Peter thought it was the righteous thing to do to remind people of the truth of God and so live accordingly.

3. **Dwelling**. So long as Peter was in his earthly tabernacle, referring to his body, he knew he should remind people of the truth of God.

4. **Stir**. Peter referred to those reminders as stirring people up, like waking them from sleep, or as a storm stirs the sea.

5. **You**. He looked at the audience and thought of them as you, people of like precious faith.

6. **Way**. Living powerfully in the family of God means we put people in remembrance of the truth of God and the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

7. **Reminder**. We rejoice today because Peter was always ready to remind people, to put them in remembrance, of the truth of God and the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by esteeming it righteous to remind people of the truths of God.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by reminding people of the truth of God so long as we live in this earthly tabernacle.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to remember the truths of God so long as we live in this earthly tabernacle.**

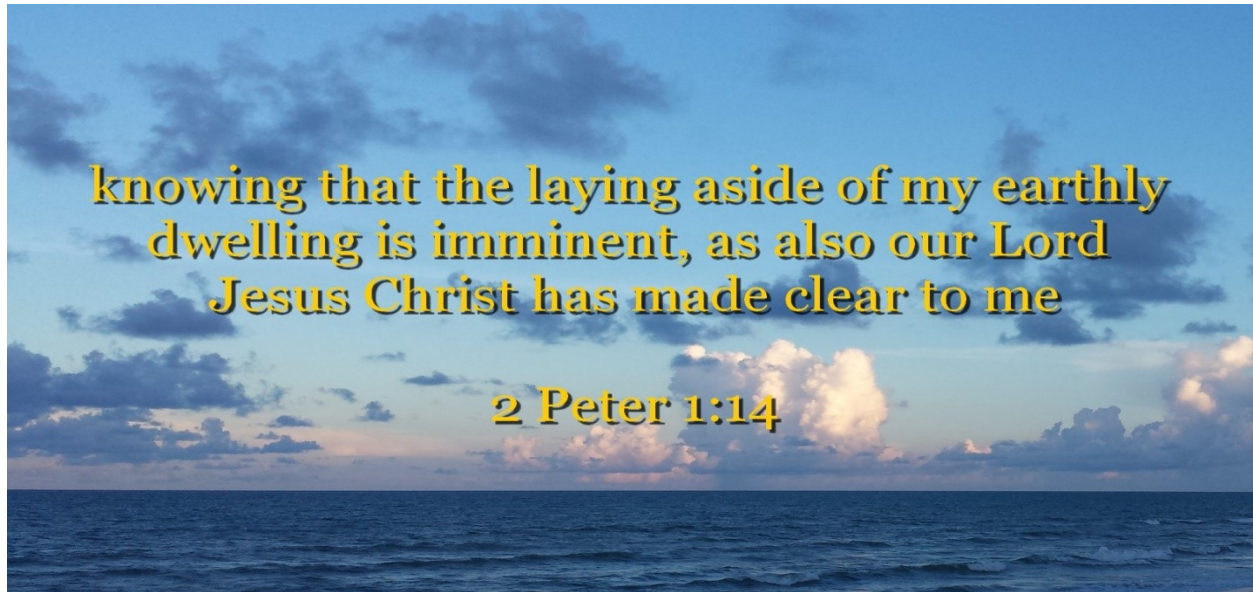
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by esteeming it righteous to remind people of the truth of God. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by stirring up saints to remember the truths of God?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Fourteen

Imminent Today



What had the Lord Jesus made clear to Peter? The Lord Jesus had made it plain to Peter that he was about to die.

As Peter wrote his second epistle, he knew his time on earth was short. He expressed that as laying aside his earthly dwelling. Peter viewed his body as a vessel for his spirit and soul. When his earthly body died, his spirit and soul would go to Paradise to be with Jesus. Peter understood the spiritual life included eternal life. Because we have eternal life, Jesus said we would never die.

Peter helps us understand that our earthly dwelling will pass away one day. Peter knew his departure from his earthly dwelling was imminent. Because his time was short, Peter wanted to stir up the saints by way of reminder. They were well-established in the truth, but Peter still wanted to remind them of how to be fruitful for the Lord Jesus Christ and then to be more fruitful so long as they were in their earthly bodies.

Peter looked forward to being with the Lord Jesus Christ in Paradise. But, before he left earth, he wanted to be useful to the Lord Jesus Christ right up until that time.

Clear

1. **Knowing**. What did Peter know? Peter knew he was going to die soon.
2. **Laying**. Peter referred to dying is laying aside his earthly dwelling.
3. **Dwelling**. Peter used the word “tabernacle” to describe his earthly dwelling.
4. **Imminent**. Peter used the idea of swift or speedy to describe his near departure from this earth.
5. **Christ**. The Lord Jesus Christ had told Peter he was about to die.
6. **Clear**. Living powerfully in the family of God means Peter wrote as one who knows he will die shortly.
7. **Me**. We rejoice today because Peter wanted to remind the saints to live Godly in all things before he died.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering that all of us will die, but what we do today makes a big difference.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by understanding that we will all lay aside our earthly tabernacle.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to make the most of our time for the sake of the Lord Jesus Christ because we will all lay aside our earthly tabernacle.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by living as if we were about to die. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by making the most of your time with other saints before you lay aside your earthly tabernacle?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Fifteen

Diligent Today



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

2 Peter 1:15

What plans did Peter make for the saints? Peter planned that after he died, the saints would be able to call to mind the things he wrote about.

Peter understood the value of writing a letter that would survive his death. Peter did not write the letter himself, but the Holy Spirit moved Peter to write down the words God breathed out. God inspired every word in the autographs of the epistle from Peter. Therefore, we should be very careful to study the epistle of Peter so that he can remind us of the things he deemed very important to teach before he died.

Peter wanted to leave a lasting instruction manual for saints that would survive his death. God moved Peter to write these things down and God gave Peter the words to write. Peter was not thinking about himself, but the saints as he approached death. He wanted to be sure that even after he died, he could remind them of the things he said by recording them in the second epistle of Peter.

Peter knew he was writing for God and was inspired by God. He had heard the Lord Jesus commission him to service many years before. Now

the time had come for him to depart this earth, but he wanted to be sure his message would be remembered by the saints.

Departure

1. **I**. What did Peter want? Peter wanted for the saints to call to mind all the things he told them.

2. **Diligent**. Therefore, Peter remained diligent, even as his death approached.

3. **Time**. At any time after his death, Peter planned for the saints to remember his words from God.

4. **Departure**. Peter looked forward to his departure, but planned diligently to continue to encourage the saints even after his death.

5. **Able**. Peter wanted the saints to be able to call to mind the things he had taught them in his epistles.

6. **Call**. Living powerfully in the family of God means we thank God that we can call to mind today the things that Peter wrote for our edification long ago.

7. **Mind**. We rejoice today because by reading the words of Peter today we can call to mind the message from God delivered through Peter.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by being diligent today to help Christians tomorrow.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by thanking God for giving Peter the words to write down to benefit us today, thousands of years after Peter died.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to call to mind the words of Peter today.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by remembering Peter's diligence in preserving the words of God for us to call to mind today. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by calling the words of Peter to mind?

HALLELUJAH !

5

Eyewitnesses

Today

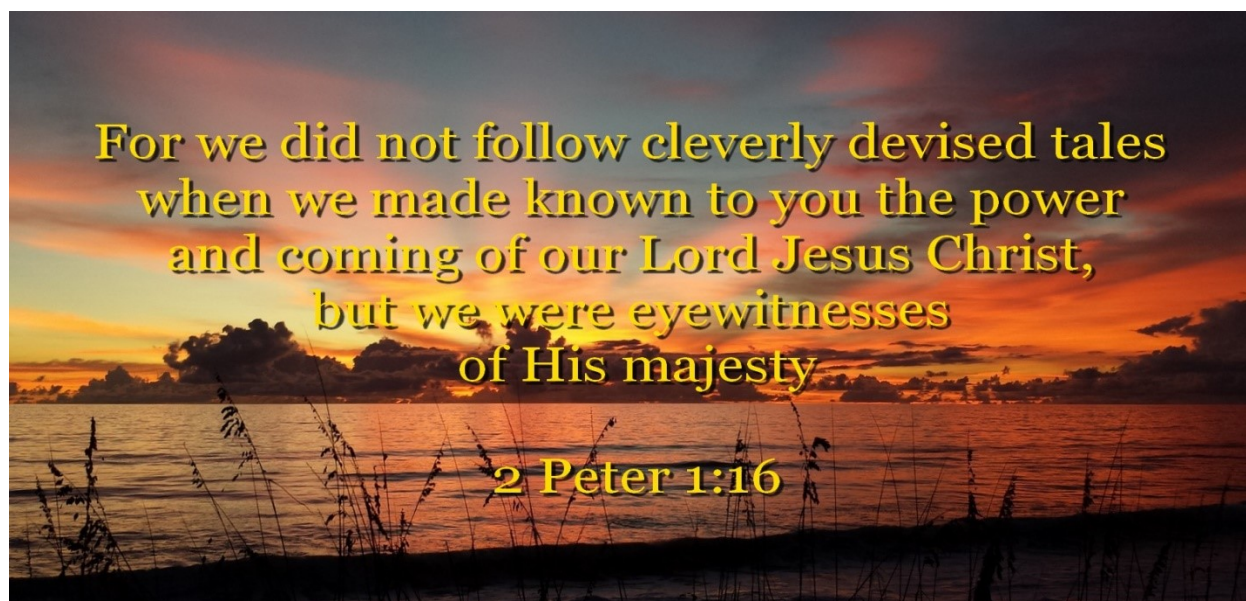
Peter wrote as an eyewitness of the Majesty of Jesus Christ. The apostles did not follow cleverly devised tales when they made known to the Christians the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. They heard God the Father say about Jesus, “This is My beloved Son with Whom I am well pleased.”

Peter then compared the prophetic word as a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your heart. Peter then commanded the Christians to know first of all that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

HALLELUJAH !

Day Sixteen

Eyewitnesses Today



What did Peter see with his own eyes? Peter saw the majesty of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Peter explained that the apostles did not follow cleverly devised tales. Instead, they were eyewitnesses of the majesty of Jesus. Therefore, the apostles made known to the Christians the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Peter serves as an eyewitness of Jesus Christ. He was handpicked by Jesus and with Jesus, even on the Mount of Transfiguration. Peter watched Jesus and heard Jesus and walked with Jesus. Peter witnessed crowds being healed and people been amazed by the teaching of Jesus. He cast out demons, made the lame walk and the blind see.

Peter also witnessed the death of Jesus. Although Peter denied Jesus three times the night before Jesus was crucified, Jesus still put Peter back in the service. Peter devoted his adult life to serving Jesus Christ, traveling and proclaiming Christ among both Jews and Gentiles, plus Samaritans. He

made known to people the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ as an eyewitness.

Majesty

1. **We**. How do we know that we do not follow cleverly devised tales? Because Peter and others were eyewitnesses of what they wrote about under the inspiration of God.

2. **Follow**. Peter denied that he followed cleverly devised tales.

3. **Cleverly**. Some people may believe cleverly devised tales, but Christians supernaturally know the true grace of God which reveals God Himself to us.

4. **Tales**. The Scriptures do not present cleverly devised tales, but supernatural revelation from God, often from eyewitness accounts.

5. **Power**. Peter made known to the saints the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

6. **Coming**. Living powerfully in the family of God means we too make known the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

7. **Eyewitnesses**. We rejoice today because apostles, such as Peter, made known to us the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and they were eyewitnesses of His majesty.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering Peter was an eyewitness of the majesty of Jesus Christ.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by making known to people the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to remember that our faith is not built upon cleverly devised tales, but revelation to eyewitnesses of the majesty of the Lord Jesus Christ.**

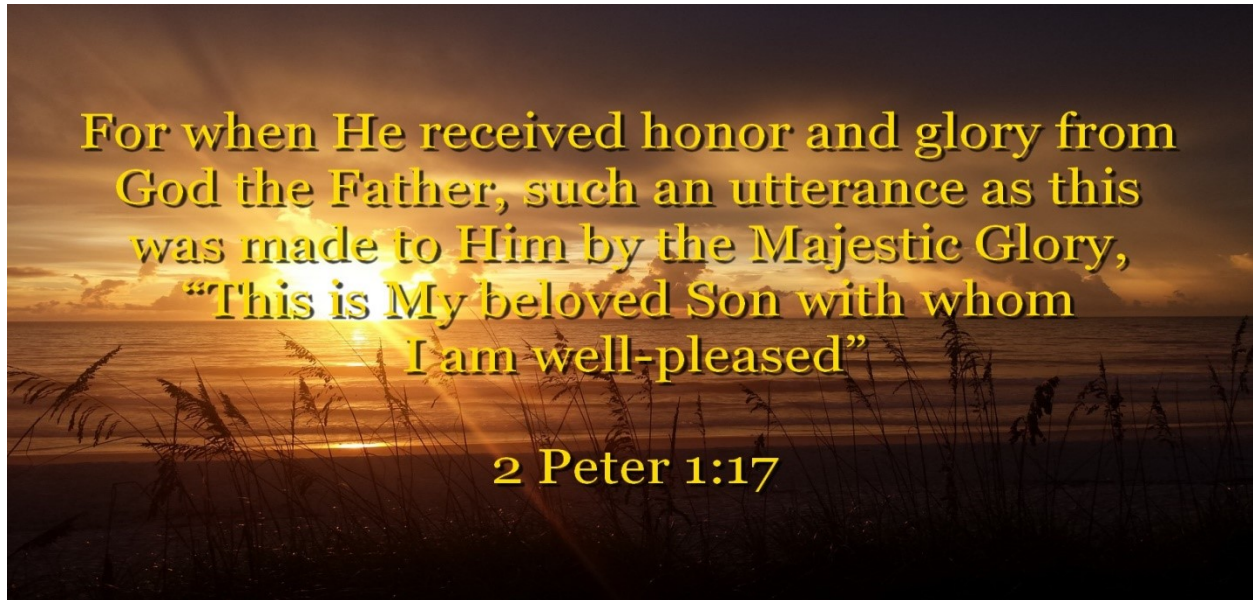
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by remembering Peter, the eyewitness of the majesty of Jesus Christ, who proclaimed the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by remembering that Peter served as an eyewitness of the majesty of Jesus Christ?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Seventeen

Honor and Glory Today



When did Jesus receive honor and glory from God the Father? On the Mount of Transfiguration Jesus received honor and glory from God the Father.

Jesus took Peter, James and John up on the mountain with Him. They were there when Jesus was transfigured before them and shone with great brilliance. They were also there as He received honor and glory from God the Father. They heard the utterance to Jesus, "This is my Beloved Son with Whom I am well-pleased." The Father had made a similar declaration when Jesus was baptized in the Jordan River.

Peter was an eyewitness to Jesus receiving power and glory from God the Father. Jesus intended for Peter to witness the honor and glory bursting forth from Jesus on the mountain. Jesus shone with glory and honor.

Peter wrote under the inspiration of God. The words he wrote were the precise words God wanted to communicate the revelation He gave to Peter. So, although Peter was an eyewitness, God provided the exact words

for Peter to use. Peter sounded just like Peter and not John or Paul. Each wrote with their own unique style, but they all wrote for God.

Son

1. **For**. What difference does eyewitness testimony make? As an eyewitness on the mountain with Jesus, Peter heard the voice of God the Father.

2. **Received**. Jesus received glory and honor by His transfiguration on the mountain.

3. **Honor**. God the Father honored His Son with a visible display.

4. **Glory**. Jesus received glory on the mountain and shone with brilliance.

5. **Beloved**. On the mountain, the Majestic Glory spoke about Jesus.

6. **I**. Living powerfully in the family of God means God the Father said this is My beloved Son, with Whom I am well-pleased.

7. **Pleased**. We rejoice today because God the Father was well-pleased with Jesus and all the things He had done.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering that Peter heard God the Father say that He was well-pleased with Jesus.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by remembering that Jesus first received glory and honor from God the Father.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to delight in the eyewitness testimony of Peter concerning Jesus receiving glory and honor and the declaration from God the Father that He was well-pleased with Jesus, the Son of God.**

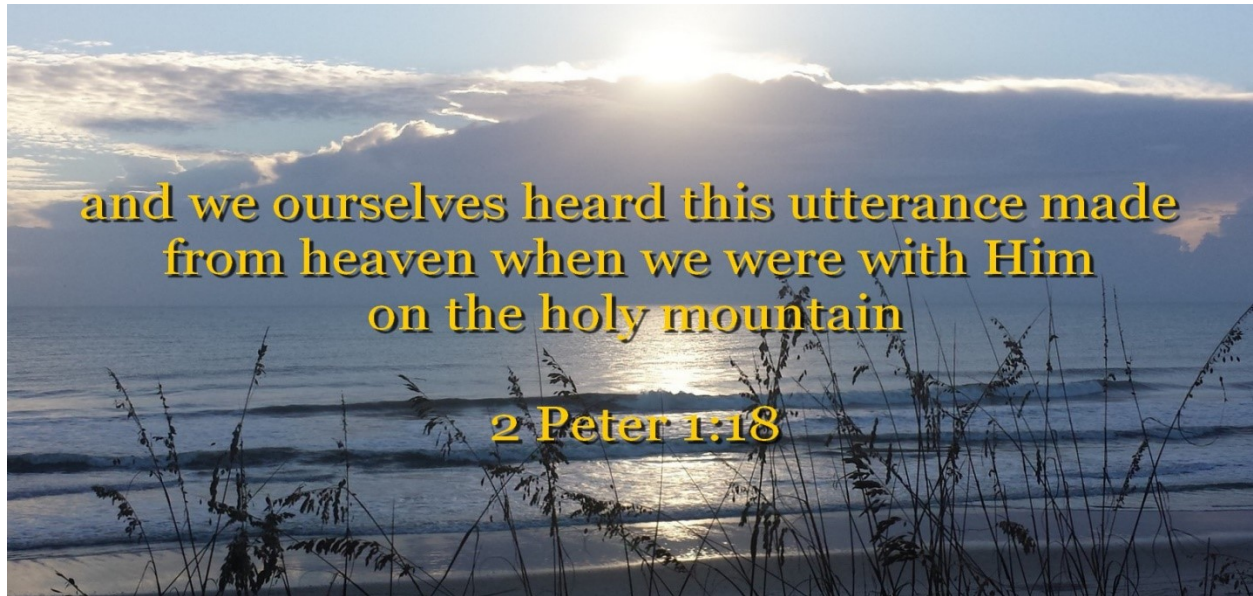
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by remembering Jesus on the mountain receiving honor and glory and God the Father declaring that He was well-pleased with Jesus, the Son of God.

HALLELUJAH !

Day Eighteen

Heard Today



Why does Peter want everyone to know he was on the mountain with Jesus? Because Jesus chose Peter to tell everybody about what happened up there.

Jesus only took three of the 12 disciples with Him to the Mount of Transfiguration. Therefore, Jesus clearly had a plan to let everyone know about what happened up there. Those three disciples were the only eyewitnesses who provided testimony about the events on the mountain. Each of them received direct revelation from God and all of them were eyewitnesses.

Jesus took steps to confirm their testimony. The great confirmation was the voice of God the Father from heaven declaring that He was well-pleased with the Son of Man, Jesus Christ. Jesus shone with the glory of God, revealing Himself as Almighty God to Peter, James, and John. Then the Father made His declaration about His Son. Peter was not following cleverly devised tales, but writing as the Holy Spirit moved to describe what happened on the mountain to the churches many years later. Jesus

arranged on the mountain for Peter to write his epistle and show how the Lord Jesus received glory and honor from God the Father.

Utterance

1. **We**. What did Peter hear on the Mount? He heard the voice of God the Father.

2. **Heard**. Peter, James and John heard a voice from heaven talking about Jesus.

3. **Utterance**. While they were on the mountain, they heard the utterance from heaven.

4. **Heaven**. The voice from heaven was God the Father speaking about His Son.

5. **With**. Peter, James and John were invited up the mountain by Jesus and they remained there with Him.

6. **Him**. Living powerfully in the family of God means Jesus picked three eyewitnesses of His transfiguration on the mountain.

7. **Mountain**. We rejoice today because God the Father displayed the glory of Jesus and honored Him on the mountain with Peter, James and John as eyewitnesses who saw Jesus transfigured and heard the utterance from heaven.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering Peter on the Mount seeing Jesus transfigured before him.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by remembering the utterance of God that Jesus was His Son and the Father was well-pleased with Jesus.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to remember that we have eyewitness testimony of the life and times of Jesus our Lord.**

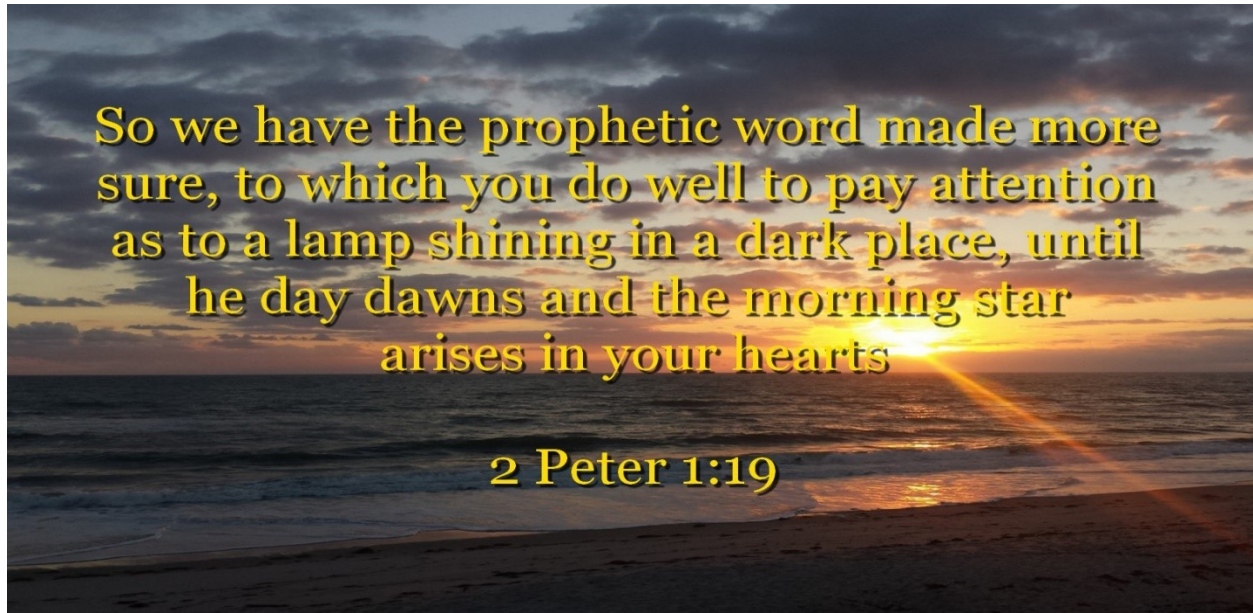
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by praising God for taking Peter, James and John up on the mountain to see Jesus transfigured and hear the utterance from heaven. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by worshiping Jesus for providing eyewitness testimony to the glory and honor and utterance from heaven?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Nineteen

Lamp Today



What is the prophetic word like? The prophetic word is like a lamp shining in a dark place.

Peter received the prophetic word from the Lord Jesus Christ. As the Holy Spirit moved him, Peter wrote down the words breathed out by God. Those prophetic words were made more sure because of the confirmation of God the Father and the eyewitnesses present on the mountain, including Peter.

Because those are prophetic words from God, Peter told the Christians that they would do well to pay attention to those prophetic words. Peter provided the revelations God gave to him about the future. Not only did he see the revelation of Jesus receiving honor and glory on the Mount, but Peter also received insight into the future. Peter tied what he saw about the future to how we live in the present today.

Peter knew that his ministry was to remind people of the things they already knew, but he could stir them up by way of reminder after his death

through the inspired writings he left behind. Peter was not only looking to the future with the prophetic words, but using words as revelation from God to stir people up today to live for Christ.

Star

1. **We**. What made the prophetic word more sure? Peter, James and John all heard the direct utterance from God so that Peter said we were eyewitnesses.

2. **Prophetic**. The prophetic word was spoken by Jesus about the future and became more sure in the eyes of Christians because the eyewitnesses confirmed what God the Father said about Jesus, although His word would be sure, even if no one heard it.

3. **Attention**. Peter urged the Christians to pay close attention to the prophetic word.

4. **Lamp**. The prophetic word is like a lamp shining in a dark place.

5. **Dark**. The prophetic word is already shining in a dark place, already providing light.

6. **Dawns**. Living powerfully in the family of God means the prophetic word will continue to shine until the prophecy comes true when the day finally dawns.

7. **Star**. We rejoice today because when the day dawns, the Morning Star will arise in our hearts.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering that the prophetic word is like a lamp shining in a dark place.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by remembering that the Morning Star will arise in our hearts.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to pay close attention to the prophetic word which shines like a light in a dark place.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by paying close attention to the prophetic word. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by praising God that the Morning Star will arise in our hearts?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Twenty

Prophecy Today



What did Peter want Christians to know about private interpretation? Peter wanted them to know that he was not writing his own private interpretations of anything.

Peter wrote the revelation that God gave to him. He wrote his epistles as the Holy Spirit moved him so that he spoke for God. Peter was an eyewitness of the power and coming of the Lord Jesus Christ and wrote accordingly.

Peter understood the challenges that the Christian world faced during his lifetime. As his life was coming to an end on earth, Peter understood that many imposters had arrived claiming to have knowledge of God, but they lied to mislead Christians and others.

Peter wanted his audience to know the true God and the true knowledge of God. They were established in the truth as saints, but still needed stirring up and reminding of the truth in which they were established. Peter understood from God that his epistles would survive and bring the teachings of God to the Christians long after his departure to

Paradise. Even today, we praise God that we have the First and Second Epistles of Peter to stir us up to live for Jesus Christ.

Interpretation

1. **Know**. What is it that Peter wanted us to know first? He wanted us to know that no prophecy of Scripture derives from private interpretation.
2. **First**. Peter wanted everyone to remember that fact first.
3. **Prophecy**. No prophecy in the Scriptures came from purely human sources, but men wrote for God.
4. **Scripture**. Peter recognized that the Scripture stands apart from all other books.
5. **Private**. Private interpretation played no role in creating the Scriptures.
6. **Own**. Living powerfully in the family of God means no one's own interpretation of people and events created prophecies of the Scripture.
7. **Interpretation**. We rejoice today because private interpretation did not form the basis for Scripture.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering first of all that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter private interpretation.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by praising God that He breathed out the Scriptures to us.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to trust the Scriptures because they are not a product of private interpretation.**

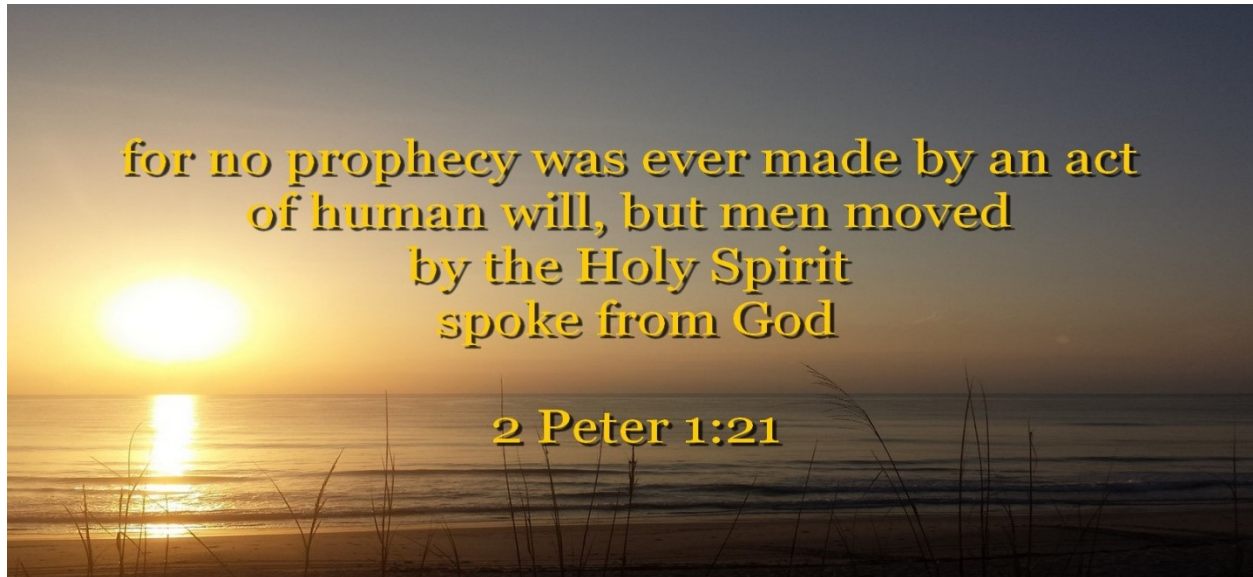
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by praising God for giving us Scriptures that are not a matter of private interpretation. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by relying upon the Scriptures as words God breathed out for us?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Twenty One

Human Will Today



Where does prophecy come from? Prophecy comes directly from God.

Peter explained how prophecy works. Prophecy never originates with man, but with God. Therefore, Peter said that no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will. In other words, Peter was not dreaming up some prophecy and claiming that God gave it to him.

God takes men, like Peter, and the Holy Spirit moves them so that they speak from God. They deliver the revelation that God has given to them. They may have a dream, or a vision, or some other form of direct revelation from God. You may recall that God spoke with Moses face-to-face.

Because prophecy by nature is a direct revelation from God, it comes without error of any type. Some people today claim that the Bible teaches two kinds of prophecy. One kind contains a mixture of errors and the other does not. Of course, those folks cannot show you any error in the prophecies of the Bible, try as hard as they may. God breathed out the prophecies and God never lies because in Him there is no darkness at all.

All claims that the Bible contains prophecies that have some errors are completely erroneous. Men spoke as the Holy Spirit moved them to speak for God. They were known as prophets of God and they wrote the prophetic Scriptures.

Holy Spirit

1. **No**. How did God give prophecies? The Holy Spirit moved men to speak for God and no prophecy from God was made from human will.
2. **Prophecy**. Prophecy meant a direct revelation from God.
3. **Made**. Prophecies from God were not made through some men dreaming up something about God.
4. **Act**. Prophecies from God were never an act of the human will.
5. **Human**. God originates the prophecy by revealing truth to men.
6. **Spirit**. Living powerfully in the family of God means the Holy Spirit moved certain men to speak for God.
7. **Spoke**. We rejoice today because the men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke for God, not interpreting something they had seen according to their own will and thinking.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering that prophecy means that God originated the prophecy.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by understanding that the Holy Spirit moved men to speak for God and they were not speaking their own interpretations of events.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to remember that the Holy Spirit moved men to speak for God.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by thanking God that the Holy Spirit moved certain men to speak for God. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by remembering the Scriptures are the product of the Holy Spirit moving men to speak for God?

HALLELUJAH !

6

False

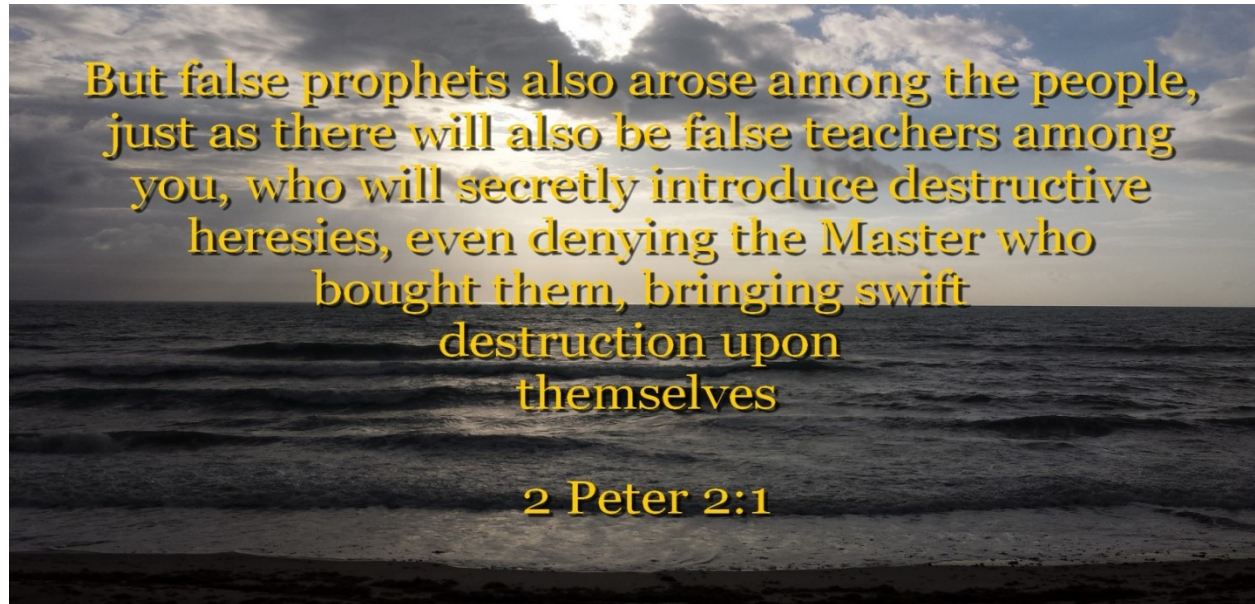
Prophets Today

Peter warned that false prophets will arise among the brethren, secretly introducing destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, and bringing swift destruction upon themselves. Many people will follow their sensuality, and the truth of Jesus Christ will be maligned because of them. By their greed they will exploit the Christians with false words, but their judgment from long ago is not idle nor their destruction asleep.

HALLELUJAH!

Day Twenty Two

False Prophets Today



Who introduces destructive heresies? False prophets and false teachers secretly introduce destructive heresies.

Just like there are prophets sent from God, they are also evil prophets. They arise among the people of God, indicating they arise from within the flock and stand up and proclaim they are prophets, but God never sent them or inspired them. The devil sent them and they speak from their father, the devil.

Just like the false prophets, so also false teachers arise among the believers. They secretly introduce destructive heresies. Heresies include false doctrine about God and His ways. So, the false teachers do not come right out and say were telling lies, but they pretend they are telling the truth. In fact, they deny the Master who bought them.

Some people today teach that Jesus only died for the sins of the elect. When they make such a false claim, they overlook the fact that Jesus was the Master Who bought the false teachers and the false prophets. The false teachers and the false prophets were certainly not going to heaven, but

Jesus bought them with His own precious blood, and they were not the elect. Therefore, the popular doctrine known as limited atonement conflicts with God's revelation that Jesus bought the false prophets and the false teachers.

Destruction

1. **False**. What do false prophets do? They secretly introduce destructive heresies.
2. **Prophets**. False prophets live among the people of God.
3. **People**. The people of God can be taken in by false prophets for a time.
4. **Teachers**. False teachers often accompany false prophets, and both of them introduce destructive heresies.
5. **Secretly**. False teachers and false prophets do not stand up and identify themselves as false teachers and false prophets. They claim to be telling the truth.
6. **Heresies**. Living powerfully in the family of God means false prophets and false teachers introduce destructive heresies, which means that they deny the truths found in the Scriptures.
7. **Denying**. We rejoice today because while false teachers and false prophets deny the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves, we delight in knowing the truth of the Scriptures and worshiping the Master, Jesus Christ the Righteous.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering that no prophecy from God was made by an act of human interpretation.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by recognizing false teachers and false prophets who deny the Master who bought them and secretly introduce heresies into the church.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to be aware of false prophets and false teachers in the church today.**

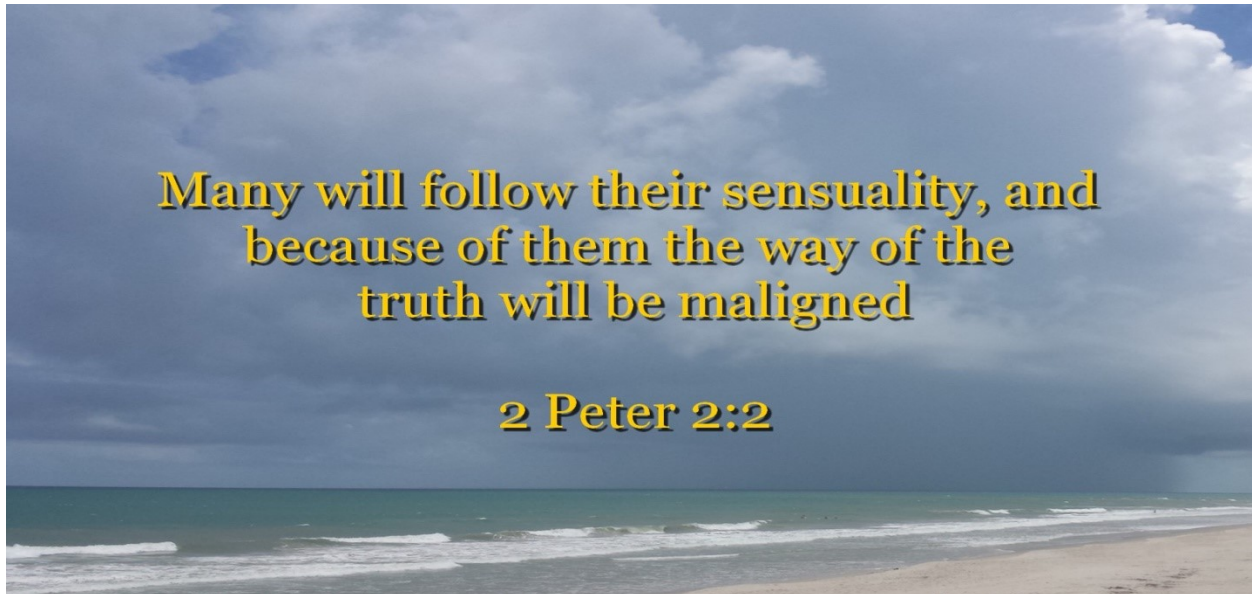
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by exposing the false teachers and false prophets among us by comparing their doctrine with the Scriptures. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by refuting false prophets and false teachers secretly spreading their destructive heresies today and denying the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Twenty Three

Truth Today



What do the false teachers and false prophets promote? They use sensuality to promote destructive heresies.

The false prophets and the false teachers promote sensuality among the flock. They seduce Christians to commit immoral acts of many kinds. Sensuality refers to an appeal to the lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh, and all kinds of immorality.

People will always look closely at the behavior of Christians. They always look for ways to show that Christians are hypocrites, saying one thing and doing the opposite. They say they abstain from immorality, but they secretly engage in immorality and hope they are never caught. Of course, God knows all about the immorality and many of the things done in secret will be proclaimed on the housetops.

The false prophets and false teachers not only secretly introduce heresies, but they also undermine the pure testimony of the church. By demonstrating the immorality present among Christians, they show the world that Christians are only giant hypocrites. Unless Christians reject

both the heresies and the sensuality of the fault in the false teachers, they will look more like the world than like Christ.

Maligned

1. **Many**. Will anyone follow the false teachers and false prophets? Many will follow them.

2. **Follow**. Many will particularly follow not only their destructive heresies, but also their destructive practices.

3. **Sensuality**. The false teachers and false prophets will introduce sensuality, encouraging people to do things to pleasure themselves contrary to the will of God.

4. **Because**. Because these people have corrupted people claiming to be Christians, they give Christians a very bad name.

5. **Them**. Because of them, the truth of God becomes maligned in the population.

6. **Truth**. Living powerfully in the family of God means the truth of God always remains, even when false teachers and false prophets spread lies about the truth.

7. **Maligned**. We rejoice today because the truth of God remains supremely powerful, even as the false teachers and false prophets spread their destructive heresies and cause the way of the truth to be maligned.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering that when we engage in sensuality, we cause the way of the truth to be maligned.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by avoiding the heresies and the sensuality pushed by false prophets and false teachers upon the flock.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to reject all sensuality so that the way of truth is not maligned by our sinful behavior.**

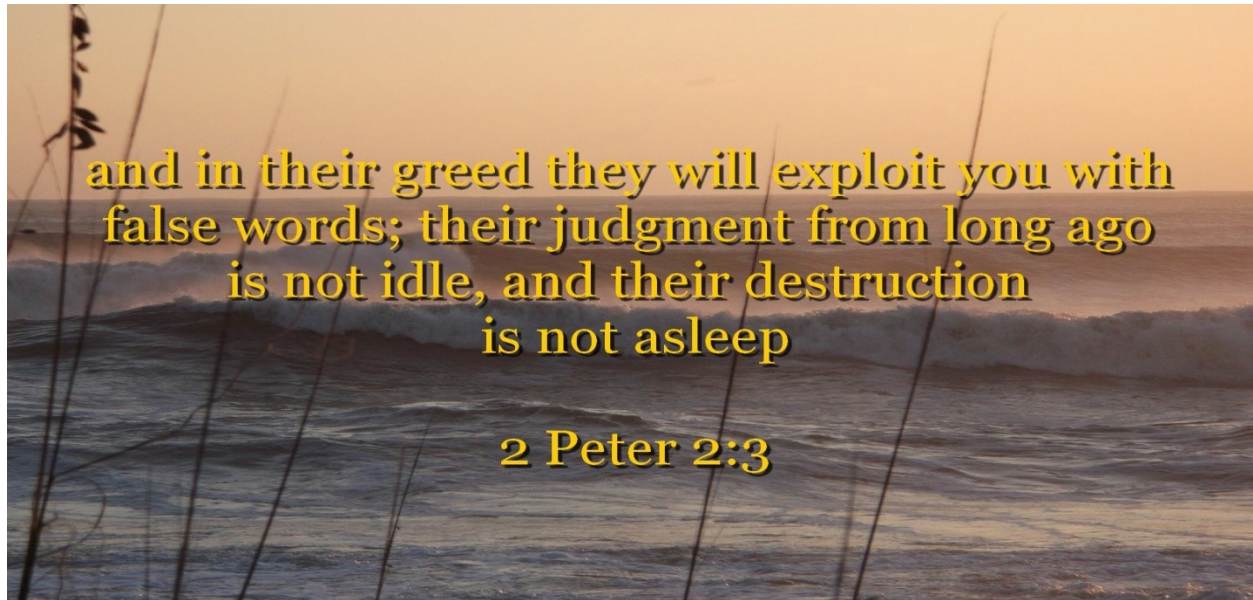
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by recognizing that false prophets and false teachers love for people to malign the way of the truth from God. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by opposing the false teachers and false prophets and their sensuality which leads many to malign the truth?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Twenty Four

Greed Today



What awaits the false teachers and the false prophets? God said their judgment is not idle and their destruction is not asleep.

God had very serious words concerning the false teachers and false prophets. He said they use their greed to exploit Christians. Coupled with the previous verse, we know that their greed extends to destructive heresies in promoting sensuality among the flock. When Christians fall into heresies and sensuality, the way of the truth will be maligned.

God takes note of every false teacher and false prophet exploiting the family of God with their greed. God does not overlook it for all eternity. God offers salvation to every human being willing to accept it. For all those people who refuse the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, they will pay an eternal debt.

God declared their judgment from long ago is not idle. God has already passed judgment upon all the false teachers and false prophets. God will impose that judgment at the proper time. Likewise, God proclaimed

that their destruction is not asleep. In short, God will judge them and then their destruction follows that judgment.

Judgment

1. **Greed**. How do false teachers and false prophets exploit people? They exploit people through greed.
2. **Exploit**. Exploit in this case means they take ruthless advantage of you to do their evil bidding.
3. **False**. They use false words to exploit people.
4. **Judgment**. God reminds us that their judgment from long ago remains upon them.
5. **Long**. God passed that judgment long ago.
6. **Destruction**. Living powerfully in the family of God means all false teachers and false prophets go to eternal destruction.
7. **Asleep**. We rejoice today because the saints persevere in their faith, despite the best efforts of false prophets and false teachers, whose destruction is not asleep.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering that false prophets and false teachers will try to exploit you with false words.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by understanding that their judgment has been pronounced long ago and their destruction is not asleep.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another not to be exploited by the false words of false teachers and false prophets.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by remembering that false prophets try to exploit saints with their greed. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by praising God that the judgment of false prophets and false teachers was pronounced long ago and their destruction is not asleep?

HALLELUJAH !

7

Reserved for Judgment Today

Peter then argued that God did not spare the angels when they sinned, but cast them into Tartarus and committed them to pits of darkness, reserved for judgment. Likewise, God did not spare the ancient world in the time of Noah, flooding the earth. He also condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to destruction, but rescued righteous Lot. Those examples prove that God knows how to rescue the righteous and to keep the unrighteous under punishment for the Day of Judgment, especially those who indulge the flesh with corrupt desires and despise authority.

The unrighteous revile angelic majesties and live as creatures of instinct. They count it a pleasure to revel in the daytime and they love the wages of unrighteousness. They are like springs without water and mists driven by the storm, with a black darkness reserved for them. They promise others freedom, but they themselves are slaves of corruption.

HALLELUJAH !

Day Twenty Five

Angels Today



For if God did not spare angels when they
sinned, but cast them into hell and
committed them to pits of
darkness, reserved
for judgment

2 Peter 2:4

Where are some fallen angels today? God cast them into Tartarus.

The Bible describes Tartarus as a place with pits of darkness where fallen angels go to await judgment. People often confuse the New Testament terms Gehenna, Tartarus, Hades, and the Lake of Fire. God actually described those things in detail.

Just as God promised that sin leads to judgment and destruction for the false prophets and false teachers, so also angels face judgment and destruction from God.

The fallen angels stay in Tartarus because they will be judged for their deeds in the future. In fact, God said that believers today will judge angels tomorrow. God provided help to the descendants of Abraham, but He does not provide that help to angels.

Sinful angels await the certain judgment prepared for them related to their sinful acts. We know that not all angels who have sinned are in

Tartarus today, but we know that the devil and his angels one day will be put into eternal fire.

Pits of Darkness

1. **God**. Did God spare the angels who sinned long ago? God cast those angels into Tartarus and the pits of darkness.

2. **Spare**. God created the angels, but did not spare them when they sinned long ago.

3. **Angels**. Those fallen angels experience the darkness.

4. **Cast**. They were cast into Tartarus.

5. **Tartarus**. Tartarus was a place of darkness with pits of darkness.

6. **Darkness**. Living powerfully in the family of God means we remember that God did not spare the angels when they sinned long ago, but cast them into Tartarus with the deep pits of darkness.

7. **Reserved**. We rejoice today because we deserve to be cast into the outer darkness with weeping and gnashing of teeth, but God, being rich in mercy, saved us by the blood of Jesus Christ, so we do not end up in Tartarus, the place where angels who sinned long ago are reserved for judgment.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering the angels who fell long ago being cast into Tartarus with its deep pits of darkness, reserved for judgment.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by praising God that we will never go to Tartarus because of our faith in Jesus Christ as Savior.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to remember the fallen angels cast into Tartarus, reserved for judgment.**

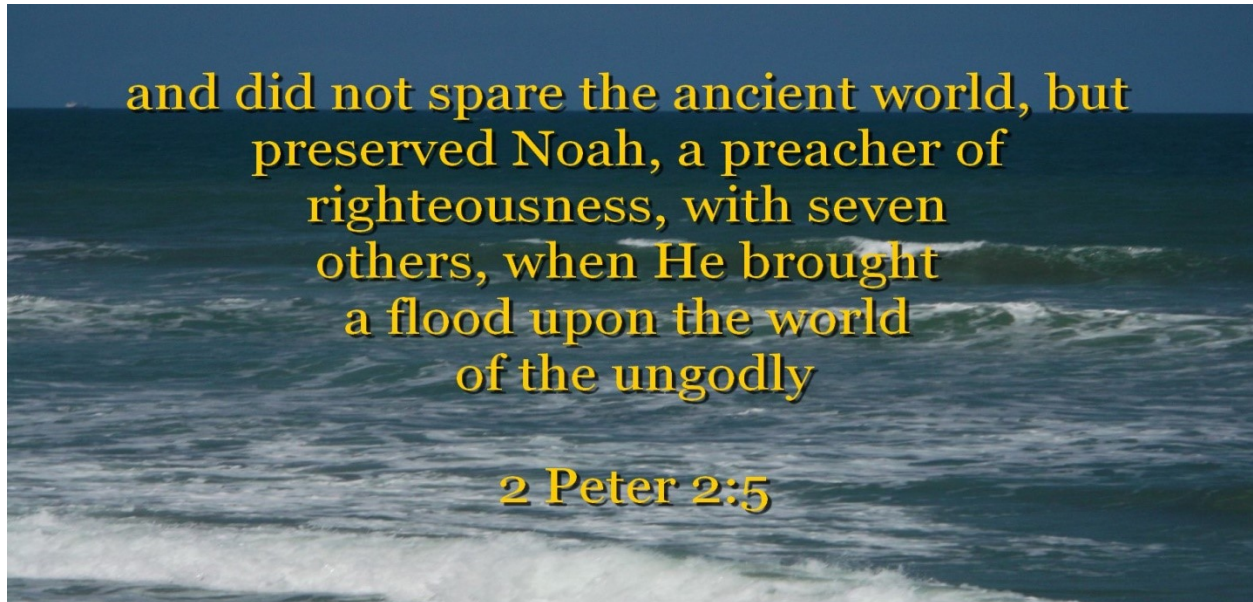
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by thanking God that we have passed out of judgment into eternal life, never fearing the judgment of God coming upon the fallen angels and all people who reject Jesus as Savior. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by delighting in the salvation provided by Jesus so that we do not fear because we have passed out of judgment into eternal life?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Twenty Six

Ancient World Today



How many people survived the great flood? God said that seven people in addition to Noah survived the great flood.

God brought the great flood upon the earth because the world was full of unGodly people. God did not spare the ancient world. He brought judgment upon the entire human race and only eight people survived in an ark. While building the ark, Noah proclaimed righteousness to the people and preached to them the need for repentance and turning to God. His message fell upon deaf ears and they perished in the great flood.

Peter emphasized the nature of God. While God loves the world, He also hates evil. When the level of evil became intolerable to God, He brought swift destruction upon the world. You may remember God set a bow in the heavens to remind Himself not to flood the world again.

God was careful to save Noah and his family. Eight people survived the flood in the ark which Noah built over a long period of time. While Noah was a preacher of righteousness, it appears no one believed his preaching and turned to God.

UnGodly

1. **Spare**. What did God do to the ancient world? God did not spare the ancient world.
2. **Ancient**. The ancient world was filled with unGodliness.
3. **Preserved**. God preserved just one family.
4. **Noah**. Noah and his immediate family came through the flood by the grace of God.
5. **Preacher**. Noah was a preacher of righteousness.
6. **Seven**. Living powerfully in the family of God means God saved only Noah and seven others in his family.
7. **Flood**. We rejoice today because God saved Noah and seven others when He did not spare the entire world with a global flood.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering Noah was a preacher of righteousness to a world of unGodliness.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by remembering that God spared Noah, but did not spare the rest of the ancient world.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to remember that God did not spare the ancient world.**

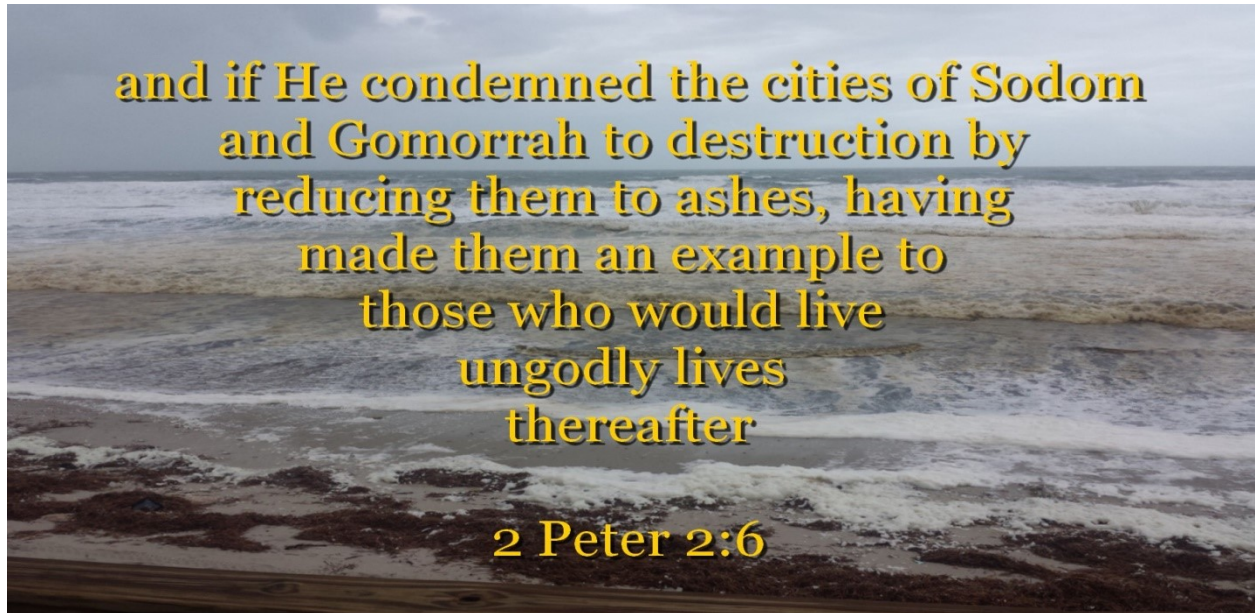
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by remembering that God did not spare the ancient world. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by praising God for sparing Noah and seven others when He flooded the entire world?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Twenty Seven

Condemned Today



What did God do to the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah? He destroyed them by reducing them to ashes.

God destroyed the whole world by flooding it with water, saving the lives of only eight people. Although God has the power to flood the whole world again, He promised that would never do that and set a bow in the heavens to remind Himself not to do that again. God can also target specific cities for judgment.

God does not need nuclear weapons to take down entire cities. He can send brimstone from heaven that reduced two entire cities to ashes in no time at all. God has infinite power and infinite control over the entire creation. We all live on the planet God created. All humans are His creation, along with every other living thing on the planet.

Peter reminds us that judgment will come upon this world for its evil. God has the power to flood the world and the power to destroy individual cities with brimstone and fire. As evil builds across the world today, we

know that God's judgment will come upon all those evil people in the world. God remains patient, but His patience has a terminal point where judgment begins.

Example

1. **Condemned**. What cities did God condemn? He condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah.
2. **Cities**. Those cities were known for their sinfulness.
3. **Sodom**. Sodom was known as a homosexual city.
4. **Gomorrah**. Gomorrah was known as an equally sinful city in the eyes of God.
5. **Destruction**. God brought swift destruction upon them and did not spare them.
6. **Ashes**. Living powerfully in the family of God means we remember that God reduced Sodom and Gomorrah to ashes.
7. **Example**. We rejoice today because God made Sodom and Gomorrah an example to those who would live unGodly thereafter so that no one would suffer the same condemnation.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering Sodom and Gomorrah reduced to ashes for their sinful ways.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by praising God He left an example so that people would not live as the people of Sodom and Gomorrah.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to remember Sodom and Gomorrah as an example of God's righteous judgment.**

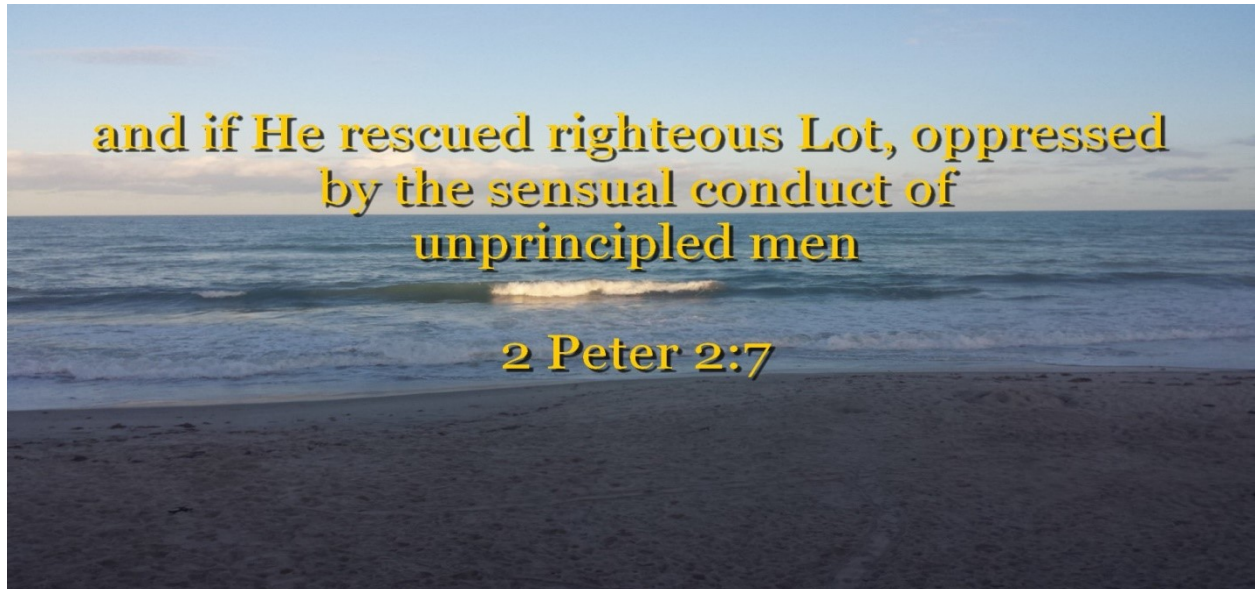
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by remembering Sodom and Gomorrah reduced to ashes. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by letting people know that God made Sodom and Gomorrah an example of what happens to cities that live in notorious sin?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Twenty Eight

Oppressed Today



Why was Lot oppressed? The sinful conduct of unprincipled men in Sodom oppressed Lot.

Just as God found Noah and his family before the flood to be righteous, so also God found Lot to be righteous while he lived among sensual and unprincipled men in Sodom. God was not willing to destroy righteous people along with the unrighteous, but He could not find righteous people in Sodom, except for Lot and his family.

Peter revealed the nature of God and judgment. Peter warned everyone the God had already destroyed the entire world and individual cities in it. God knows how to save the righteous, but He certainly knows also how to punish the wicked and bring their wickedness to an immediate and catastrophic end. Peter looks into the past just like he looked into the future with God revealing truth to him. The Holy Spirit moved Peter to speak and write for God about the flood, Sodom and Gomorrah, and the Day of Judgment coming when Jesus Christ appears. Peter never does academic dissection of the past or future, but rather focuses upon God's demands upon our life here and now to be righteous and live for Him by

faith. Peter draws examples for us to avoid unGodly men leading unGodly lives that will only oppress us.

Unprincipled

1. **He**. Why did God rescue Lot? God rescued righteous Lot from Sodom because he was a righteous man.
2. **Rescued**. He rescued Lot by sending angels to lead him out.
3. **Righteous**. Righteous Lot had saving faith in God which brought about righteousness.
4. **Lot**. Lot was the nephew of Abraham and Lot chose to live in Sodom.
5. **Oppressed**. While living in Sodom, the sin there oppressed his righteous soul.
6. **Sensual**. Living powerfully in the family of God means Lot felt the pressure of sensual conduct throughout Sodom.
7. **Unprincipled**. We rejoice today because Lot was rescued from the unprincipled conduct of the people of Sodom by the grace of God.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering that Lot lived in Sodom, but the conduct of unprincipled men oppressed him.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by understanding that God rescued righteous Lot who lived in Sodom.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to remember Lot whom God rescued from sinful Sodom.**

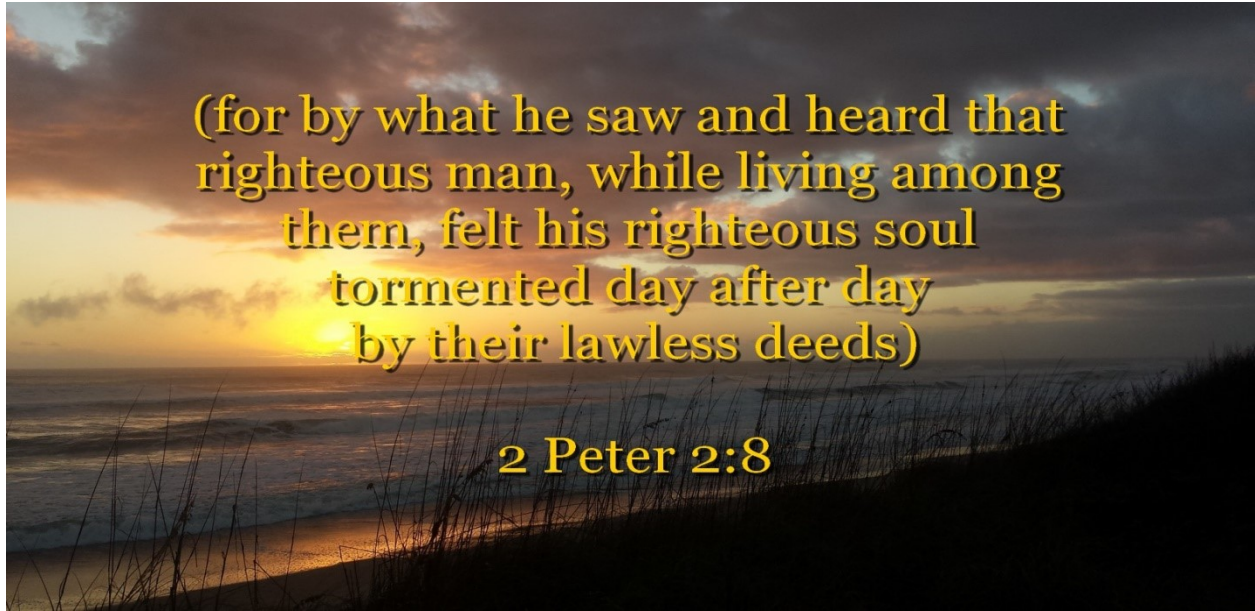
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by praising God for rescuing righteous Lot from sinful Sodom. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by remembering that God rescued Lot from the oppression he felt from unprincipled men in Sodom?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Twenty Nine

Righteous Today



What effect did living in Sodom have upon righteous Lot? Lot was tormented day by day by their lawless deeds.

When Christians live in the midst of non-Christians committing lawless deeds as a way of life, then those lawless people and their deeds torment the righteous soul of the Christian day by day.

Lot lived in the midst of Sodom. He heard and saw the unlawful deeds of the people of Sodom every day. Just as God hates evil and brings judgment upon it, so also righteous Lot suffered torment in Sodom each day. Because Lot was a righteous man, he found favor with God, but torment was poured out upon him as he watched and heard the lawless deeds of the people of Sodom. Living in a place of tremendous lawlessness has a strong emotional impact upon the righteous. They do not just ignore the lawless deeds and the sinful conduct. Lot felt torment every day as he lived in Sodom.

Peter recounted the stories of Noah and Lot to demonstrate God's nature in saving individuals and their families before devastating judgment is poured out upon their communities and upon the world. Peter wants us to appreciate the lovingkindness of God in rescuing people out of terrible places.

Lawless

1. **Saw**. What happened to righteous Lot? His righteous soul was tormented.

2. **Heard**. Lot heard terrible things in Sodom every day.

3. **Righteous**. Lot was a righteous man by faith.

4. **Living**. He was living among sensual and unprincipled men.

5. **Soul**. His righteous soul experienced torment every day because of the sinful things he saw and heard.

6. **Tormented**. Living powerfully in the family of God means righteous Lot suffered torment every day because of the things he heard and saw sensual and unprincipled men doing.

7. **Day**. We rejoice today because Lot survived the torment of his righteous soul day by day caused by the lawless deeds of the people of Sodom.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering the righteous soul of Lot being tormented day by day in Sodom.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by praising God that He delivered righteous Lot from the daily evil of Sodom which oppressed the righteous soul of Lot.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to remember how the unrighteous deeds of Sodom oppressed the soul of righteous Lot.**

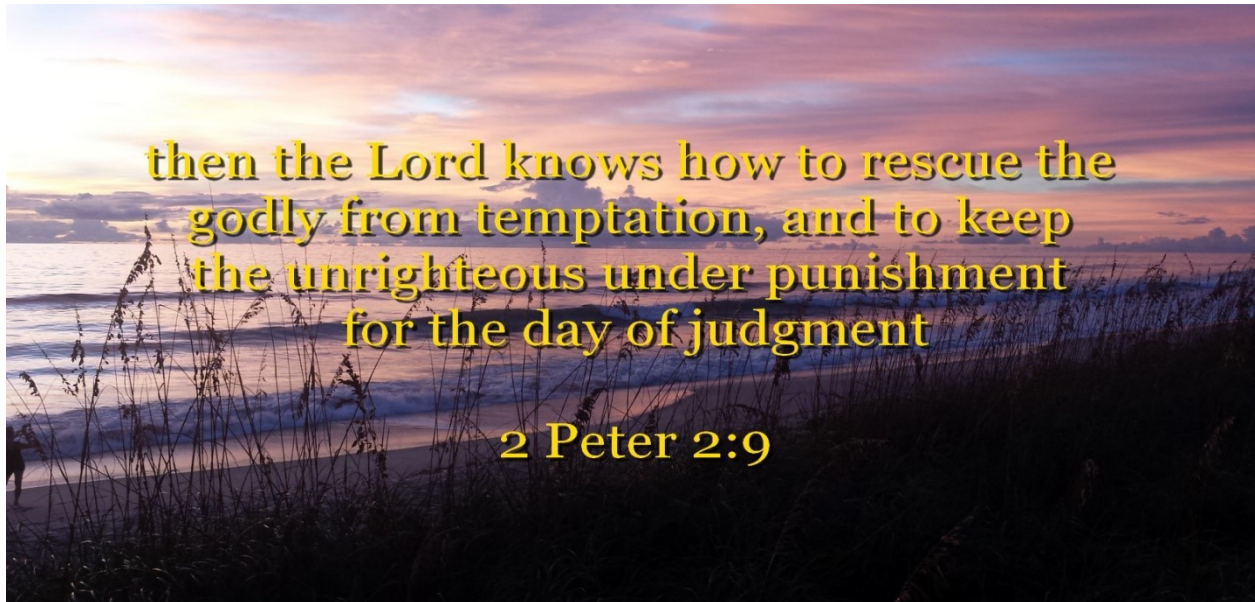
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by praising God for rescuing Lot from Sodom and its unrighteous deeds that oppressed his righteous soul every day. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by remembering God rescuing righteous Lot from the evils of Sodom?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Thirty

Rescue Today



When does punishment begin for the unrighteous? The punishment of the unrighteous begins at the moment they die.

Based upon the stories of Noah and Lot, Peter revealed that the Lord knows how to rescue the Godly from temptation and to keep the unrighteous under punishment for the Day of Judgment. Therefore, God rescues the righteous from temptation, just as God rescued Noah and Lot.

God also knows how to keep the unrighteous under punishment for the Day of Judgment. In some cases God punishes people before they die and then after death they go to the fire of eternal punishment. The people of Sodom and Gomorrah are under punishment for the Day of Judgment. Therefore, we know that Hades burns with eternal fire and acts as a holding cell for people who will go to the Day of Judgment later.

God rescues people while they are alive on earth so that they do not go to judgment. God rescued Noah from the judgment of the flood upon the earth. God rescued Lot from the judgment of fire and brimstone upon the

cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. In both cases, God rescued righteous men so that they did not suffer under the judgment He brought upon evil people.

Temptation

1. **Lord**. What does the Lord know how to do? The Lord knows how to do all things, especially rescue the righteous from temptation.
2. **Knows**. Because the Lord knows all things, He knows when the righteous need to be rescued.
3. **Rescue**. The Lord rescued righteous Lot from the evils of Sodom.
4. **Temptation**. The Lord specifically rescued righteous Lot from temptation.
5. **Keep**. The Lord also knows how to keep the unrighteous under punishment for the Day of Judgment.
6. **Punishment**. Living powerfully in the family of God means the people of Sodom and Gomorrah died thousands of years ago, yet they undergo punishment every day for their sinful acts.
7. **Day**. We rejoice today because the Lord keeps the people of Sodom and Gomorrah under punishment every day as they await the Day of Judgment in the future.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering that God knows how to rescue the righteous from temptation.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by praising God He knows every temptation we face and provides a way of escape for everyone.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to remember that God knows how to rescue the righteous from temptation.**

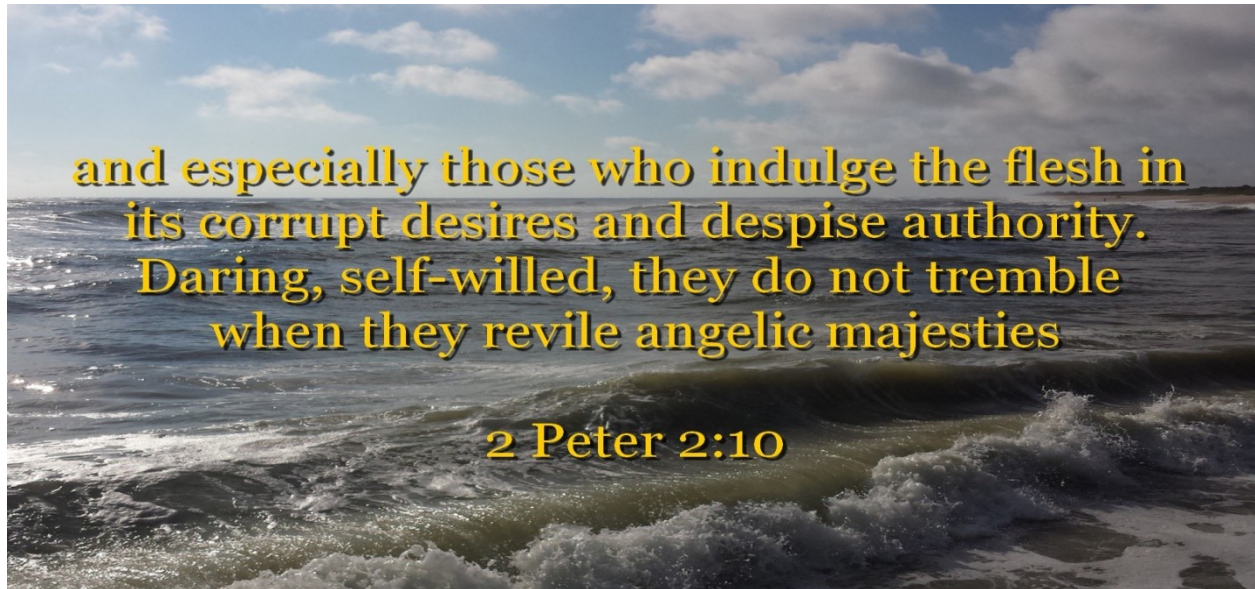
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by remembering that the people of Sodom and Gomorrah live under punishment today, awaiting the Day of Judgment in the future. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by thanking God that He has rescued you through Jesus Christ our Lord from the penalties of our sin so that we do not face the Day of Judgment regarding salvation?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Thirty One

Despise Today



Who does God punish? God punishes the unrighteous.

Peter described the unrighteous. They include those who indulge the flesh and its corrupt desires and despise authority. They want to live to themselves with no interference from anyone else.

They are daring, self-willed and they do not tremble when they revile angelic majesties. Revile means that they are abusive and angrily insulting in their speech. Therefore, these unrighteous people feel no hesitation about reviling angelic majesties that are far more powerful than they are. They have made a life of living for themselves by indulging their own desires. They do not recognize that angelic majesties are authorities to be reckoned with.

These unrighteous people are daring, in the sense that they take unreasonable advantage of other people without regard to the consequences. They leap without thinking first. They act without considering God's will. They are self-willed, because they do what they want

without consideration of someone else. They love themselves and no one else.

The unrighteous people that Peter described in detail often sit with other Christians, pretending to be one of them. They secretly introduce destructive heresies and catch people with their greed and sensuality.

Reville

1. **Especialy**. Who does God keep under punishment for the Day of Judgment? Especialy those people who indulge the flesh and its corrupt desires and despise authority.

2. **Indulge**. People who indulge the flesh do whatever their flesh wants whenever it wants it.

3. **Despise**. They also despise authority, because they do not want anybody telling them what to do.

4. **Daring**. They are daring and self-willed. They brazenly sin against God and ignore God's will because they only want to do their own will.

5. **Desires**. As they indulge the flesh, they follow its desires, not only hurting themselves, but often dragging others into their sins of the flesh.

6. **Tremble**. Living powerfully in the family of God means we should tremble before God and never revile angelic majesties, in contrast to the evil ones who revile angelic majesties without trembling.

7. **Angelic**. We rejoice today because we know that Christ is superior to all angelic majesties, but the evil ones revile angelic majesties.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering that evil ones indulge the flesh with its corrupt desires and despise authority.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by understanding that the evil ones are daring, self-willed, and they do not tremble when they revile angelic majesties.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to praise God that He rescues us from temptation.**

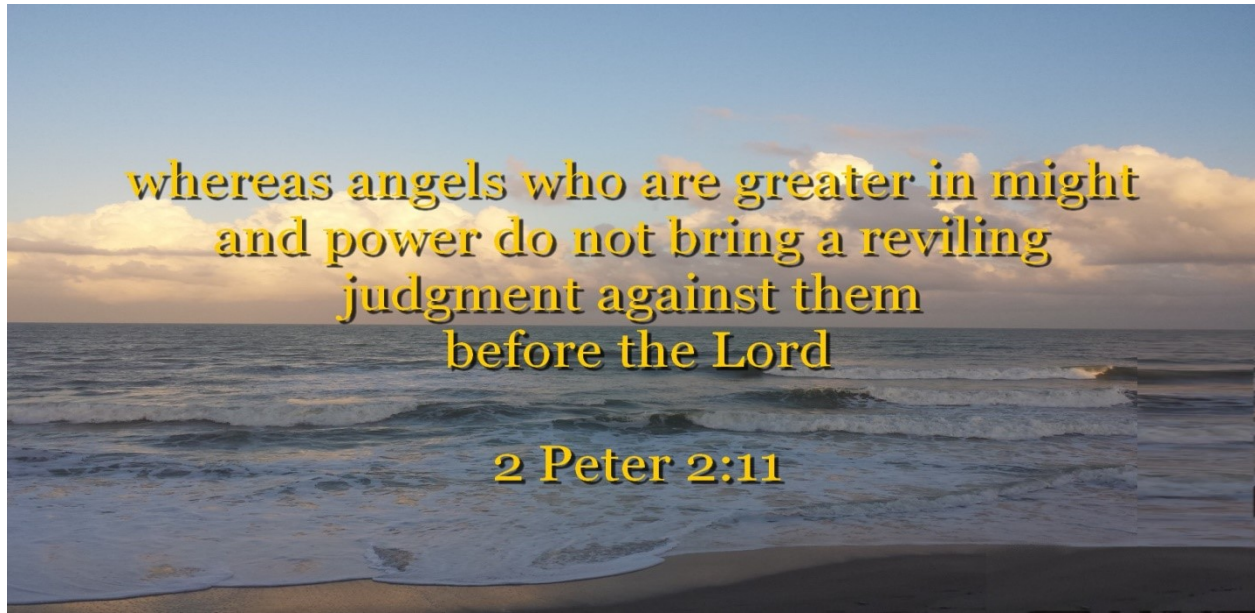
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by remembering the evil ones who indulge the flesh and despise authority and revile angelic majesties without trembling. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by thanking God that He knows how to keep under punishment for the Day of Judgment those people who did evil and never turned to God for salvation?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Thirty Two

Angels Today



Why should the unrighteous tremble before angelic majesties? They should tremble before angels who have greater power and might than humans.

Peter described one of the great sins of the unrighteous as not trembling before angelic majesties, but instead they bring reviling judgments against them before the Lord. God revealed here that people love to accuse others before God. They tend to forget that God knows all things about all beings at all times. In short, He knows everything. God never needs anybody to accuse anyone else before Him.

We know that one of the titles that Satan wears is accuser of the brethren. Night and day he accuses Christians before God in heaven. Even so, all Christians have an advocate with the Father named Jesus Christ the Righteous. By His blood atonement, Jesus shows that the Christians have no condemnation from God because all the condemnation they deserve was poured out upon Jesus at the cross and the debt of death satisfied once and

for all. We rejoice today because angelic majesties may serve God to His glory, or oppose God and be thrown out of heaven at the right time.

Judgment

1. **Angels**. What should we learn from angels? We should learn from angels not to bring reviling the judgment against those who are under punishment for the Day of Judgment.

2. **Greater**. Angels are greater than humans.

3. **Might**. Angels have more might than humans.

4. **Power**. Angels have more power than humans.

5. **Reviling**. Even so, angels do not bring a reviling judgment against those evil ones were kept under punishment for the Day of Judgment.

6. **Judgment**. Living powerfully in the family of God means God wants us to remember that the angels do not bring reviling judgments against the evil ones.

7. **Lord**. We rejoice today because God has handed all judgment over to the Son so that people would honor God the Son like they honor God the Father.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by rejoicing that God holds the evil ones under punishment for the Day of Judgment.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by never bringing a reviling judgment against the angelic majesties held under punishment for the Day of Judgment.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to never bring a reviling judgment to the Lord against angelic majesties, because some evil angels are not held in punishment today.**

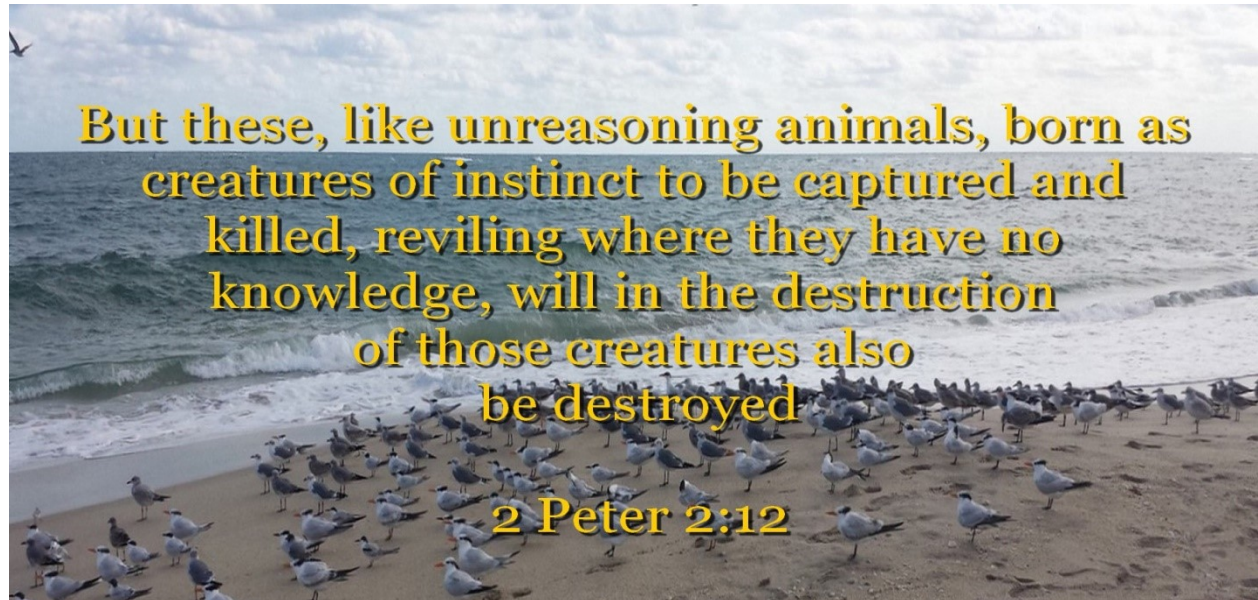
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by never bringing to the Lord a reviling judgment against angelic majesties. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by praising God that He will always be more powerful than the strongest angelic majesties?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Thirty Three

Unreasoning Today



What are the unrighteous like? They are like unreasoning animals.

The unrighteous are like unreasoning animals, born as creatures of instinct to be captured and killed. In other words, the unrighteous know nothing of God and His ways, because they are foolishness to them. By the wisdom of this world, they never knew God and crucified the Lord of glory.

Just as the unrighteous revile angelic majesties, they revile because they have no knowledge. Not only do they act according to instinct, but they also lack the knowledge of wisdom and the ways of God. Only through Jesus Christ can anyone know the way to God the Father. They never knew God and never cared about knowing God. They live according to their instincts and delight in their ignorance of God, although God made Himself known within them. But their foolish hearts were darkened, and He gave them over to impurity. They exchanged the truth of God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator.

Ultimately, the unrighteous will be destroyed in the destruction of those creatures. The Day of Judgment will arrive and they will suffer the wages of sin which is death.

Destroyed

1. **Unreasoning**. What are the unrighteous like in the eyes of God? They are like unreasoning animals.
2. **Instinct**. Those unreasoning animals are born as creatures of instinct.
3. **Captured**. They are to be captured by others.
4. **Killed**. They are to be killed by others.
5. **Knowledge**. They revile where they have no knowledge, because if they knew, they would not be quick to bring reviling judgments to the Lord, but would turn to Him.
6. **Creatures**. Living powerfully in the family of God means the unrighteous will be destroyed along with the destruction of those creatures.
7. **Destroyed**. We rejoice today because saints will receive the grace and mercy of God, but God also imposes justice for all the unrighteous.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering they are like unreasoning animals to be captured and killed and finally destroyed.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by thanking God that when we were dead in our trespasses and sin, God made us alive in Christ Jesus by faith.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to remember the destruction of the unrighteous and praising God for His mercy and grace to us.**

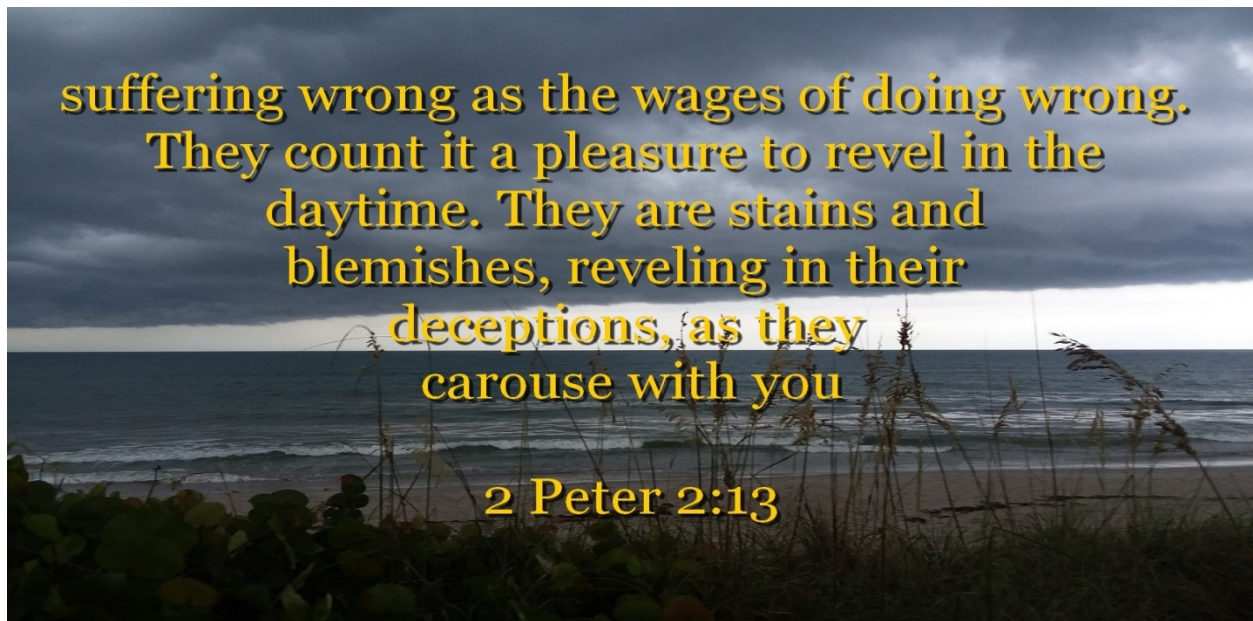
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by praising God for His loving kindness to us and the justice He brings to the unrighteous. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by humbling yourself before God as you consider the judgment awaiting the unrighteous, including people you know?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Thirty Four

Wrong Today



Who carouses is with you? The unrighteous.

The unrighteous suffer wrong as the wages of doing wrong. They count it a pleasure to revel in the daytime. Reveling means to have an outrageously good time, but often with an undercurrent of evil. The unrighteous revel in their own evil and greatly delight in doing it.

God described them as stains and blemishes. Before we knew the cleansing power of Jesus Christ, we were people of unrighteousness with stains and blemishes marring our spiritual appearance. Because of the great love of Jesus Christ, we have been washed and cleansed by the blood of Jesus Christ.

The unrighteous seek to carouse with the Christians. They do so through deceptions, claiming to be one thing but actually they do evil things. They revel in those evil things they do. Because of their deceptive ways, they entangle many Christians in their reveling and carousing. God knows how to deal with them and they shall certainly go to judgment.

Reveling

Suffering. What are the wages of doing wrong? The unrighteous are suffering wrong as the wages of doing wrong.

1. **Wrong**. They do wrong, meaning they sin against God.
2. **Wages**. Just like the wages of sin is death, so also they suffer wrong as the wages of doing wrong.
3. **Pleasure**. They take pleasure to revel in the daytime.
4. **Revel**. Revel means they take exceeding joy, often accompanied with evil behavior when the unrighteous revel.
5. **Stains**. Living powerfully in the family of God means we know the unrighteous are stains and blemishes, reveling in their deceptions.
6. **Carouse**. We rejoice today because we no longer carouse with the unrighteous or participate in their reveling over sin.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by no longer counting it a pleasure to revel in the daytime.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by praising God that we are no longer stains and blemishes, reveling in deceptions, because Jesus Christ has set us free from slavery to sin.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to live no longer as stains and blemishes, reveling in deceptions.**

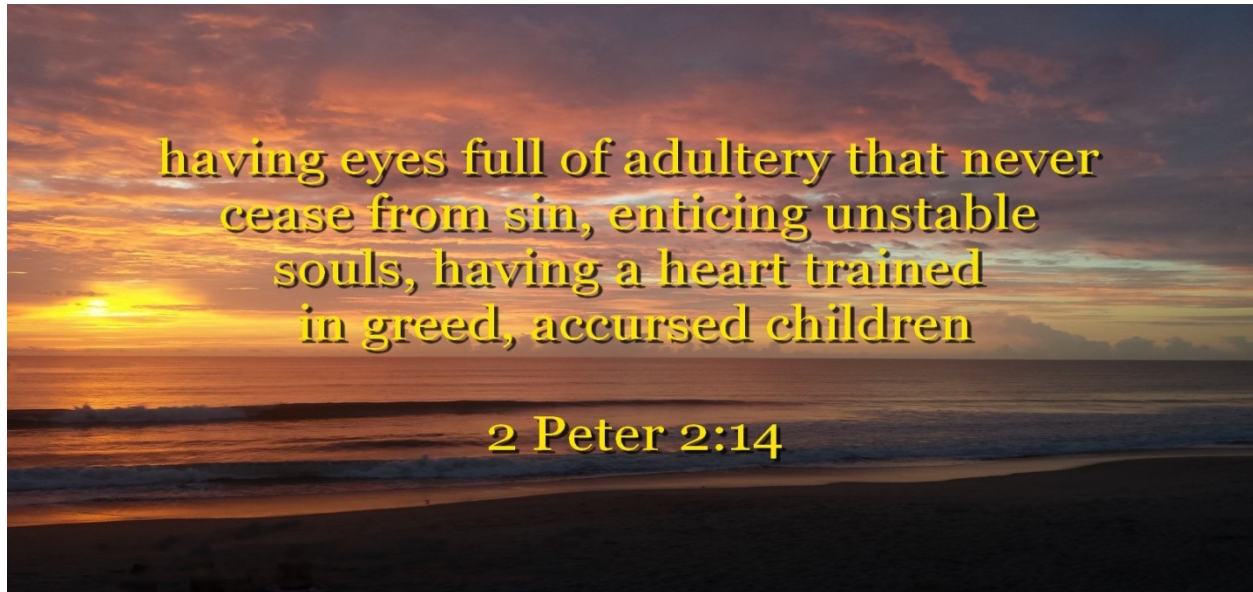
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by worshiping the Lord Jesus for giving up His life so that we no longer live as stains and blemishes, reveling in our deceptions with carousing. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by thanking Jesus that all the old things are passed away; new things came at the moment of salvation by grace through faith?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Thirty Five

Adultery Today



Who do the unrighteous entice? They entice unstable souls.

The unrighteous have eyes full of adultery. Adultery occurs when a married person has sex with somebody they are not married to. Jesus explained that people can commit adultery in their hearts filled with lust, so that merely looking upon a woman to lust after her amounts to adultery. According to Jesus lusting without touching still amounts to adultery. When your eyes are full of adultery, you look at people from a purely sexual perspective with your heart full of sin.

The unrighteous never cease from sin. They are always looking to sin more and revel in their evil. They target unstable souls by enticing them to sin with them. They use deception and flattering words to take advantage of those unstable souls. They have hearts trained in greed, so like Sheol, they never say they are filled and have enough. No matter how many times they commit adultery, nor have their eyes full of adultery, they always want more. Their greed fills them from the crown of their head to the soles of their feet.

They are accursed children. We praise God because we were once accursed children whom God adopted into His family by grace through faith.

Accursed

1. **Eyes**. What fills the eyes of the unrighteous? Adultery.
2. **Adultery**. Adultery means that a married person has sex with someone they are not married to or they have thoughts about having sex with someone they are not married to.
3. **Cease**. Their eyes never cease from sin.
4. **Enticing**. They go about enticing unstable souls.
5. **Greed**. They have hearts trained in greed.
6. **Accursed**. Living powerfully in the family of God means the unrighteous are also accursed children.
7. **Children**. We rejoice today because we once were accursed children, but then God saved us and made us the children of God whom the Lord Jesus purchased with His own blood.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by thanking God we no longer have eyes full of adultery, nor hearts trained in greed nor do we entice unstable souls because we are no longer accursed children, but part of the family of God.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by worshiping God that we are new creatures in Christ and all the old things have passed away.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to remember that we once were just like the unrighteous, but now we have been cleansed and sanctified by God.**

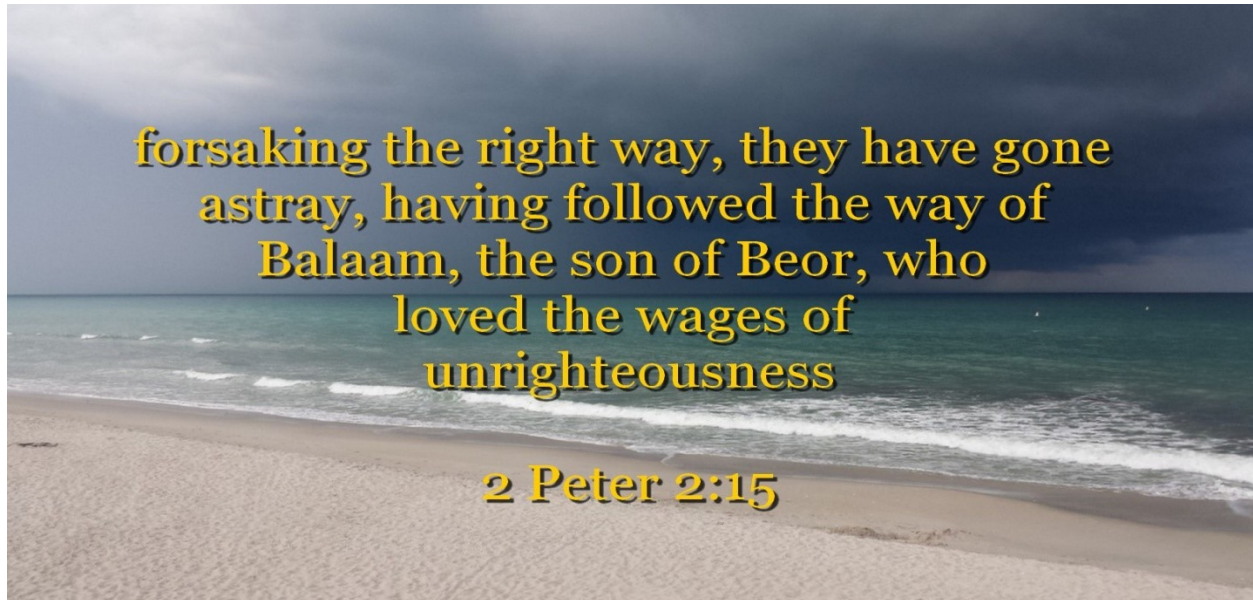
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by remembering the precious blood of the Lord Jesus Christ that cleansed us from all unrighteousness. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by praising God that we no longer live as the unrighteous, but as saints of God filled with His righteousness?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Thirty Six

Astray Today



What did the unrighteous forsake? They forsook the right way.

The unrighteous follow the way of Balaam, the Son of Beor. An unrighteous king approached Balaam to prophesy against Israel. God told Balaam not to have anything to do with that evil king. Yet, Balaam did not follow God's commandment. He loved the wages of unrighteousness and went to meet the king.

As Balaam traveled to meet the evil king, his donkey saved Balaam's life. God would have killed Balaam, but the donkey spoke to Balaam and warned him about the angel ready to kill him.

Balaam was taken with the opportunity to make the wages of unrighteousness. He thought the evil king would pay him handsomely for doing the king's bidding. Yet, although Balaam first took the way of righteousness, he still pronounced a blessing upon the people of Israel, much to the dismay of the evil king.

Balaam stands as an example of forsaking the way of righteousness because he loved the wages of unrighteousness. Today, everyone who loves the wages of unrighteousness follows in the evil path of Balaam.

Unrighteousness

1. **Forsaking**. What does it mean to love the wages of unrighteousness? It means you have become like Balaam the prophet, forsaking the way of righteousness.

2. **Way**. All Christians should follow the way of righteousness.

3. **Astray**. When they forsake the way of righteousness, they go astray.

4. **Balaam**. Balaam loved the wages of unrighteousness.

5. **Loved**. Balaam loved money more than he loved obeying God.

6. **Wages**. Living powerfully in the family of God means we must never desire the wages of unrighteousness.

7. **Unrighteousness**. We rejoice today because we may learn to avoid the error of Balaam and never let the desire for the wages of unrighteousness lead us astray.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by learning to avoid the wages of unrighteousness.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by remembering Balaam who loved the wages of unrighteousness.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to never forsake the right way.**

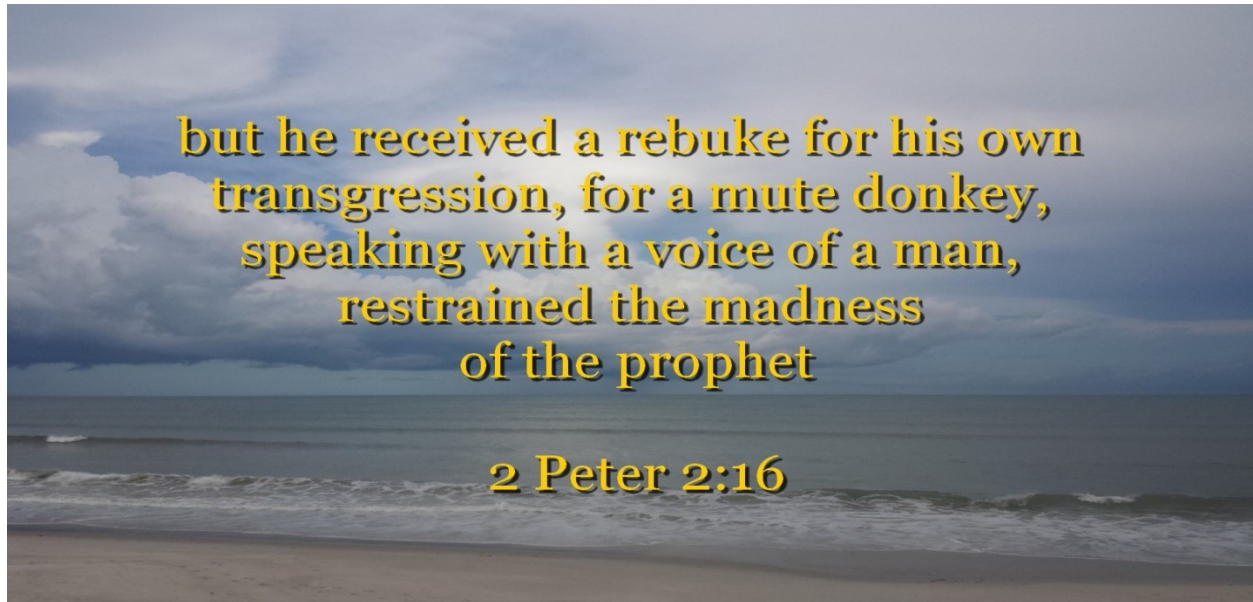
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by never forsaking the right way in seeking the wages of unrighteousness. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by remembering Balaam who loved the wages of unrighteousness and suffered accordingly?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Thirty Seven

Rebuke Today



Who restrained the madness of the prophet Balaam? God used a donkey to restrain Balaam.

Balaam transgressed the command of God by agreeing to go see the evil king after God told him not to. Balaam was intent upon seeking the wages of unrighteousness.

The donkey Balaam had for many years suddenly began speaking. That donkey told Balaam about the angel with a sword drawn standing in the way, ready to kill Balaam. He changed his mind and repented of his evil.

A spiritual madness had come over Balaam. He had departed from the way of righteousness and embraced the wages of unrighteousness. By disobeying God, he hoped to gain from the evil king. Balaam made bad choices and only the grace of God allowing the donkey to speak to him saved him from immediate death.

At times in our lives, we are pursuing unrighteousness. We are doing things that transgressed the commandment of God. God gave us the

example of Balaam where a donkey saved the life of the prophet. When we love the wages of unrighteousness, God will oppose us every time.

Donkey

1. **Received**. Who rebuked Balaam? His donkey rebuked him.
2. **Rebuke**. God used the donkey to convict Balaam of sin.
3. **Transgression**. Balaam had disobeyed Yahweh by meeting with a king opposed to Israel after Yahweh told him not to meet with that king and so fell into transgression.
4. **Donkey**. God opened the mouth of the donkey and she spoke to Balaam according to the will of God.
5. **Voice**. The donkey spoke with the voice of a man.
6. **Madness**. Living powerfully in the family of God means God uses extraordinary means to convict us of sin and to restrained the prophet, despite his own thoughts.
7. **Prophet**. We rejoice today because the donkey of Balaam convicted him of sin and loving the wages or unrighteousness.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering Balaam's donkey that convicted him of sin.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by never loving the wages of unrighteousness and so commit sin against God.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to never forsake the way of righteousness.**

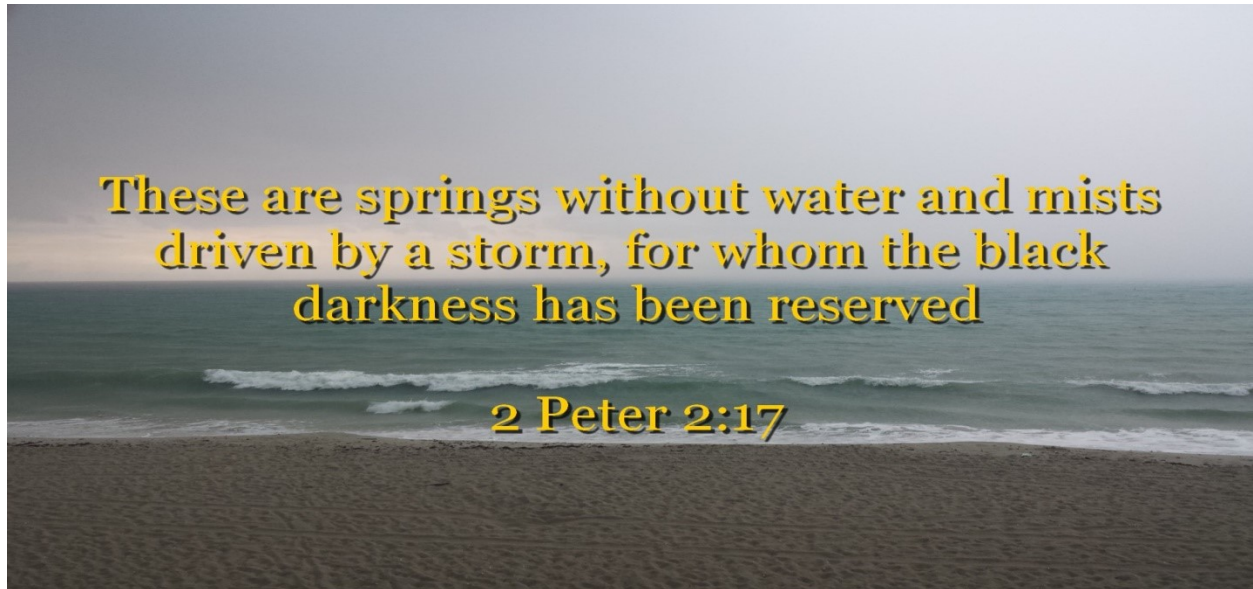
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by remembering Balaam's donkey that convicted him of sin. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by never forsaking the way of righteousness?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Thirty Eight

Darkness Today



For whom did God reserve the black darkness? God reserved the black darkness for the unrighteous.

God described the unrighteous as springs without water. Thirsty people make their way to the spring only to find that it has no water. It appears to be one thing, but in reality it is empty and worthless. Springs with no water are no springs at all.

God also described the unrighteous as mists driven by the storm. I have seen steam rise from the ocean, foggy mist engulf an inlet, storms whip the ocean into a froth, and waterspouts spin on the surface and then pull water up to the clouds. As storms rage, mists are often driven before them. You cannot see through them and you never know what is inside of them.

God emphasized that the unrighteous will end up in the black darkness because it has been reserved for them. God does not ignore sin, but pronounces judgment upon all the unrighteous at the proper time. He

is not willing for any to perish, but for all to come to repentance. Today, God remains very patient, but tomorrow the end will come for the unrighteous. God will end this entire world with fire and heaven and earth will be consumed.

Reserved

1. **Springs**. What are the unrighteous like? They are like springs without water.
2. **Water**. Springs without water never quenched anyone's thirst.
3. **Mists**. The unrighteous are like mists, dark and formless.
4. **Storms**. They are like mists driven by storms.
5. **Black**. God said the black darkness has been reserved for them.
6. **Darkness**. Living powerfully in the family of God means we are the children of the light and no longer walk in darkness.
7. **Reserved**. We rejoice today because as children of the light, we look forward to spending all eternity with God and He is light. In contrast, the unrighteous will spend time in the black darkness God has reserved for them.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering the black darkness has been reserved for the unrighteous.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by understanding that the unrighteous are like springs without water and mists driven before the storm.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to live as children of the light.**

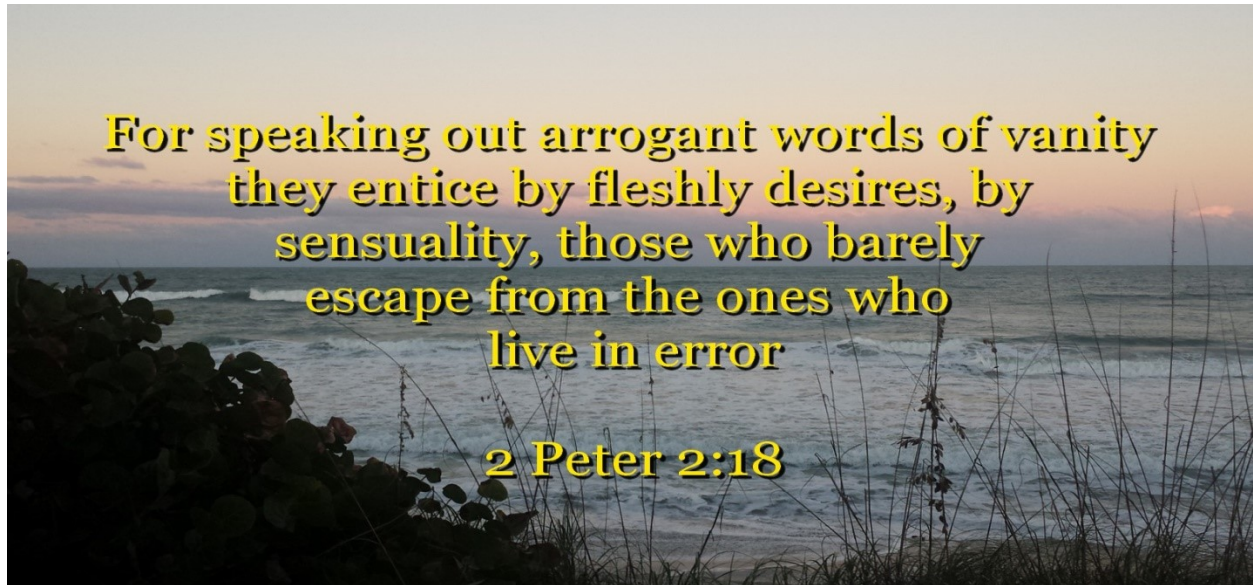
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by thanking God that we are not springs without water or mists driven before the storm. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by thanking God that the black darkness has not been reserved for you?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Thirty Nine

Arrogant Words Today



How do the unrighteous entice others? They entice by fleshly desires.

The unGodly speak out arrogant words of vanity. They have an agenda. They entice by fleshly desires the people who barely escaped from the ones who live in error. In other words, the unrighteous have plans to destroy other lives.

The unGodly specifically target those who barely escaped from the ones who live in error. The weak and immature make appealing targets to the unrighteous. They appeal to them by means of sensuality. They stir the lusts and devour the flesh.

They use their words to promise things that they can never deliver, they make promises but never keep them. They say one thing, but do the opposite. They play upon the affections of the weak and seduce them with sensuality.

Just like others who have fallen into the way of unrighteousness, they constantly prowl about seeking new prey. They are never satisfied with their greed and lust and never lack words to proclaim vanity as if it were profitable. The strong believers must constantly watch over the flock and silence the vain words and stop the seduction of the weak and immature.

Error

1. **Speaking**. What do the unrighteous say? They speak out arrogant words of vanity.

2. **Arrogant**. They speak arrogantly because they love themselves and no one else, thinking they are clearly superior to all.

3. **Entice**. They entice people with fleshly desires.

4. **Sensuality**. They use sensuality as a weapon to destroy lives.

5. **Escape**. They entice those who barely escaped from the ones who live in error.

6. **Live**. Living powerfully in the family of God means that we oppose the unrighteous speaking arrogant things and seeking to entice others to join them in their sin.

7. **Error**. We rejoice today because we once walked in error, but now, by the grace of God, we walk in the light with God, having escaped the evil ones.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering that the unrighteous are speaking arrogant words of vanity to entice people to indulge fleshly desires.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by avoiding sensuality and the arrogant words of people trying to entice us to live in sensuality.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to avoid the traps of the unrighteous trying to entice us.**

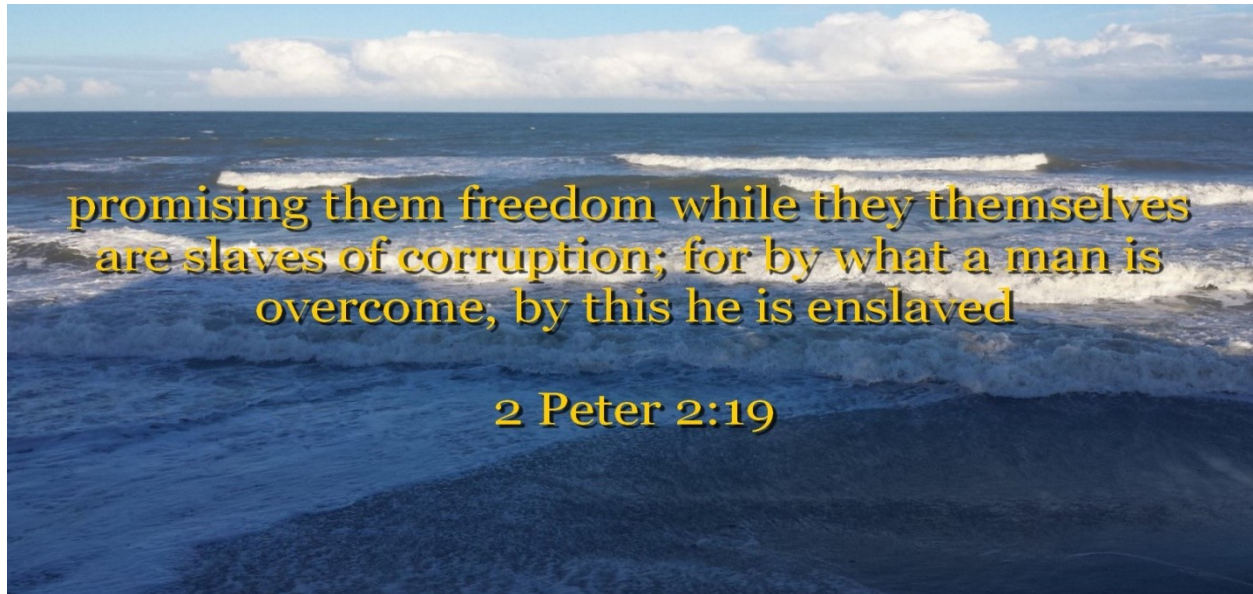
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by rejoicing that Jesus has saved us and we no longer live in sensuality, speaking arrogant words. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by worshiping God for His grace and mercy and kindness in delivering us from those who speak arrogant words of vanity?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Forty

Slaves Today



What do slaves of corruption promise other people? They promise them freedom.

The unrighteous know that the weak and immature seek freedom. People do not understand that the greatest freedom resides of being a slave of Christ and His righteousness. Only the Lord Jesus Christ provides freedom from that slavery. Only by faith do we receive the free gift of eternal life. Jesus said you will know the truth and the truth will set you free.

The unrighteous proclaim vain things, preying upon the weak and immature. They lure them with sensuality, promising them freedom which they have never known and are unable to give others.

The things that overcome a man enslave a man. When something overcomes a man that thing has become the master of the man. The unrighteous make promises of freedom from all the things that overcome people. Yet, like all the other lies of the unrighteous, they are exposed as liars because they live in corruption themselves and never obtain

freedom on their own. Only the Lord Jesus Christ provides freedom through knowing the truth He proclaims. He speaks the truth at all times and grants freedom from corruption to all who believe in Him for salvation.

Corruption

1. **Promising**. What do the unrighteous promise? They promise freedom, but they are liars.

2. **Freedom**. Although they promise freedom, they themselves are slaves of corruption.

3. **Slaves**. As slaves of corruption, they live in unrighteousness with the wrath of God abiding upon them.

4. **Corruption**. As slaves of corruption, they try to entice you to join them.

5. **Man**. By what a man is overcome, by this he is enslaved. When you live in corruption, you are enslaved to corruption and sin.

6. **Overcome**. Living powerfully in the family of God means by the power of God in our lives, we have overcome slavery to corruption and have become slaves of righteousness through Jesus Christ our Savior.

7. **Enslaved**. We rejoice today because we rejoice that we are no longer enslaved to corruption, but live in the freedom of slavery to Jesus Christ our Lord.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering that by what a man is overcome, by this he is enslaved.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by thanking God that we are no longer enslaved to corruption, but live in the freedom of slavery to righteousness through our Lord Jesus Christ.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to live in righteousness through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

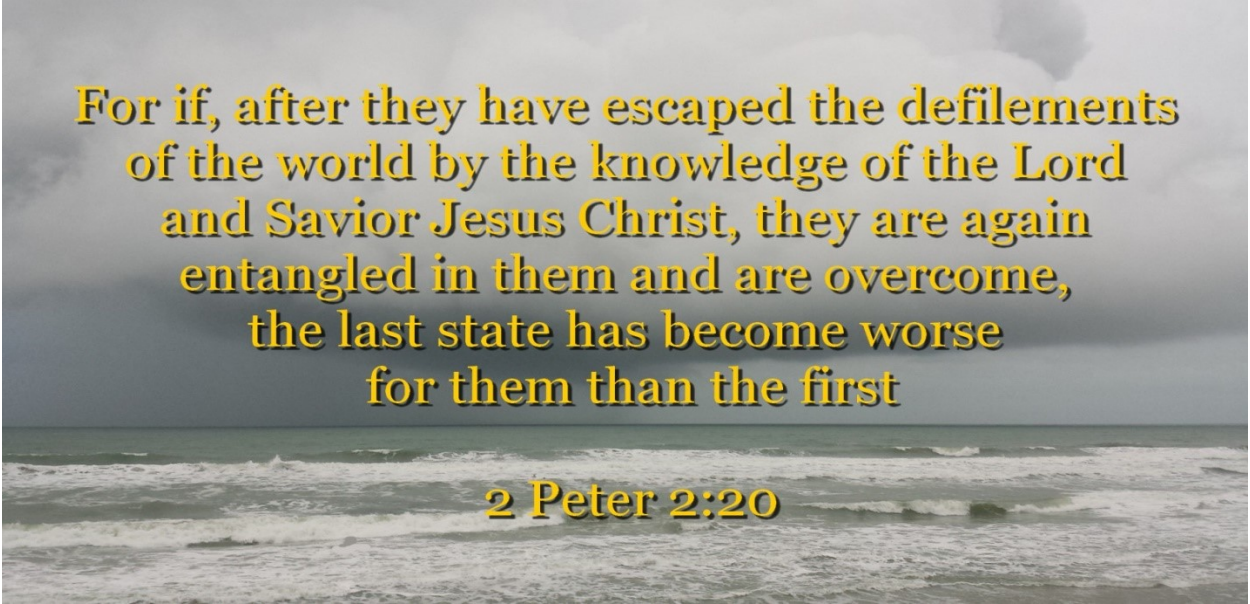
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by never forgetting the slavery to corruption which once dominated our lives. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by rejoicing that God has freed you once and for all by the power of Jesus Christ from the slavery to corruption?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Forty One

Entangled Today



For if, after they have escaped the defilements
of the world by the knowledge of the Lord
and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again
entangled in them and are overcome,
the last state has become worse
for them than the first

2 Peter 2:20

How do you escape the defilements of the world? By the knowledge of the Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Many people read the phrase “knowledge of the Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ”, to mean that you were born again, but the text does not say that explicitly. Likewise, some people read the phrase “escape the defilements of the world” to mean you were born again. Therefore, following that chain of reasoning, they conclude that believers could lose their salvation. Under that interpretation, the last state has become worse than the first. The problem with that view is you are unsaved to start and then you are unsaved at the end, so one state is not worse than the other state.

Another alternative would be to see that people have come to know the way of Christ, but were not born again, but returned to their same miserable lifestyle they had before. Because they have been exposed to a greater degree of light and heard the Gospel preached to them, which they outwardly accepted but inwardly repudiated, they incur greater judgment

for their willful rejection of Christ and evil deeds. In that sense of greater judgment and punishment in the Lake of Fire, their last state has become worse than their first state.

Worse

1. **Escaped**. What happens if you are again entangled in the defilements of the world after you have escaped from them? The last state becomes worse than the first.

2. **Defilements**. Defilements include living in sensuality and following the lust of the flesh.

3. **Knowledge**. The knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ does not always mean salvation.

4. **Entangled**. Being entangled again means that you return to living as you were before you knew the way of righteousness.

5. **State**. The last state becomes worse than the first state.

6. **Worse**. Living powerfully in the family of God means some people escape the defilements of the world, but return to them, because they never knew the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior.

7. **First**. We rejoice today because our last state will forever be superior to our first state because we have received Jesus Christ as Savior.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering some people escape the defilements of the world only to return to them because they never received Jesus Christ as Savior.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by remembering that when people escape the defilements of the world and then return to them, the last state has become worse than the first state for them.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to never turn away from the way of righteousness and the knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ the Savior.**

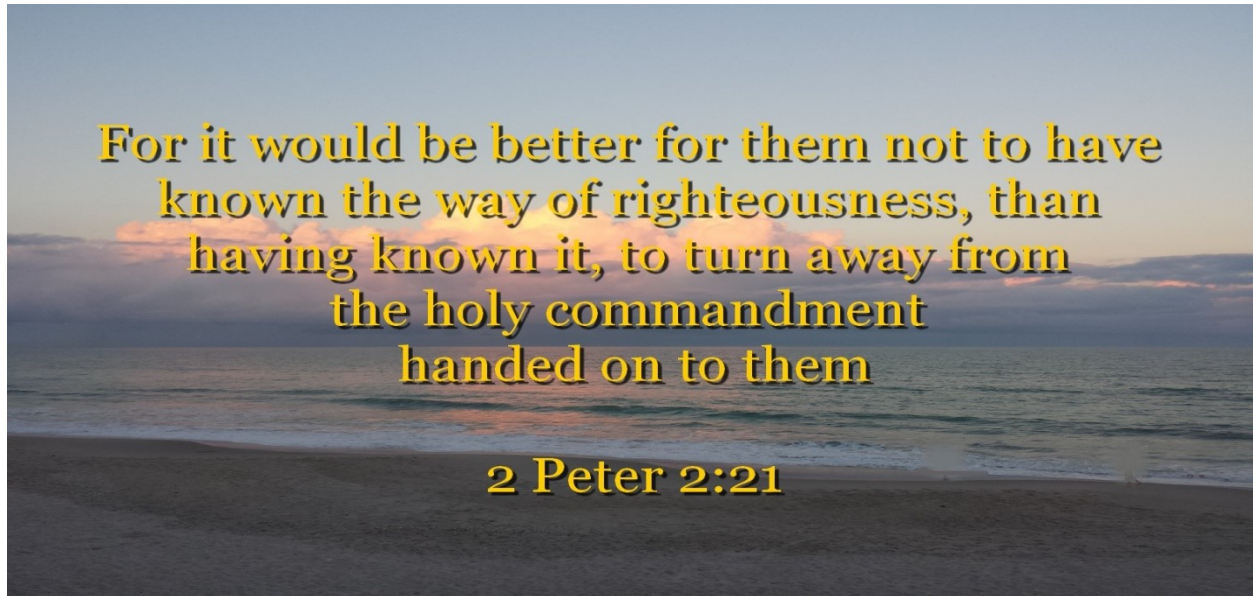
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by worshiping God because once we have been born again, we will never turn away from the way of righteousness and live without repentance as we did before. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by remembering that when people are again entangled by defilements they once escaped, but never knew the Lord Jesus as Savior, the last state of that person is worse than the first state?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Forty Two

Way of Righteousness Today



What happens when you turn away from the holy commandment? Things get much worse for you than having never known it.

Writing under the inspiration of God, Peter gave a detailed analysis of the unrighteous who indulge the flesh with its corrupt desires and despise authority. Peter explained that when those unrighteous people know the way of righteousness, and turn away from the holy commandment handed on to them, they would have been better off to have never known the way of righteousness.

Peter was stirring up the minds of people so that they would be able to recognize the unrighteous living among them. He wanted them to understand the terrible judgment of God coming upon them. They had heard the good news of Jesus Christ, the light had shone upon them, the commandment had been handed on to them, and they ultimately chose to repudiate the Lord Jesus and pursue their own desires, having never been born again.

Peter warned the righteous about the unrighteous lurking among them. Peter also warned the unrighteous that their last state would be worse than their first state because of their more severe judgment. God does not want any to perish, but for all to repent and come to the knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior.

Turn Away

1. **Better**. What would be better for the unrighteous? It would be better that they never knew the way of righteousness than to have known it and turned away from it.

2. **Known**. The unrighteous can know the way of righteousness without being born again.

3. **Righteousness**. The way of righteousness describes living in obedience to God by following His ways.

4. **Turn**. The unrighteous turn away from God and His ways.

5. **Holy**. They specifically turn away from the holy commandment of God, which is to believe in Jesus Christ as Savior.

6. **Commandment**. Living powerfully in the family of God means the unrighteous turn away from the holy commandment and return to their evil ways of life.

7. **Handed**. We rejoice today because we received Jesus as Savior and walk in the ways of righteousness, keeping the holy commandment which was handed down to us.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by living in the ways of righteousness.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by remembering the people who know the way of righteousness and turn away from it suffer greatly.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to never turn away from the way of righteousness.**

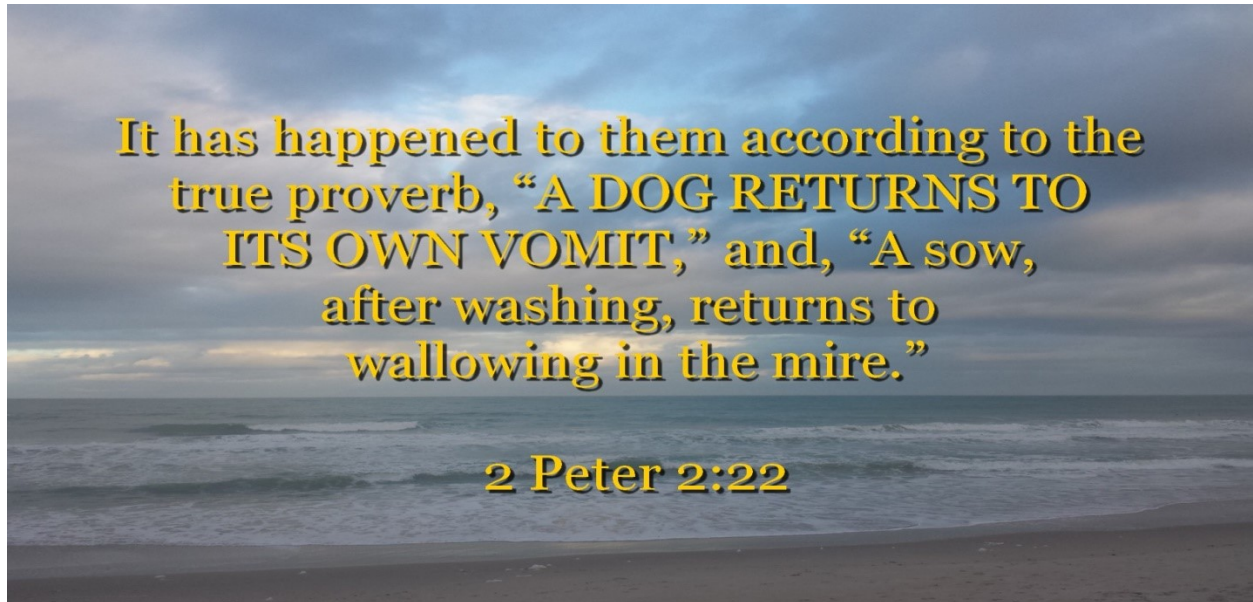
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by walking in the way of righteousness and never turning away from it. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by walking in the way of righteousness and never forsaking it?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Forty Three

Dog Today



What happens when you hear the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ and pretend to accept, but in your heart you never believed? You return to your vomit and wallowing in the mire.

Peter left no doubt that the unrighteous were never saved. Notice that the dog returns to its own vomit. Jesus said that dogs live outside the New Jerusalem. Only the dogs that were born again and became new creatures in Christ enter the New Jerusalem because they are no longer dogs, but new creations in Christ. Likewise, Jesus warned people not to cast their pearls before swine, because the swine will turn and rend those people. So long as a person remains a sow, they have not been born again. Therefore, the proverb rings true that the dogs return to their vomit and the sows return to wallowing in the mire. Because they were never born again, they never changed and eventually reverted back to their old ways. Furthermore, they were exposed to the light, escaped the defilements of the world for a while, but they were never born again, despite giving the outward appearance of salvation. Truly the last state of those people has become worse than the first.

Sow

1. **Happened**. What happens to the people who returned to the defilements they once escaped? They continue as dogs and sows.
2. **Proverb**. Peter quoted a proverb about dogs and sows.
3. **Dog**. The dog returns to its own vomit.
4. **Vomit**. So also the one who forsakes the way of righteousness returns to his own vomit because he is a dog and was never born again.
5. **Sow**. Likewise, the sow returns to wallowing in the mire because she is a sow and was never born again.
6. **Wallowing**. Living powerfully in the family of God means sows return to wallowing in the mire, because they were never born again.
7. **Mire**. We rejoice today because we all wallowed in the mire, but after being born again we have been sealed with the Holy Spirit and remain eternally secure.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering that sows return to wallowing in the mire and dogs return to their own vomit.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by understanding that if the dog remains a dog and a sow remains a sow, they were never born again.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to walk in the way of righteousness, praising God that you are no longer a dog or a sow.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by thanking God that we were once dogs and sows, but now have become the children of God. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by thanking God that you are born again and that you have escaped the defilements of the world?

HALLELUJAH !

8

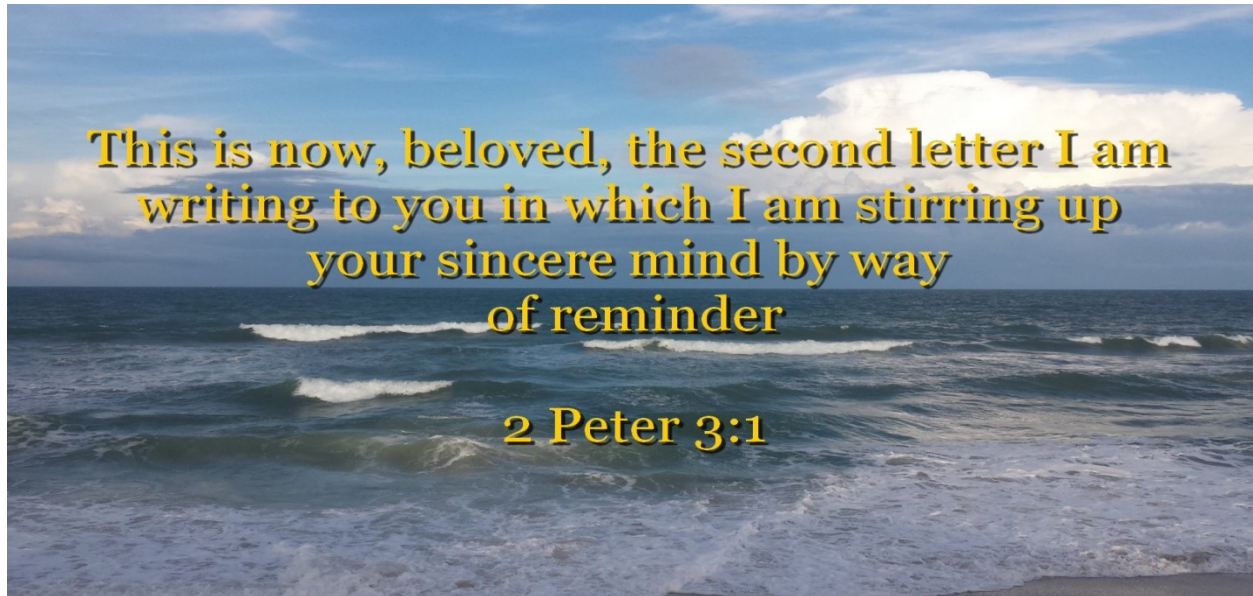
Warning about Mockers Today

Peter wrote the second epistle to stir up the believers by way of reminder. They should remember the words spoken beforehand by the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior spoken by the apostles. The beloved should remember that, in the last day, mockers will come, following their own lusts. They doubt God and His promises about coming again, but they forget that God flooded the world. Actually, God is never slow about His promises, but He is patient, not willing for any to perish, but for all to come to repentance. The present heavens and earth are being reserved for fire, kept for the Day of Judgment and destruction of unGodly men. The Lord is not slow about His promises, but 1000 years is like one day and one day like 1000 years to the Lord.

HALLELUJAH!

Day Forty Four

Stirring up Today



Why did Peter write a second letter? Peter wrote both letters for the same purpose. He wanted to prepare the believers to face difficult times and to remember the revelation from God so that Peter, after his death, would still be stirring up the sincere mind of the believers with the Scripture he delivered.

We should all learn from Peter that our lives can count even beyond our death. We can train others to carry on the work of Jesus Christ after we have left this earth. We can write uninspired works that will stir up people and encourage them to study the Scriptures to know Christ better. The Scriptures help us know God and love God and His ways.

Peter understood that Christians need to have their minds stirred up by Scripture. Peter made an absolute claim to be writing Scripture and not some cleverly devised tales. Writing under the inspiration of God, Peter related his eyewitness testimony about Jesus and His life, death, resurrection, and ascension.

Peter often talked about the future, but brought it back to the present as a guide for living today. Peter had great concern for the saints and wanted them to be protected from the evil one.

Reminder

1. **Beloved**. Who are the beloved? The beloved were the people who had received a faith of the same kind as ours, by the righteousness of our God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

2. **Second**. Peter acknowledged this was his second letter.

3. **Writing**. Peter also acknowledged that he was writing to the same group of people.

4. **Stirring**. Peter was stirring up these people to remember what he had already told them, because he knew his departure from this earth was near.

5. **Sincere**. Peter targeted the sincere mind of the people, meaning they were not the deceivers and imposters.

6. **Mind**. Living powerfully in the family of God means Peter stirred up the minds of the believers so that after his departure, they could remember what he wrote to them.

7. **Reminder**. We rejoice today because the Holy Spirit moved Peter to write down the revelation he received from God so that he stirs up the sincere minds of all the beloved who will read his letter, even thousands of years later.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering that Peter stirred up the sincere minds of the Christians who read his letters.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by thanking God for the revelations He provided through Peter so that we might be blessed today.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to let the Scriptures stir up our sincere minds so that we remember the revelations from God.**

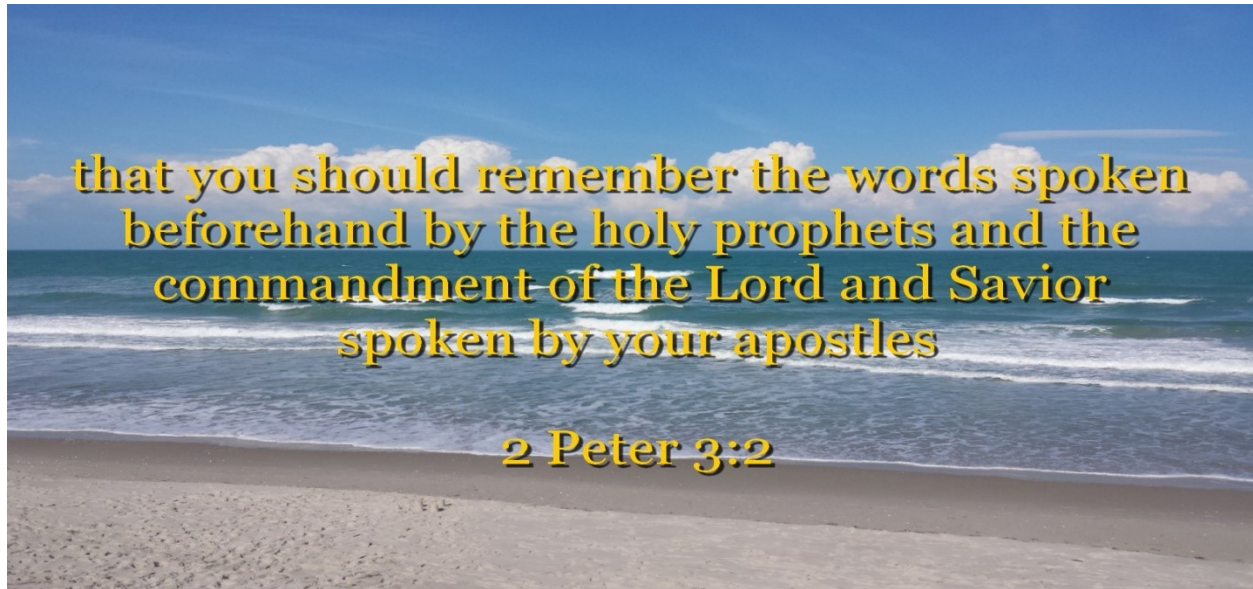
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by letting the Scriptures stir up our sincere minds so that we remember the revelations from God. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by praising God for the revelations He has provided to us through the Scriptures so that they stir up our sincere minds?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Forty Five

Remember Today



What did the holy prophets and the apostles provide? They provided inspired revelation so that the saints would be adequately equipped for every good work.

Peter wanted his readers to have the highest regard for and remember the words spoken before by the holy prophets and the commandment of our Lord and Savior spoken by your apostles. Peter claimed rightly that his audience should pay very careful attention to the revelations from God contained in the Scriptures.

Peter put the words of the apostles concerning the commandment of the Lord Jesus on the same plane as the holy prophets who produced the Scriptures of the Old Testament. Peter understood that both the New Testament writings and the Old Testament writings were inspired equally by God. Because they were inspired by God, the church should pay very careful attention to God's revelation.

Peter took the long view. He looked back to the holy prophets of God as they looked forward to the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ as the Servant of God and then later as the King of kings. He wanted Christians to understand the future and how it impacted the present, so that we live now to the glory of God looking to the future.

Commandment

1. **Remember**. What does God want us to remember? God wants us to remember the words He revealed beforehand.

2. **Words**. God provided verbal inspiration, meaning the words themselves are inspired.

3. **Spoken**. God wants us to remember the spoken words of the prophets.

4. **Beforehand**. God created the Scriptures by revealing His words to the prophets.

5. **Holy**. God described those men as holy prophets who spoke the words of God.

6. **Commandment**. Living powerfully in the family of God means we remember the commandment of the Lord and Savior provided by your apostles in verbal form, meaning the words themselves are inspired.

7. **Apostles**. We rejoice today because Peter described himself as one of your apostles proclaiming the commandment of the Lord and Savior.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering the words spoken beforehand by the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior by your prophets.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by praising God for preserving the very words revealed to the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior by your apostles.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to remember the words God revealed through the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior by your apostles.**

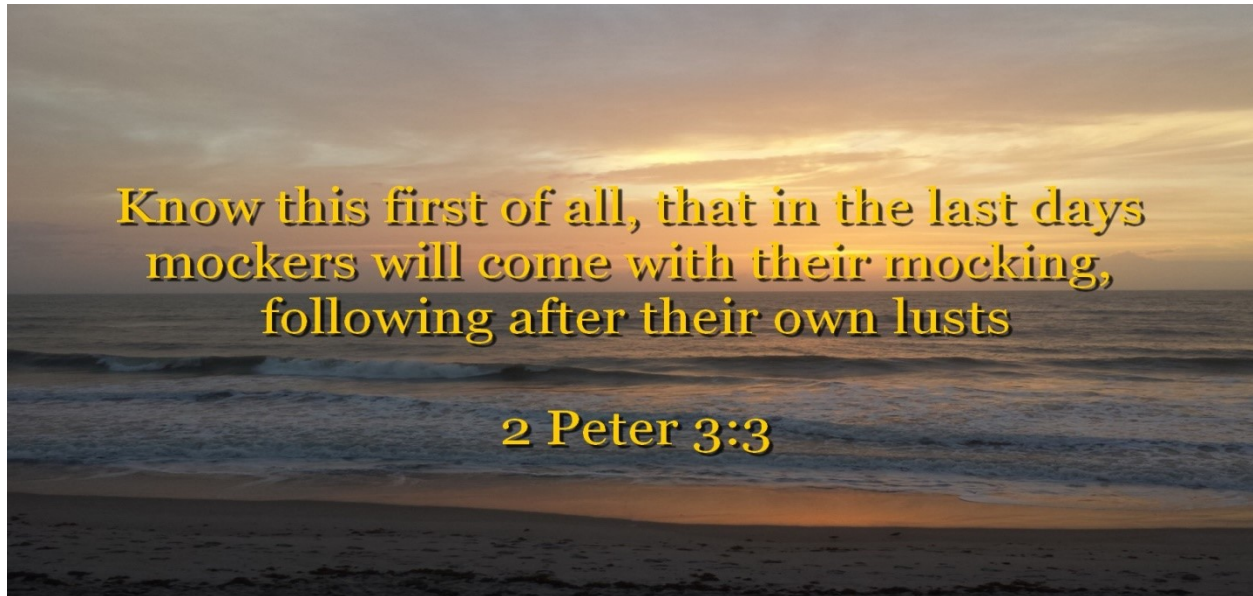
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by remembering the words God revealed to the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior by your apostles. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by remembering the words and the commandments God provided to us through the Scriptures?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Forty Six

Mockers Today



When will the mockers come? They will come in the last days.

Peter indicated that in the last days the mockers will come. They will be full of scornful delight, saying very negative things about God and His ways. They will be questioning God and His plans and promises.

The mockers will also follow after their own lusts. When they come, they will be seeking their own desires. They will be making fun of Christians and their trust in God. They will be trying to lead people astray to indulge their lust and participate in the evil of the mockers.

By challenging God and His ways, the mockers will try to cast a pall over the church. They will constantly attack the promises of God in the prophecies in the Bible. Seeking to discredit them and contradict them in every way, the mockers will scornfully attack God and the church. They will make claims it would be hard to prove false immediately.

The mockers follow a twofold approach. On the one hand, they seek to entice everyone into sensuality and following their own lusts. On the

other hand, they attack the promises of God so that people will look around and think that prophecies have not yet been fulfilled and so will never be fulfilled. Of course not all prophecies have been fulfilled yet, but that does not make them false prophecies.

Lusts

1. **Know**. What does Peter want Christians to know first? Peter wants them to know that mockers will come.

2. **First**. Peter said he wanted them to know that as of first importance.

3. **Last**. Peter said the mockers will come in the last days.

4. **Mockers**. Mockers laugh with scornful delight about God and His ways.

5. **Come**. Peter said they were coming with certain characteristics that make them easy to identify.

6. **Following**. Living powerfully in the family of God means we recognize that mockers will come, scorning contemptuously God and His ways, following their own lustful desires.

7. **Lusts**. We rejoice today because mockers will come following their own lusts and scorning God and His ways.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering that mockers will come in the last days, following their own lusts.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by being ready for mockers who will come and speak contemptuously about God and His ways.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to be alert for the mockers who will come in the last days following their own lusts.**

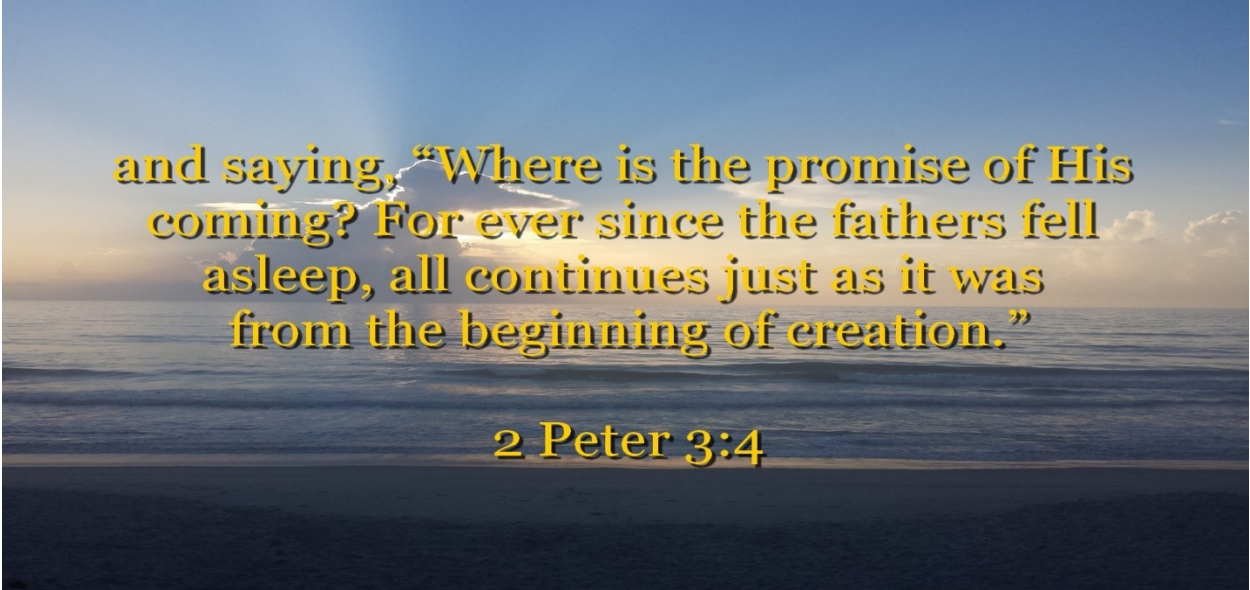
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by remembering that mockers will come in the last days following after their own lusts. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by not being surprised when you hear mockers following their own lusts?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Forty Seven

Promise Today



and saying, “Where is the promise of His coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it was from the beginning of creation.”

2 Peter 3:4

How do mockers attack the prophecies of God? They attack the promises of God.

Mockers tend to pick prophecies that have not yet been fulfilled and then attack them. For example, the mockers attack the promise of Jesus coming back. Because that prophecy has not yet been fulfilled, they charge that it will never be fulfilled and so is a false prophecy. The mockers never consider that an unfulfilled prophecy today will not be unfulfilled tomorrow. Of course, the mockers are not interested in the truth, but in fulfilling their own lusts at anyone's expense.

Mockers also attack the promises of God through present experience. They claim that things continue just as they have always been, since the fathers fell asleep. While God may have made promises that He kept in the distant past, the mockers claim the new promises will never come to pass. Therefore, since Jesus has not come back so far, the mockers claim He never will.

This argument from present experience they twist to their own destruction. God did not reveal a set time to men about the date of His return to earth. God did prophesy that Jesus would come at a time when nobody expects Him. Therefore, present experience does not prove that Jesus will never come back. Things certainly do not continue as they have always been.

Creation

1. **Saying**. What do the mockers say? They say everything continues without change.
2. **Where**. They derisively ask about the coming of Jesus.
3. **Promise**. They mock the promise of His coming.
4. **Coming**. In essence, they deny Jesus will return.
5. **Fathers**. They claim that everything continues just as it has always been since the fathers.
6. **Continues**. Living powerfully in the family of God means mockers claim wrongly that the world continues the same and God's promises mean nothing.
7. **Creation**. We rejoice today because God created everything and His plans for creation continue no matter what the mockers say.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering as of first importance that the mockers will come.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by understanding that in the last days the mockers will claim that all creation continues the same as from the beginning.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to remember that mockers will come, following their own lusts.**

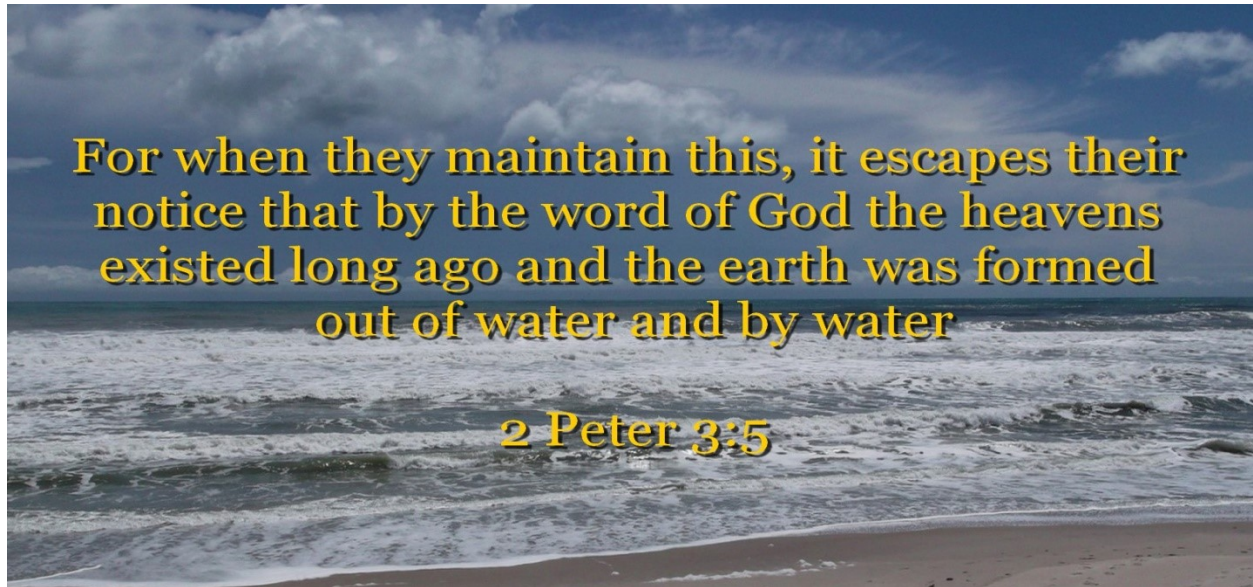
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by knowing first of all that mockers will come, following their own lusts. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by expecting that mockers will come in the last days, following their own lusts and attacking your faith in God?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Forty Eight

Word of God Today



What happens to the mockers' claim that things always stay the same? Their claim falls apart when you consider that God formed the earth out of water and by water.

God created the heavens and the earth. Peter revealed that God made the earth out of water and by water. Because God controlled the creation of the earth, He also has the power to destroy it. Mockers make pitiful claims, but clothe them with plenty of scorn, trying to persuade the weak to indulge their lusts with the mockers. The mockers have an agenda to destroy confidence in God and His word.

Peter also revealed that by the word of God the heavens existed long ago. The way Peter put it, it seems that the heavens existed before the earth. In Genesis, God created the heavens and the earth. In Colossians, God said He was before all things. God has the absolute power to bring creation into existence and to remove anything from existence.

The mockers attack the promises and prophecies of God using scorn to build this trust. While they make fun of God and His ways, they will not escape the Day of Judgment.

Earth

1. **When**. What escapes the notice of the mockers? The God created the heavens and the earth long ago.

2. **Maintain**. The mockers maintain that everything continues as it was from the beginning of creation.

3. **Escapes**. It escapes the notice of the mockers that by the word of God the heavens existed long ago and the earth was formed by water and out of water.

4. **Word**. The mockers ignore the word of God and His power to create.

5. **Heavens**. God created the heavens and the earth by His word.

6. **Earth**. Living powerfully in the family of God means we remember that God created the heavens and the earth in the beginning by His word.

7. **Water**. We rejoice today because we know God created the world out of water and by water and He holds us in the palm of His hand.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering that it escapes the notice of the mockers the God created the heavens and the earth by His word.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by praising God that He created the heavens and the earth long ago.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to remember that God created the heavens and the earth by His word and we live on His planet in His universe.**

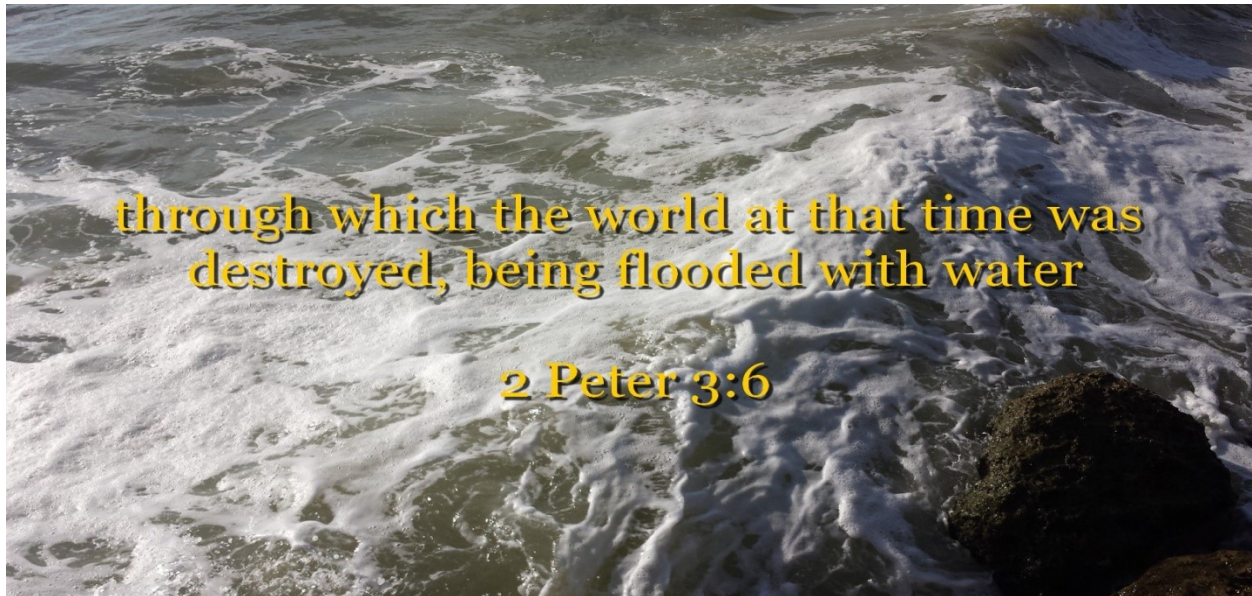
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by remembering that God created the world out of water and by water. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by trusting the Creator to take care of us no matter what the mockers say?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Forty Nine

Destroyed Today



What did God do with water in the past? God not only made the world by water, but through water He destroyed the world.

While the mockers gleefully pretend that everything continues just as it has always been, implying somehow that God is absent, they jump to erroneous conclusions. They claim that everything continues just as it has been since the fathers fell asleep. Peter already explained that they miss the point that God created the earth by water and out of water. Water was a prime ingredient in the creation of the world. But more important than the water, God created the world.

The mockers seek to undermine God's presence and activity in the world today. They also try to persuade people that God's promises are untrustworthy. The mockers suggest that the saints should turn to their own lusts and indulge their own desires, following the example of the mockers.

Peter addressed the issue squarely. He showed that God flooded the earth and destroyed it in the past. God used water to create the earth and

God used water to destroy life on earth. Therefore, when the mockers claim that everything continues on, they miss the point that God could destroy the world just as He had before, but the second time He would not use water, having promised back then to never flood the world again.

Flooded

1. **Through**. How was the world destroyed? It escapes the notice of the mockers that God destroyed the world by flooding it with water.

2. **World**. God created the world and has the power to destroy the world at any time.

3. **Time**. God created the world, but it became filled with evil and He destroyed it with water.

4. **Destroyed**. God destroyed the world because its evil grieved His heart.

5. **Being**. God created the world in perfection, but sin changed everything, and it was destroyed by God, being flooded with water.

6. **Flooded**. Living powerfully in the family of God means when God flooded the world, He destroyed it because of its sin.

7. **Water**. We rejoice today because while God flooded the world with water and destroyed it, He also promised that He would never flood it again and so set a bow in the heavens to remind Himself never to flood it again.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering that God destroyed the world by water.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by understanding that God has plans for this earth and He will destroy it again, but not with water.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to remember that God flooded the ancient world because it became exceedingly evil.**

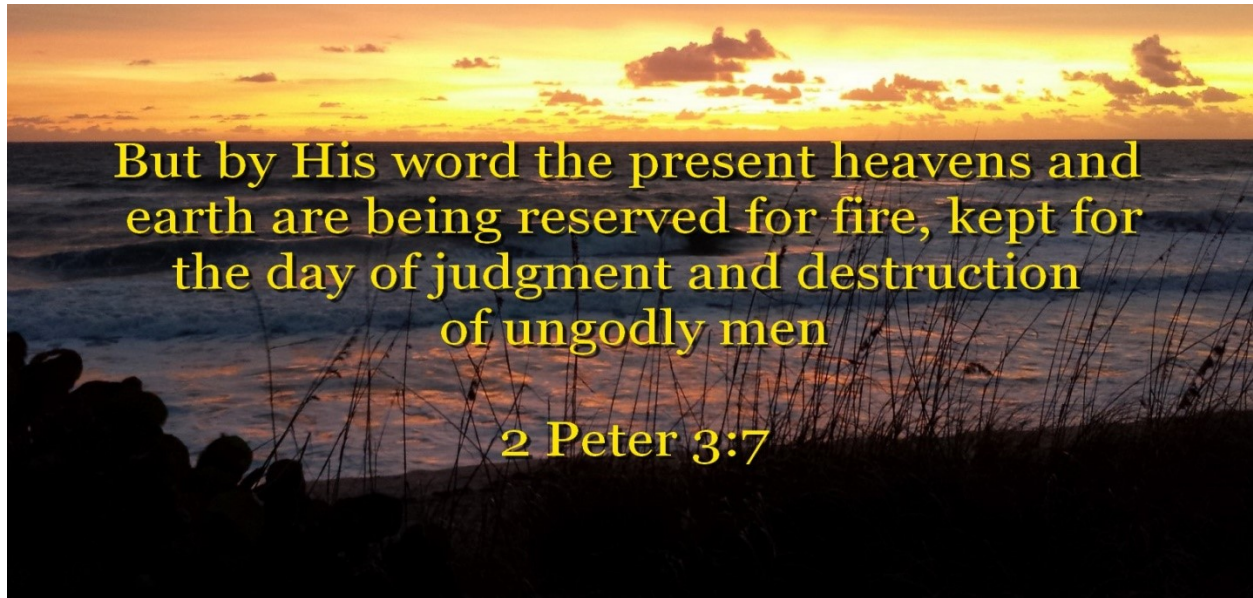
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by remembering that God flooded the world with water because of its evil. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by reminding people who mock God that He flooded the world with water and destroyed it?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Fifty

Fire Today



What role will fire play in the future? God will use fire to destroy the world and the heavens.

God promised long ago to never destroy the world through water again. He set a bow and the heavens to remind Himself. God, however, never said anything about not destroying the world with fire. Through the Old Testament prophets and continuing with the New Testament, God laid out a program of judgments upon the earth culminating in the destruction of the present heavens and earth through fire in the future. In other words, God will burn up the entire planet in the future.

So while the mockers claim that everything continues on, they fail to realize that the present heavens and earth are being reserved for fire. They are kept for the Day of Judgment and destruction of ungodly men. At that point, the mockers should be trembling in their boots. Things are not continuing on, they are continuing towards God's fulfillment of prophecy. When God destroys the present heavens and the world through fire, the Day of Judgment will have come, with very profound and eternal

consequences for the mockers and all other ungodly men. Because God has plenty of mercy and kindness and grace, He has not brought that Day of Judgment and destruction by fire yet, but it is coming, no matter what the mockers say.

Destruction

1. **Word**. What role does the word of God play in judgment? God has reserved the heavens and the earth for destruction at His word.
2. **Heavens**. The heavens will be destroyed when God says the word.
3. **Earth**. Likewise, the earth will be destroyed at His word.
4. **Reserved**. God keeps them specifically reserved for His judgment.
5. **Fire**. Although God promised not to destroy the world again with water, He never said anything about not destroying the world with fire.
6. **Judgment**. Living powerfully in the family of God means the heavens and the earth will be destroyed with fire on the Day of Judgment from God.
7. **Men**. We rejoice today because God keeps the present heavens and earth reserved for the Day of Judgment and destruction of ungodly men.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering that by the word of God the present heavens and earth are being reserved for fire.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by understanding that the present heavens and earth are kept for the Day of Judgment and destruction of ungodly men.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to remember that all your unsaved love ones face the Day of Judgment and destruction of ungodly men.**

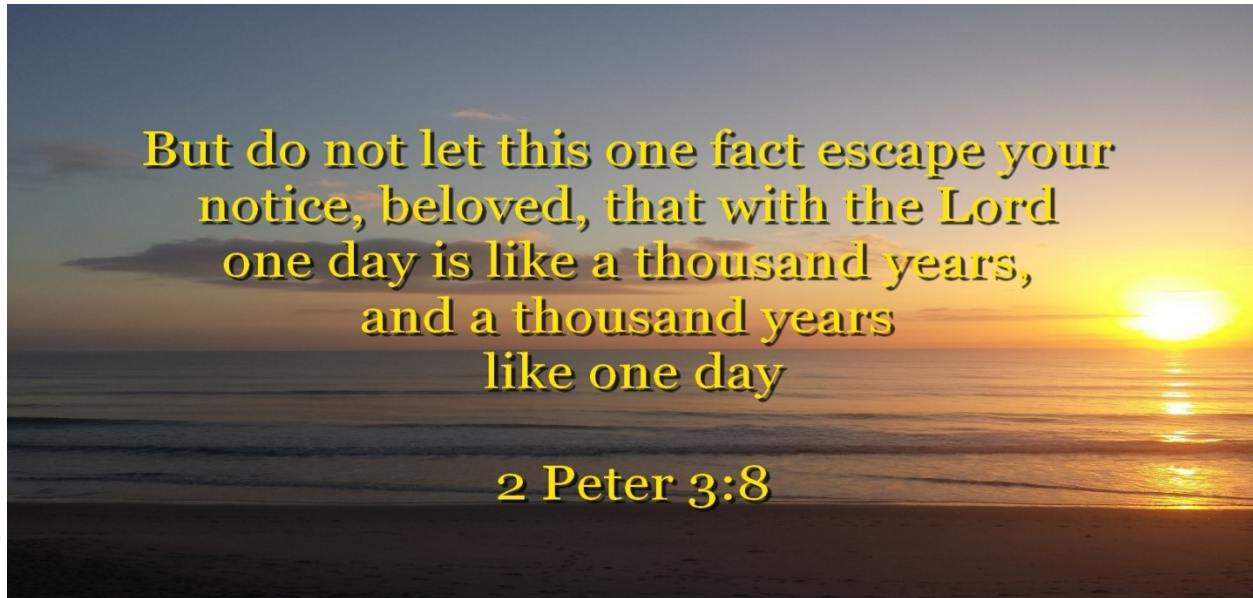
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by reminding people that the present heavens and earth God has reserved for the Day of Judgment and the destruction of ungodly men. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by warning people of what will come at the Day of Judgment and the destruction of ungodly men?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Fifty One

Fact Today



How does the Lord view time? One day is like 1000 years with the Lord and 1000 years like one day.

Jesus was in the tomb for three days, not 3000 days. Therefore, we know that God did not mean that 1000 days equals one day. God meant that He is patient over a long period of time, because He is not willing that any should perish. He wants everyone to come to repentance, so they may avoid the Day of Judgment.

God meant He is not bound by our understandings of time. God established a timeline of events that the earth will follow. Yet, God is not bound by what happens on earth. God exists independently of time and earth and everything, because He existed before all things. Therefore, time does not bind God in any way because He is a spirit. Yet, the Bible contains many prophecies regarding specific lengths of time, such as 70 weeks, three and a half years, three days, and many other exact time periods, such as a half an hour of silence in heaven.

The length of a human life seems like a very long time to us, but in God's eyes, our lifetime is merely a breath. God exists eternally, both in the past and in the future. He created all things, and created all things in their time.

Day

1. **Not**. What is one fact we should notice? We should notice that God sees time differently and we should not forget that fact.

2. **Fact**. The fact is God can move through time and out of time at any time.

3. **Escape**. If we let that fact escape our notice, then we may be thinking like the mockers.

4. **Notice**. We must take active notice that God does not see time as we do and He has the ability to move in and out of time because He exists in the realm of eternity and beyond.

5. **Day**. One day is like 1000 years with God.

6. **Thousand**. Living powerfully in the family of God means we take notice that from the standpoint of time, the passing of 1000 years to God is like a day.

7. **Years**. We rejoice today because the passing of one day is like 1000 years to God.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by taking notice that a thousand years is like one day to God and one day is like 1000 years.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by remembering that God is not bound by time and does not see time as we do.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to take notice that God sees the passage of time differently than we do because He created time and controls time, moving through time and out of time at will.**

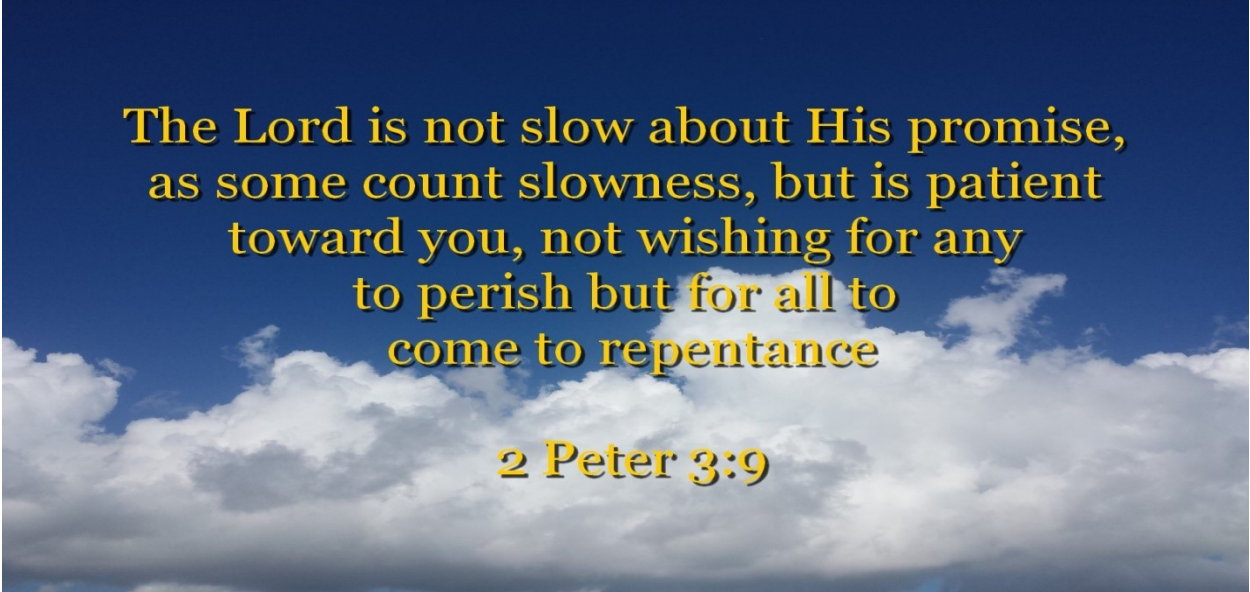
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by rejoicing that 1000 years is like one day with God and vice versa. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by not imposing your view of a long time upon God?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Fifty Two

Patient Today



The Lord is not slow about His promise,
as some count slowness, but is patient
toward you, not wishing for any
to perish but for all to
come to repentance

2 Peter 3:9

Why should we never confuse God's patience with God's promises? God's patience underlies His promises, because they are separate but related things.

The mockers charge that everything continues just as it was since the fathers fell asleep. God said that the mockers forget that He killed everybody on earth with water and flooded it in the past. Although He promised never to flood the world again, He made no such promise regarding burning it up.

Because God sees time differently than humans, God exercises His patience for the right amount of time. While some charge that God is slow about His promises, they overlook the patience of God at work. God did not bring immediate death and destruction because He wanted everyone to come to repentance. He was unwilling for anyone to perish. Therefore, the patience of God underlies the promises of God. Jesus will certainly come back and set His feet upon the Mount of Olives and begin His millennial reign upon the earth at just the proper time.

We should love God more because we are going to heaven because of the patience of God. He waited thousands of years for us to be born and repent and receive salvation. This patience still continues even to this day. Praise God.

Repentance

1. **Lord**. Is Lord slow about His promise? No, because He wants all to come to repentance
2. **Slow**. The mockers charge that God is slow about His promise, as they count slowness.
3. **Promise**. The mockers charge that God promised to return to earth, but that has been a very long time and everything continues as it was.
4. **Patient**. The mockers misunderstand that God is patient.
5. **Wishing**. God is not willing for anyone to perish, and perish the unGodly will at the Day of Judgment.
6. **Perish**. Living powerfully in the family of God means God is unwilling for any to perish, and so remains patient in providing ample time for all the unGodly to repent.
7. **Repentance**. We rejoice today because God seeks for people to repent so that they may avoid the Day of Judgment by turning to the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering that God is not slow about His promises, as some count slowness.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by remembering the patience of God in providing ample time for all people to repent.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to remember we have eternal life today because of the patience of God and His willingness for all men to repent and turn to the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by thanking God for His patience so that men may have time to repent and turn to the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by proclaiming the salvation found only in Jesus Christ our Lord?

HALLELUJAH !

9

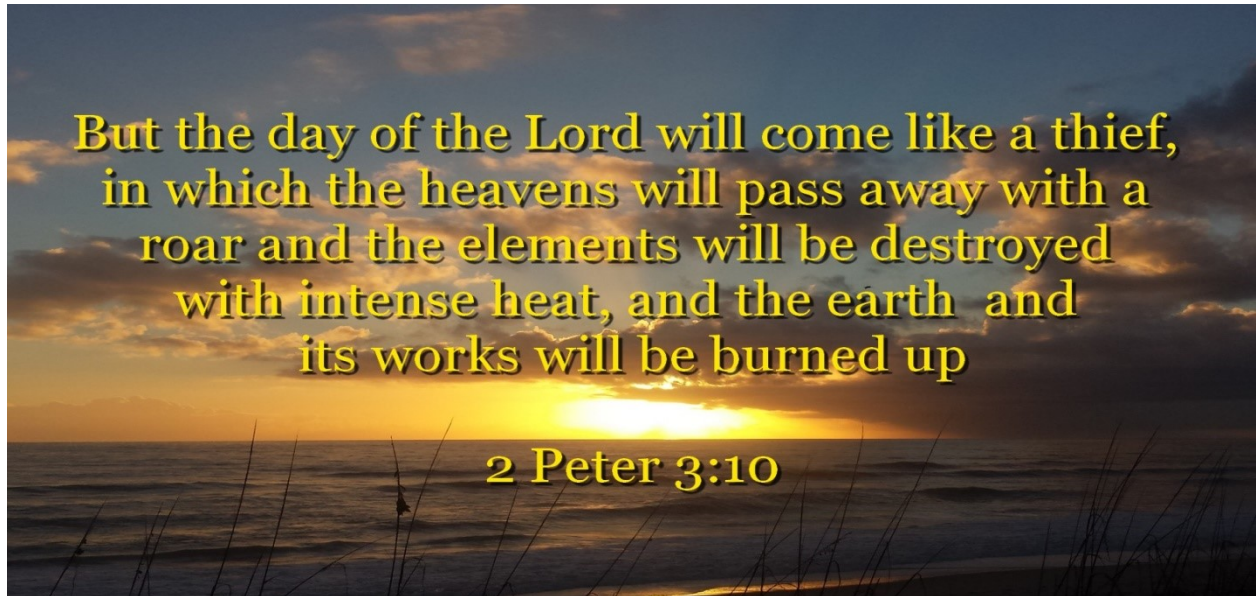
New Heavens and New Earth Today

Peter wrote that the Day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements be destroyed with intense heat and the earth and its works will be burned up. Because the earth and the heavens will be destroyed, Peter urged the Christians to live in holy conduct and Godliness today, hastening the coming of the day of God. The righteous look forward to His promise of a new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.

HALLELUJAH!

Day Fifty Three

Destroyed Today



How will the earth come to an end? It will be burned up.

The Day of the Lord will come like a thief. Just as the Lord promised long ago, the Day of the Lord will bring tremendous consequences and things will change forever. In the past, the Lord destroyed the earth by flooding because of its great evil. In the future, God will burn up the earth and all that is in it.

The heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat. Long ago God promised He would not flood the earth again, as He previously destroyed all mankind, except the eight persons on the ark. This time the destruction of the heavens and the earth will be complete. They will be burned up with fire and no place will be found for them.

God tells us about the future so that we know how to live today. God's words always come true at the right time. God sets the dates and conforms all things to the power of His will and His timetable. God wanted all of us to know how the earth ends.

We should never doubt God and His word. While mockers will certainly come in the last days and attack the character of God, they will face the Day of Judgment for the destruction of unGodly men.

Burned

1. **Day**. How will the Day of the Lord come? The Day of the Lord will come like a thief.
2. **Come**. God promised that the Day of the Lord would come.
3. **Thief**. When it comes, it will come like a thief at an unexpected time.
4. **Heavens**. The heavens will pass away with a roar.
5. **Elements**. The elements will be destroyed with intense heat.
6. **Heat**. Living powerfully in the family of God means we know the Day of the Lord is coming, no matter what the mockers say.
7. **Earth**. We rejoice today because we know that although the earth and all its works will be burned up on the Day of the Lord, we will be happy and content with the Lord Jesus safe and secure for all eternity.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by rejoicing that the Day of the Lord will come at just the right time like a thief.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by remembering that both heaven and earth will be destroyed by fire, not by water.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to proclaim the salvation of the Lord Jesus Christ before the Day of the Lord comes like a thief.**

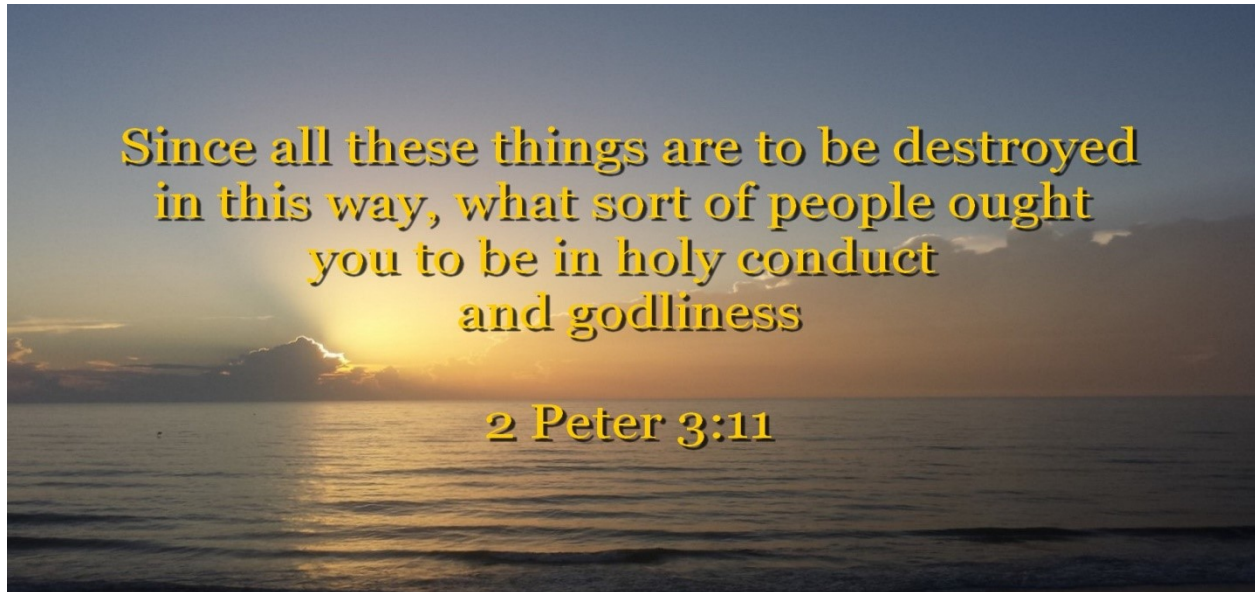
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by remembering that the Day of the Lord will produce the destruction of heaven and earth and it will come like a thief. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by sharing your faith today so that people may come to repentance before the Day of the Lord?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Fifty Four

Holy Conduct Today



Why does God reveal the future to us? God reveals the future so that we know how to conduct ourselves today.

God intends for Christians to draw a direct link between God's revelation of the future and God's commands for living today. One informs the other.

Peter said that since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, we ought to live in holy conduct and Godliness. Because the ancient world grew more and more evil and rebellious against God, the patience of God with them ended and He brought swift, flooding judgment upon the world.

Just as God is patient today because He does not want any to perish, but for all to come to repentance, so also His patience will come to an end in the future. The earth, its works, and the heavens will be destroyed with fire. Then God linked the future to the present.

Because we know what will happen in the future, God wants us to live in holy conduct and Godliness today. We have a holy and righteous God

and worship Him for His patience and mercy today. We live as the family of God by His grace through faith.

Godliness

1. **Since**. How should the future impact today? Since the Day of the Lord is coming, we should live today in holy conduct and Godliness.

2. **All**. All these things God described about the future will take place at the right time, God's time.

3. **Destroyed**. The heavens and the earth will be destroyed by fire when the Day of the Lord arrives.

4. **People**. Because God has revealed to us the Day of the Lord, we ought to live as His people today.

5. **Ought**. God used the word 'ought' to compel our action.

6. **Holy**. Living powerfully in the family of God means we must obey God and live in holy conduct today according to the revelation He has given to us.

7. **Godliness**. We rejoice today because God commands Godliness today because we do not know when the Day of the Lord will begin. When it begins, the unGodly will no longer have time to repent and turn to the Lord Jesus for salvation.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by living in holy conduct and Godliness today because God revealed the future Day of the Lord.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by rejoicing that God is patient and not willing for any to perish.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to redeem the time, knowing the days are evil, and the Day of the Lord will come at just the right time.**

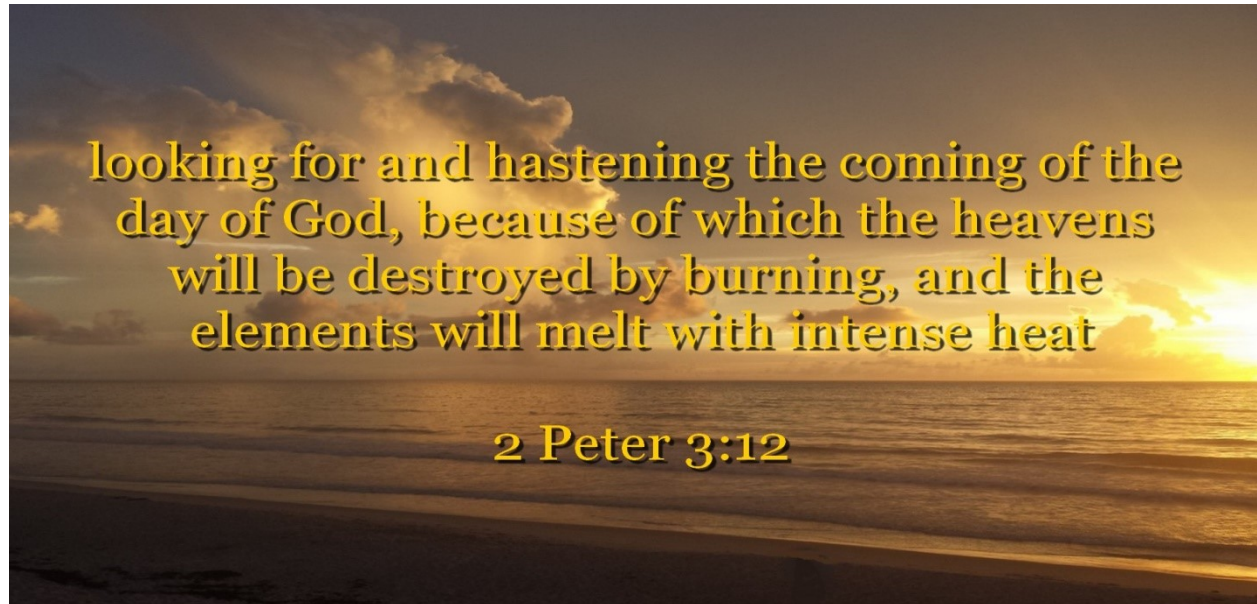
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by living in holy conduct and Godliness today. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by remembering that the Day of the Lord will bring destruction by fire upon the earth and the heavens and so we ought to live in holy conduct and Godliness?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Fifty Five

Heavens Today



What happens on the day of God? The heavens will be destroyed by burning and the elements will melt with intense heat.

God loves to reveal the future to us, including the destruction of the heavens and the elements. God described the heavens as burning to destruction. God will ignite the heavens and they will burn into oblivion. Likewise, the elements will melt with intense heat.

Many people today claiming to be scientists teach that the Earth follows an evolutionary pattern. The universe started with a big bang and climate change and other environmental factors control the progress of the earth. Of course, in many ways, they are the mockers described by Peter. They do not claim that God created the heavens and the earth and they came into existence by His word. Nor do they realize that the heavens and the earth will melt with intense fire of God's judgment for the evil on this earth. Even before that final destruction, God will pour out a long series of judgments upon the earth for the evil of its inhabitants.

Peter wanted us to understand that what God says should promote holy and righteous conduct in our lives today. God's patience and mercy and grace brought us to salvation because God is not willing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance and eternal life.

Elements

1. **Looking**. What are Christians looking for today? Christians should be looking for the Day of God
2. **Hastening**. Today they should be hastening the Day of God.
3. **Day**. The Day of God will bring destruction by fire.
4. **Heavens**. The heavens will be destroyed by burning.
5. **Burning**. The burning will affect the sky so that it catches on fire and is consumed on the Day of God.
6. **Elements**. Living powerfully in the family of God means we remember the elements will melt with intense heat on the Day of God.
7. **Melt**. We rejoice today because the elements will melt on the Day of God and the heavens and the earth will flee away.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering on the Day of God the heavens and the earth will be destroyed by fire.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by living according to the revelation God provided about the destruction of the heavens and the earth.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to live according to the revelation of God, and no longer by personal feelings.**


Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by rejoicing that the promises of God always come true and so we should live accordingly. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by looking for and hastening the coming of the Day of God?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Fifty Six

Promise Today



But according to His promise we are looking
for new heavens and a new earth,
in which righteousness dwells

2 Peter 3:13

What promise did Jesus make? Jesus promised new heavens and a new earth.

Because Jesus made those promises about new heavens and a new earth, we look forward to that day. Jesus always told us about the future so that that tomorrow would help us today. Not only do we live by the knowledge of Jesus Christ, but we also live according to the revelation of Jesus Christ. He revealed the future to us so that it would provide strength and power for living today.

Jesus commanded us to live holy and righteous lives today, because of what we have seen about the future. The Day of Judgment will fall upon the unrighteous. God is not slow about His promises, but is not willing for any to perish, but for all to come to repentance. He has appointed us as ministers of reconciliation and wants everyone on earth to hear the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ and be reconciled to Him.

We need to be alert, guarding against the mockers and others who come into the fellowship seeking to devour Christians. They subvert the

Christians with their words and their lusts. They spread destructive heresies about the Master who bought them. They distort the Scriptures to their own destruction. We guard ourselves against them.

New Heavens

1. **Promise**. Where does righteousness dwell? Righteousness dwells in the new heavens and a new earth.

2. **We**. Peter included himself in saying that we are looking for the place where righteousness dwells.

3. **Looking**. Looking means that Peter was giving attention to the new heavens and a new earth with a sense of confident expectation.

4. **New**. God said He is going to destroy the old heavens with intense heat.

5. **Heavens**. The new heavens God will create for the benefit of the saints in the future.

6. **Earth**. Living powerfully in the family of God means God will create a new earth as well for the benefit of saints.

7. **Righteousness**. We rejoice today because righteousness dwells in the new heavens and the new earth and we will be there, righteous as well.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by looking forward to the new heavens and the new earth.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by thanking God that the new heavens and new earth will be a place where righteousness dwells and we will be there.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to looking forward to the new heavens and the new earth, a place where righteousness dwells.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by looking forward to the new heavens and the new earth. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by looking forward to the place where righteousness dwells?

HALLELUJAH !

10

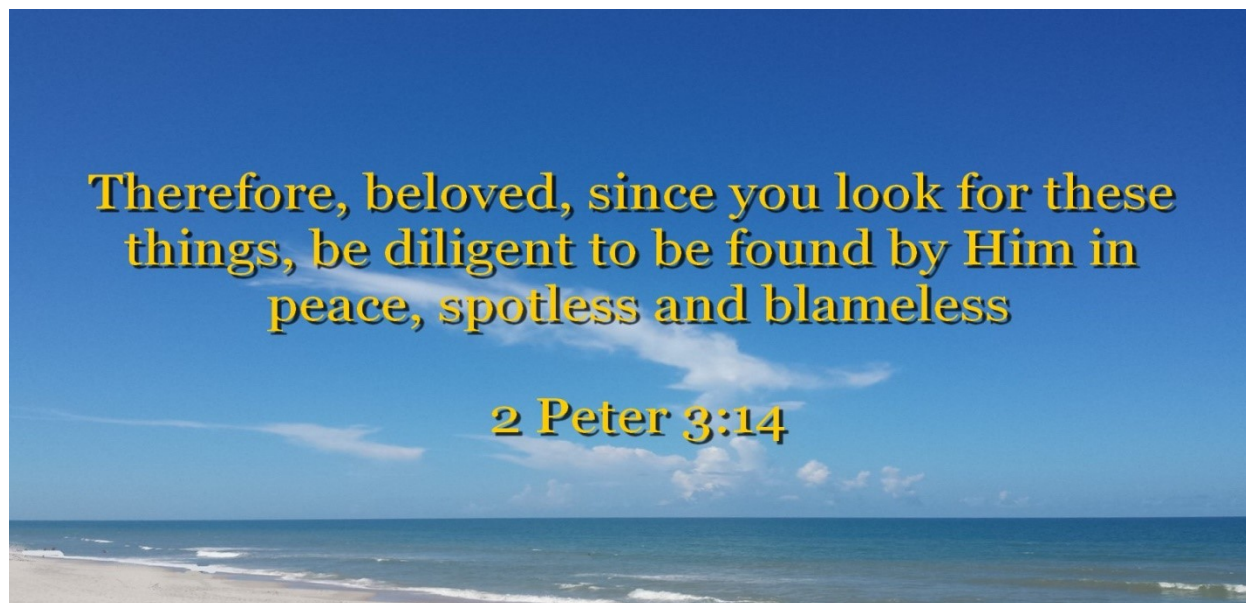
Spotless and Blameless Today

Because the righteous look forward to new heavens and a new earth, they must be diligent to be found by Christ in peace, spotless and blameless and consider the patience of our Lord as salvation. Peter also recognized Paul's writings as of the same authority as the Old Testament. He warned that people distort Paul's writings, as they do the rest of Scripture, to their own destruction. Therefore, the saints should be on their guard, that they are not carried away by evil men, but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, to Whom be glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

HALLELUJAH!

Day Fifty Seven

Diligent Today



How should we be found when Jesus appears? We should be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless.

Peter always tied the future to the present. He called his audience the Beloved. Like Jesus His Master, Peter loved the brethren and he wanted them to know by using the term beloved.

Peter said that we must be diligent to be found by Jesus in peace, spotless and blameless. He meant that that must be a consistent daily effort to follow Jesus and to love Jesus, knowing that when He returns, He will see us and we will see Him. We must be ready as if He would appear at any moment.

Today we spend our time looking for the new heavens and a new earth. We have our hope fixed upon the revelation of God in the appearing of the Lord Jesus Christ. Of course, the new heavens and the new earth are at least 1000 years away as we stand here today. The heavens and earth will not be destroyed until after the millennial reign of Christ. Then after the millennial reign of Christ Satan will be released and mislead the nations for

a time. Then Jesus will subdue that final rebellion and the heavens and earth will pass away with burning and intense heat. Only then will there be a new heavens and earth, more than 1000 years in the future from where we sit today.

Spotless and Blameless

1. **Therefore**. What conclusion this Peter draw about the prophecies of the new heavens and new earth? He draws the conclusion that we should act righteously on earth today.

2. **Beloved**. Peter addressed his audience as beloved, meaning that he loved them in Christ.

3. **Diligent**. Peter said they continually should be diligent to live righteously today in light of tomorrow.

4. **Found**. Because Christ will be coming back, we should be living righteously today so that we are found by Him doing the things He commanded.

5. **Peace**. Christ should find us living in peace, because we have been justified by faith.

6. **Spotless**. Living powerfully in the family of God means we should be found living spotless lives, because we have been washed and renewed by the Holy Spirit.

7. **Blameless**. We rejoice today because we should be found living blameless lives, because our conduct is above reproach.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by living diligently today in light of tomorrow.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by being diligent to be found by Christ in peace, spotless and blameless.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to be diligent to live in peace, with spotless and blameless testimonies before the world and each other.**

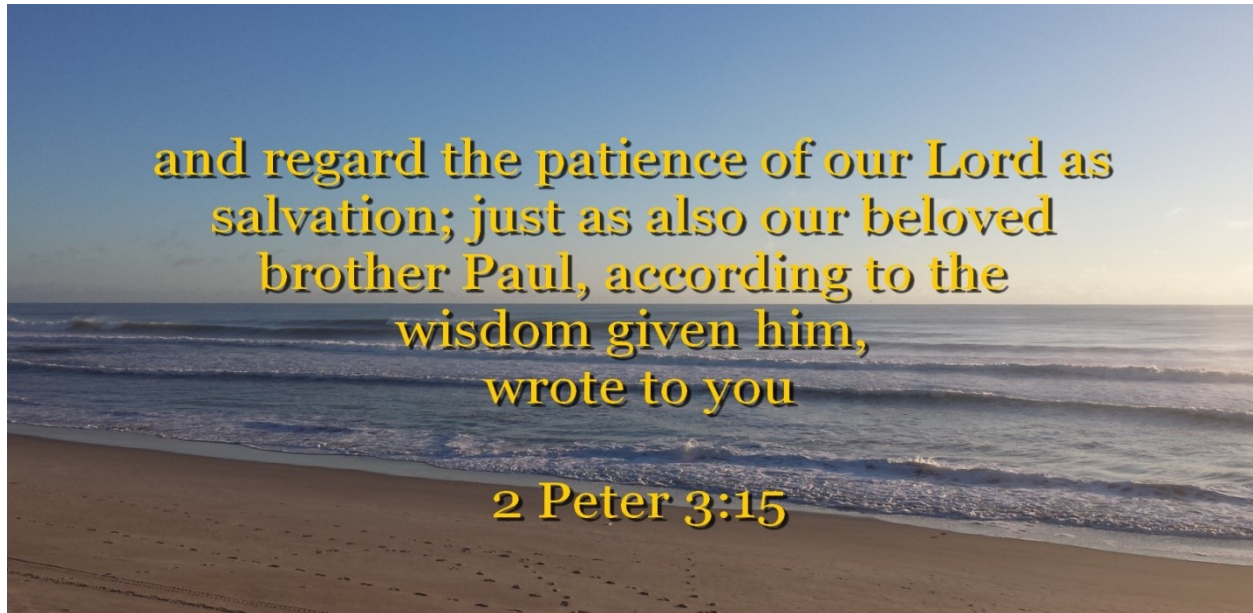
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by looking forward to righteousness and living in righteousness today, ready to be found by Jesus as we live in peace, spotless and blameless. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by being diligent today to live in peace, spotless and blameless, knowing that Jesus may return at any moment?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Fifty Eight

Patience Today



How did Paul write? Paul wrote according to the wisdom God gave to him.

Peter urged the Christians to regard the patience of the Lord as salvation. God was not slow about His promises, as some count slowness, but is patient, not willing for any to perish, but for all to come to salvation. Only because of God's patience were we saved. If God were not patient, then we would all have been destroyed long ago for our sins. The great patience of God must be regarded always as salvation for us.

Peter then linked up all writing about the patience and salvation of God. Paul wrote according to the wisdom given to him. When Paul addressed the Corinthians, he told them that he did not come to them with superiority of speech or of wisdom. He did not use persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and the power, so that their faith would not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God.

We live powerfully in the family of God today by living according to the Scriptures and the love of Jesus Christ our Savior. We look forward to His coming and later the new heavens and the new earth, where righteousness dwells.

Salvation

1. **Regard**. How should Christians regard the patience of God? They should regard it as salvation.

2. **Patience**. God is not slow about His promises, as some count slowness, but is patient toward all because He is not willing for any to perish, but for all to come to repentance, which resulted in salvation for us and others.

3. **Salvation**. Peter linked the patience of God directly with our salvation.

4. **Paul**. Peter described Paul as a beloved brother in Christ.

5. **Wisdom**. God gave Paul wisdom which enabled him to write New Testament epistles.

6. **Wrote**. Living powerfully in the family of God means Peter knew about Paul's wisdom from God and that Paul wrote to the same people that Peter addressed.

7. **You**. We rejoice today because Peter was familiar with Paul's letter and described it as written by the wisdom of God for the benefit of you.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by regarding the patience of God as salvation for us and others.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by remembering that Peter called Paul a beloved brother who wrote with the wisdom of God.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to regard the patience of God as salvation and thank God for both Peter and Paul faithfully wrote down the revelations they received from God.**

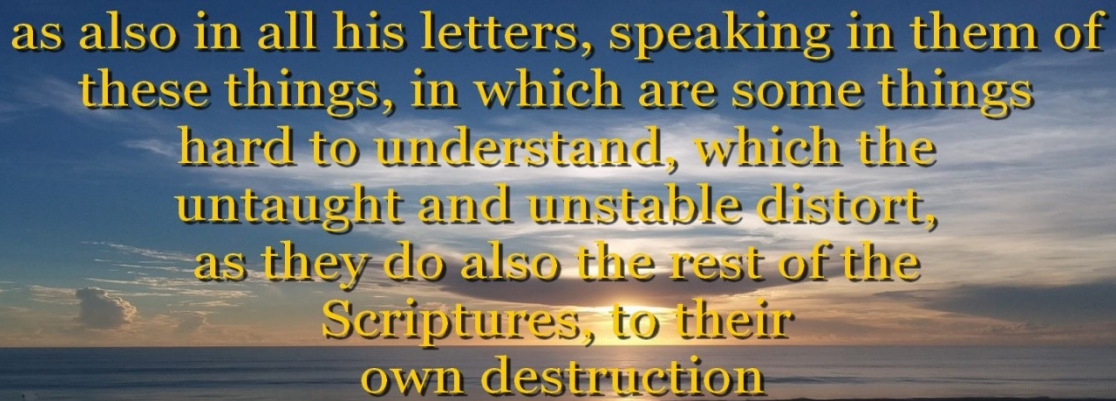
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by thanking God for his patience resulting in our salvation. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by studying carefully the letters Peter and Paul wrote?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Fifty Nine

Distort Today



as also in all his letters, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which the untaught and unstable distort, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction

2 Peter 3:16

What do the untaught and unstable do with the Scriptures? They distort them to their own destruction.

Peter was familiar with the letters of Paul. Peter called Paul the beloved brother. Peter then described the letters of Paul as containing some things that are hard to understand. He also considered Paul's writings of the same authority as the Scriptures of the Old Testament.

The untaught and unstable distort the things of Scripture. They pay a tremendous price for that because they destroy themselves. God breathed out the Scriptures so that the man of God may be equipped and ready for every good work. They also help us to identify our problems and change them. The Scriptures provide a wonderful guide to truth and godliness.

The words of the Scripture were breathed out by God. We must pay careful attention to the precise words God used in the Bible. As we study

those words of Scripture, we learn the ways of God and love Him more. God revealed Himself to us so that we would love Him, follow Him and glorify Him forever.

Scriptures

1. **Letters**. What did Peter know about Paul? Peter understood that Paul wrote multiple letters.

2. **Things**. Peter also knew that Paul wrote about the same things that Peter wrote about, both writing under the inspiration of God.

3. **Hard**. Peter said that some of the things Paul wrote were hard to understand.

4. **Understand**. Peter had also written that the Old Testament prophets and angels longed to look into things they wrote, because they wanted to understand more about the Christ Who was coming.

5. **Unstable**. In contrast, the untaught and unstable distort the Scriptures.

6. **Scripture**. Living powerfully in the family of God means while the unstable and untaught distort the Scriptures to their own destruction, we study the Scriptures looking forward to the place where righteousness dwells.

7. **Destruction**. We rejoice today because, while the unstable and untaught and the mockers will all go to destruction when the Day of Judgment arrives, we will be with Jesus for all eternity living in righteousness.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering that Peter knew that Paul wrote about the same things, both writing under the inspiration of God.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by remembering the unstable and untaught distort the Scriptures to their own destruction.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to study carefully the epistles of Paul and Peter, who both wrote under the inspiration of God with the wisdom of God.**

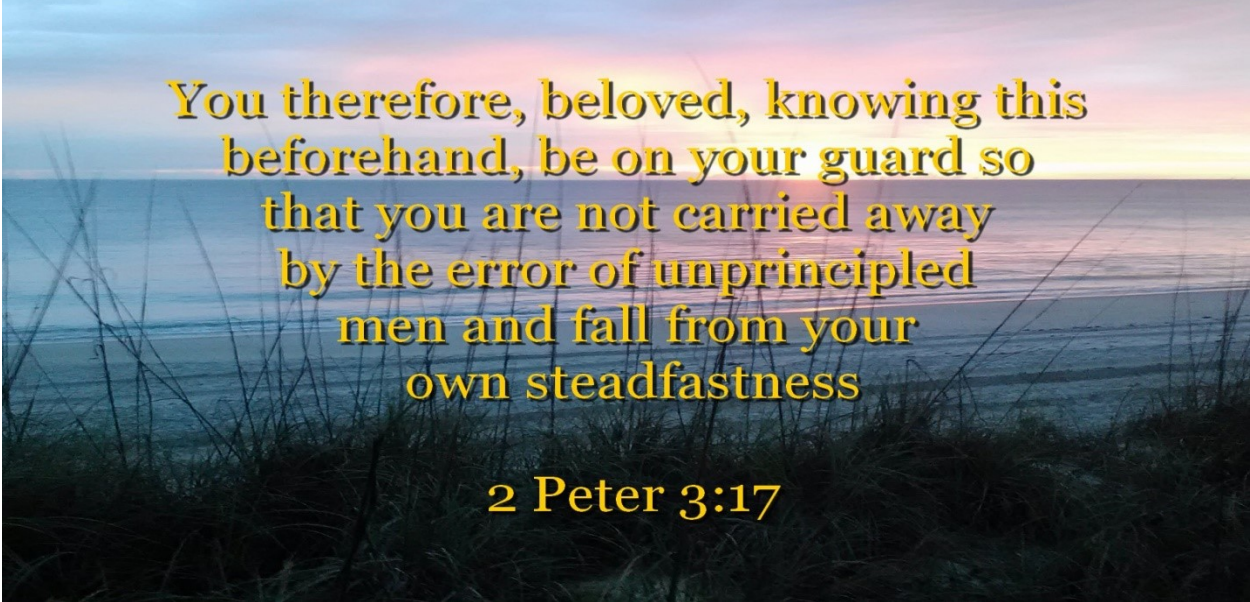
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by remembering that both Paul and Peter wrote New Testament Scripture of equal authority with Old Testament Scripture. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by thanking God for preserving the epistles of Paul and Peter to bless us today?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Sixty

Guard Today



You therefore, beloved, knowing this
beforehand, be on your guard so
that you are not carried away
by the error of unprincipled
men and fall from your
own steadfastness

2 Peter 3:17

How do we avoid being carried away by the error of unprincipled men? By remembering the Scriptures that were handed down to us and following them.

While the unstable and untaught distort the Scriptures to their own destruction, the saints must be on guard so they are not carried away by the error of unprincipled men and fall from their own steadfastness in Christ. Peter wrote, knowing that his time upon Earth had grown short. He wanted to stir them up to remind them to be on their guard long after he had died. Peter fulfilled that desire with his letters, so that thousands of years later we read them today and know we must be on guard.

We must guard ourselves against unprincipled men would seek to lead us astray. They spread their errors among Christians and try to seduce them with their greed and lusts. They seek to make the believers fall from there steadfastness in Christ. Because we know what will happen in the end days, we keep our guard up against the mockers and others who try to come

into the fellowship to introduce destructive heresies and draw people to follow them. We hear Peter stirring us up with his epistles and reminding us to constantly be on guard.

Steadfastness

1. **You**. How does what we know beforehand affect our lives today? Because of what we know beforehand, we must be on guard today.

2. **Knowing**. Knowing that untaught and unstable men distort the Scriptures to their own destruction, we must be careful to live in righteousness and avoid their errors.

3. **Guard**. We must be on guard not only for ourselves, but others also.

4. **Carried**. We must not be carried away by error.

5. **Error**. Unprincipled men spread their errors constantly, trying to entangle Christians in those errors.

6. **Fall**. Living powerfully in the family of God means unprincipled men used their errors to entice us to fall from our own steadfastness in Christ.

7. **Steadfastness**. We rejoice today because we know beforehand the prophecies and teachings of Peter and Paul, we will be on our guard, so that we will not fall from our steadfastness in Christ.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by remembering the words of Peter and Paul, inspired by God, to live on guard today so that we do not fall from our steadfastness.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by remembering not to be carried away by the errors of unprincipled men.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to use the term beloved to describe one another.**

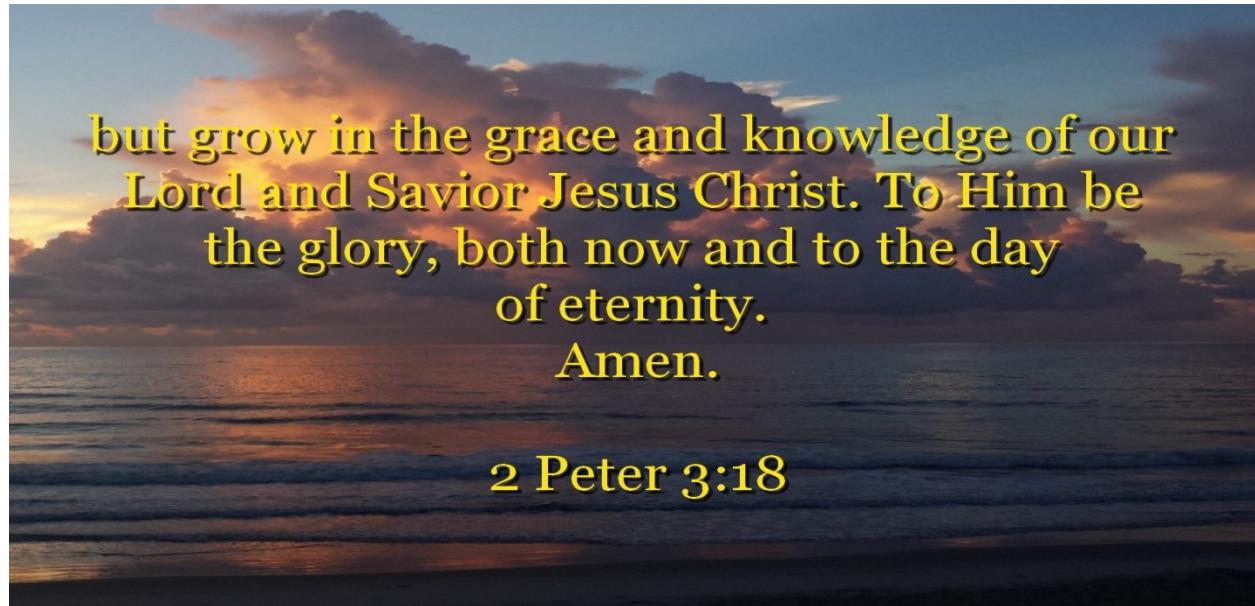
Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by being on guard against the errors of unprincipled men. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by remaining steadfast and on guard, so that you do not fall into the errors of unprincipled men?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Sixty One

Grow Today



What was on Peter's mind as he closed his second epistle? He had his mind on glory.

Peter first commanded the believers to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Peter emphasized throughout his second epistle that the grace of God provided salvation and the knowledge of God was foundational to the Christian life. Peter wrote about many prophecies, but always tied them to how we live today.

Peter then talked about ascribing glory to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Peter took the long view of that glory. He said glory to the Lord Jesus, both now and to the Day of Eternity. Peter had already talked about the Day of Judgment, the Day of the Lord, and the Day of God. Peter understood that one day with God is like 1000 years in 1000 years like a day, but he still drew attention to the prophetic days. Peter also wrote about the last days, when mockers would come. Peter never used the word 'today', although he wanted to stir up the minds of the audience with his epistles.

Peter knew he was departing earth soon, but his love for the brethren compelled him to write letters that remain a blessing to us today because God first inspired them and then preserved them for our benefit today.

Grace and Knowledge

1. **Grow**. What final command did Peter leave for the Christians? He commanded them to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

2. **Grace**. Peter described how the grace and patience of God produce salvation for all of us.

3. **Knowledge**. Peter also explained how greater knowledge of God produces greater godliness in our life.

4. **Our**. Peter emphasized the unity of Christianity with the word “our,” meaning that are all one in Christ, having only one Savior and one Lord.

5. **Lord**. Peter used the title Lord to highlight our relation to Him as slaves who have been bought and redeemed from our sins by His blood.

6. **Glory**. Living powerfully in the family of God means to ascribe glory, not only with our words, but also with our behavior, to the Lord Jesus Christ, our Savior.

7. **Eternity**. We rejoice today because we will continue to glorify our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to the day of eternity.

Summary for Today

- **We live powerfully in the family of God by growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.**
- **We live more powerfully in the family of God by ascribing glory to Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.**
- **We live together powerfully in the family of God by encouraging one another to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, so that we may glorify Him both now and to the day of eternity.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live powerfully in the family of God by praying that we grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ, so that we may glorify Him both now and to the day of eternity. Will you live powerfully in the family of God today by saying amen to that prayer?

HALLELUJAH !

Conclusion

Peter wanted to be sure that the saints would remember what he wrote after his death. He wanted them to grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ and be on their guard against mockers and false prophets, but hold fast to the truth of the Scriptures. They must be diligent to be found in Jesus Christ, spotless and blameless, because they have received the revelations of God about new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness dwells. God never wills that anyone should perish, but that all people would come to repentance and receive eternal life.

HALLELUJAH !