

**THE SIMPLIFIED
KING JAMES
VERSION**

***Literal Text and
Paraphrased***

***Also featuring verse-by-verse
Discipleship Questions***

**THE SECOND LETTER
OF PETER**

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**INTRODUCING
THE SIMPLIFIED KING JAMES VERSION
- LITERAL TEXT AND PARAPHRASED -**

The “Simplified King James Version – Literal Text and Paraphrased” uses the Textus Receptus Greek text as its foundation. This text was used by the best scholars of its day in translating the King James Version. These two versions seek to update words and phrases that need a more modern equivalent to be understandable. They incorporate years of research and information that would normally only be found in a variety of Bible translations, publications and reference works. Their goal and purpose is to make the Bible understandable and the final authority and rule of one’s life.

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INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING THIS MATERIAL

(1) - FOR STUDY PURPOSES –

Study the “Simplified King James Version – Literal Text.”

(2) - FOR EASY READING -

Read the “Simplified King James Version – Paraphrased.”

(3) - FOR DISCIPLESHIP PURPOSES –

Answer the Discipleship Questions at the end of this booklet. Discover the answers by going to the appropriate scriptures. Any translation (s) may be used.

(4) - FOR BIBLE STUDY DISCUSSION GROUPS –

Request a copy of our “Student & Teacher’s Guide” (2 Peter) for small group discussions. It can be ordered at the address in this booklet or downloaded freely at www.delessons.org This book will help the facilitator lead a group using this booklet in a group setting. The “Student & Teacher’s Guide” breaks down the scriptures in small portions so they can be discussed and questions asked.

2 PETER

General Information: The date and place of writing is uncertain. This letter is written close to the end of the Apostle Peter's life. He knew the end of his physical life was near and he wanted to provide written reminders for his readers to consider long after his departure (2 Peter 1:15). This letter contains the necessity of sound doctrine, godly living, and a warning to guard oneself against false teachers (in this way it resembles the letter of St. Jude). It contains an assertion of the certainty of the 'Second Coming' of Christ, at the end of this age. 2 Peter is the 61st book of the Bible. It contains 3 chapters, 61 verses and 1,559 words.

The "**context**" is the information which proceeds or follows each verse or set of verses. It contains the unit of thought that surrounds each verse or verses. It must be considered in order to come to a proper interpretation of a verse or verses.

- FOR STUDY PURPOSES - THE SIMPLIFIED KING JAMES VERSION - LITERAL TEXT

Bold face type includes every word of The Authorized King James Version. Not a single word has been eliminated or altered. Within the brackets are updated words and phrases in modern English. For a thorough understanding of the Scripture, readers should study the complete text.

2 PETER CHAPTER 1

THE SIMPLIFIED KING JAMES VERSION - LITERAL TEXT

1 Simon Peter [lit., "a rock or a stone," one of the twelve disciples of Jesus], a **servant** [one who gives himself up to another's will] **and an apostle** [ambassador] **of Jesus Christ** [Jesus the Messiah], **to them that have obtained like precious faith** [who have obtained the same Christian faith] **with us** [the apostles] **through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ** [thru the righteousness that God gives us by our Saviour Jesus Christ]: **2 Grace** [the free and undeserved love of God] **and peace** [the fundamental ideas of prosperity and well-being] **be multiplied** [be increased] **unto you through the knowledge** [Gk. *epignosis*; The bringing of one into a better acquaintance of something previously known. A greater participation by the knower, thus more powerfully influencing him] **of God, and of Jesus our Lord** [Master],

3 According as his divine power [His mighty strength] **hath given unto us** [hath bestowed upon us] **all things that pertain** [belong or relate] **unto life** [a life active and vigorous, devoted to God] **and godliness** [godlikeness], **through the knowledge** [Gk. *epignosis*; The bringing of one into a better acquaintance of something previously known. A greater participation by the knower, thus more powerfully influencing him] **of**

him [God] **that hath called us to glory** [the character and ways of God as exhibited through Christ] **and virtue** [moral excellence; the the manifestation of God's divine power in character and conduct]: **4 Whereby are given** [to present, or bestow] **unto us** [the true believers that includes the speaker & writer] **exceeding great** [very great] **and precious** [of great value] **promises** [God's statements & basis for expectation]: **that by these ye** [you] **might be partakers** [sharers] **of the divine nature** [of being like the true God], **having escaped the corruption** [moral decay] **that is in the world through lust** [of worldly or evil desires].

5 And beside this [because you have these promised blessings], **giving all diligence** [persistent application or steady effort], **add** [supply, furnish or present] **to your faith** [conviction of the truth] [a believing that leads to doing – Jas. 2:17-18] **virtue** [any particular moral excellence, as modesty, purity]; **and to virtue** [moral excellence] **knowledge** [a seeking to know, an enquiry, of spiritual truth]; **6 And to knowledge temperance** [self-control, the virtue of one who masters his desires and passions, esp. his sensual appetites]; **and to temperance** [self-control] **patience** [patient continuance, endurance, perseverance]; **and to patience** [perseverance] **godliness** [reverence of God characterized by acts of godliness]; **7 And to godliness brotherly kindness** [Gk. Philadelphia -brotherly love]; **and to brotherly kindness charity** [agape love, God's kind of love]. **8 For if these things be in you** [if these qualities be in you], **and abound** [exist in abundance, (present tense) and continue to exist and increase], **they make you that ye** [you] **shall neither be barren** [unproductive] **nor unfruitful** [without fruit] **in the knowledge** [better acquaintance and participation] **of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 But he that lacketh** [is deficient in] **these things is blind** [to the truth], **and cannot see afar off** [can't see the obvious] , **and hath forgotten that he was purged** [cleansed] **from his old** [former] **sins.**

10 Wherefore the rather, brethren [Therefore, brethren], **give diligence** [earnest and persistent application, attentive care] **to make your calling and election sure** [make certain about God's calling and choosing you or endorse by your conduct that God has called and chosen you]: **for if ye do** [present tense, that is, do and continue to do] **these things, ye shall never fall** [Gk. *patio*; to trip, to err, sin, or fail (of salvation)]: **11 For so an entrance** [the act of entering] **shall be ministered** [be supplied, or furnished] **unto you abundantly** [occurring in abundance or plentiful] **into the everlasting kingdom** [the territory subject to the rule of Christ] **of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.**

12 Wherefore I will not be negligent [to neglect] **to put you always in remembrance** [to recall to mind, admonish] **of these things** [these matters], **though ye know them, and be established** [to make stable] **in the present truth. 13 Yea** [Yes], **I think it meet** [I think it is right], **as long as I am in this tabernacle** [human body], **to stir you up** [to arouse your thinking] **by putting you in remembrance** [reminding you]; **14 Knowing that shortly I must put off this my tabernacle** [leave this body behind], **even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shewed** [showed] **me. 15 Moreover I will endeavour** [to exert one' self, or be diligent] **that ye** [you] **may be able after my decease** [departure] **to have these things always in remembrance** [that you may be able to remember all of this after I am gone].

16 For we have not followed cunningly devised fables [made up tales and clever stories], **when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord**

Jesus Christ [when we told you of the power and return of our Lord Jesus Christ], **but were eyewitnesses of his majesty** [we saw his majesty with our own eyes]. **17 For he** [Jesus] **received** [took upon himself] **from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him** [Jesus] **from the excellent glory** [the glorious God], **“This is my beloved** [dearly loved] **Son, in whom I am well pleased.”** **18 And this voice which came from heaven we heard** [we ourselves heard this voice from heaven], **when we were with him in the holy mount** [at the transfiguration; Mt. 17, Mk, 9, & Lk. 9]. **19 We have** [We hold, present tense - and continue to hold] **also a more sure** [steadfast, stable, firm, dependable] **word of prophecy** [the Word of God spoken by the prophets]; **whereunto ye do well that ye take heed** [pay close attention, present tense – and continue to pay close attention], **as unto a light that shineth in a dark place** [these words are like light shining in a dark place, present tense – and they continue to shine], **until the day dawn** [until the daylight breaks through the darkness of night], **and the day star arise in your hearts** [the morning star brings light in your hearts, metaph. Christ]:

20 Knowing this first [Understanding this first], **that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation** [no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation or private opinion]. **21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man** [no prophecy of Scripture was ever made by an act of human will]: **but holy men of God spake** [spoke] **as they were moved** [or prompted] **by the Holy Ghost.**

2 PETER CHAPTER 2

THE SIMPLIFIED KING JAMES VERSION – LITERAL TEXT

1 But there were false prophets also among the people [false prophets arose among God’s people], **even as there shall be false teachers among you** [in the midst of your group], **who privily** [secretly – in a way that will be hard to see that they are wrong] **shall bring in damnable** [that which leads to spiritual ruin or destruction] **heresies** [to pick or choose – especially the choosing of a self-willed opinion], **even denying** [to declare untrue or contradict] **the Lord** [the Lordship – the absolute ruler] **that bought** [purchased] **them, and bring upon themselves swift** [quick] **destruction** [ruin or loss - physical, spiritual or eternal]. **2 And many** [a large, indefinite number, the masses] **shall follow** [yield to] **their pernicious ways** [leading to ruin or loss both spiritually or eternally]; **by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of** [the way of truth will be scoffed at and ridiculed]. **3 And through covetousness** [greed, the desire for profit] **shall they with feigned** [to represent falsely] **words make merchandise of you** [try to get hold of your money]: **whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not** [the judgment spoken against them is still coming], **and their damnation** [punishment or destruction] **slumbereth not** [does not sleep, that is, is on the way].

4 For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell [Gk. *tartaroo*, to hold captive in Tartarus, the abode of the wicked dead], **and delivered them into chains of darkness** [blackness, used of the darkness of the nether world], **to be reserved** [to guard] **unto judgment** [until judgment or condemnation]; **5 And**

spared not the old world [the inhabitants of the earth, the human race], **but saved** [to guard a person so that he may remain safe] **Noah the eighth person** [with seven others], **a preacher** [messenger] **of righteousness** [he preached about being right with God], **bringing in the flood** [to cause something to befall one, usually something evil] **upon the world of the ungodly** [God punished the world when he brought the flood, See Gen. 6-8; 1 Peter 3:20]; **6 And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes** [See Gen. 19:24-25] **condemned them** [to give judgment or punishment against] **with an overthrow** [destruction], **making them an ensample** [example: for a warning, of a thing to be shunned] **unto those that after should live** [present tense – and continue to live] **ungodly** [filthy lives of evil]; **7 And delivered** [rescued, See Gen. 19:16, 29] **just** [righteous] **Lot, vexed** [to afflict or oppress] **with the filthy conversation of the wicked** [with the evil & wickedness he saw and heard] : **8 (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul** [was afflicted and oppressed] **from day to day with their unlawful deeds** [lawless deeds];)

9 The Lord knoweth how to deliver [rescue] **the godly out of** [from] **temptations** [the enticement to sin], **and to reserve** [to keep, one in the state in which he is] **the unjust** [the unrighteous] **unto the day of judgment to be punished:** **10 But chiefly** [especially] **them** [people] **that walk after the flesh** [the sinful nature] **in the lust of uncleanness** [in the desires of defilement & pollution] , **and despise government** [hate to be under authority or lordship]. **Presumptuous are they** [daring men], **selfwilled** [self-pleasing & arrogant], **they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities** [spiritual beings]. **11 Whereas angels** [ministering spirits (Heb. 1:13-14), messengers from God], **which are greater in power and might, bring not railing** [speaking evil, abusive or slanderous] **accusation** [judgment] **against them** [these spiritual beings – possibility evil mighty ones] **before the Lord.**

12 But these [these people] , **as natural** [governed by the instincts of nature] **brute** [destitute or contrary to reason] **beasts** [animals], **made to be taken and destroyed** [born to be caught and killed], **speak evil of the things that they understand not** [speak evil of things they know nothing about]; **and shall utterly perish** [be destroyed] **in their own corruption** [in their own corrupt deeds]; **13 And shall receive** [future tense – indicates the certain occurrence of an event which has not yet occurred] **the reward** [recompense] **of unrighteousness** [for their unrighteousness], **as they that count it pleasure to riot in the day time** [openly doing evil]. **Spots they are and blemishes** [dirty spots and moral blemishes] , **sporting themselves** [delighting themselves] **with their own deceiving** [with their own deceitfulness – believing what is not true, misleading] **while they feast with you** [while they eat meals with you. present tense – and continue to do so]; **14 Having** [present tense – and continuing to have] **eyes full of adultery** [In Scripture, doctrine and morals are never divided by any sharp line. “Errors” in doctrine are not infrequently the effect of relaxed morality, and vice versa. Vine’s Greek Lexicon], **and that cannot cease from sin** [unceasing in sin]; **beguiling** [to bait, allure, entice and deceive] **unstable souls** [unsteady people, characterized by unpredictable behavior]: **an heart they have exercised with covetous practices** [their hearts are fixed on greedy practices]; **cursed children** [people who misfortune is to fall]: **15 Which have forsaken the right way** [to forsake or depart from God’s way], **and are gone astray** [wandered off],

following [to comply with or yield to] **the way** [the conduct] **of Balaam** [see Num. 22:7, Revelation 2:14] **the son of Bosor** [the father of Balaam], **who loved the wages of unrighteousness** [who loved the pay he could get from doing wrong]; **16 But was rebuked** [reproved sharply and reprimanded] **for his iniquity** [transgression and wickedness]: **the dumb** [voiceless] **ass** [beast, that is, donkey] **speaking with man's voice forbad** [forbid] **the madness** [insanity] **of the prophet** [a proclaimer of divine messages].

17 These [false prophets and people like them] **are wells without water** [waterless wells], **clouds that are carried with a tempest** [rain clouds blown away]; **to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever** [to whom the darkness of the nether world is reserved forever]. **18 For when they speak** [present tense – and continue to speak] **great swelling words** [arrogant and boastful words] **of vanity** [devoid of truth], **they allure** [entice and deceive] **through the lusts** [desires and cravings] **of the flesh** [lustful desires of the sinful nature], **through much wantonness** [unbridled lust], **those that were clean escaped from them who live in error** [they lure back into sin those who have just escaped sinful living]. **19 While they promise them liberty** [freedom from law and needless restraints], **they themselves are the servants** [slaves] **of corruption** [corrupt living]: **for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage** [a man is a slave to whatever controls him]. **20 For if after they have escaped** [to flee from] **the pollutions** [defilement] **of the world** [the ungodly multitude] **through the knowledge** [correct knowledge – in the New Testament the knowledge of things ethical and divine] **of the Lord** [Gk. *kuros*, the Master, the one who has control of the person] **and Saviour** [deliverer and preserver] **Jesus** [“Jehovah is salvation”] **Christ** [“the anointed” (king)], **they are again** [a second time] **entangled therein** [to twist together and entwine; to involve in as if in a tangle; to be mastered], **and overcome** [to conquer], **the latter end is worse with them than the beginning** [they are worse off at the end than they were in the beginning]. **21 For it had been better** [more advantageous] **for them not to have known** [to become acquainted with] **the way** [a course of conduct] **of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them** [to turn their backs on the holy commandment(s) or teaching given unto them]. **22 But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb** [what the proverb says is true], **The dog is turned to his own vomit again** [the dog returns to its own vomit]; **and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire** [and a pig that is washed returns to wallow in the mud again].

2 PETER CHAPTER 3

THE SIMPLIFIED KING JAMES VERSION – LITERAL TEXT

1 This second epistle [this second letter], **beloved** [dearly loved], **I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds** [to arouse the mind, that is, to stimulate your wholesome thinking] **by way of remembrance** [by reminding you] : **2 That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets** [that you recall what the holy prophets said long ago], **and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour** [and the commandments

of our Lord and Saviour given from us the Lord's apostles]: **3 Knowing this first** [first of all I want to remind you], **that there shall come** [to come into being or arise] **in the last days** [the closing days of this age] **scoffers** [mockers], **walking after their own lusts** [living only to satisfy their own flesh], **4 And saying** [speaking out, present tense – and continuing to speak out], **Where is the promise of his coming** [where is his return that Jesus promised]? **for since the fathers fell asleep** [for since our ancestor's died], **all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation** [everything remains the same since creation day].

5 For this they willingly are ignorant of [they deliberately forget], **that by the word of God the heavens were of old** [the heavens came into existence by the word of God long ago], **and the earth standing out of the water and in the water** [the earth was brought up from the water and was surrounded by water]: **6 Whereby the world that then was** [the world of that time], **being overflowed with water, perished** [perished beneath a great and mighty flood]: **7 But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire** [by God's word the present heavens and earth are reserved and destined to be consumed by fire] **against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men** [reserved until the Judgment Day when there shall be the utter destruction, perishing and ruin of ungodly men]. **8 But, beloved, be not ignorant** [unaware] **of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day** [a thousand years is like tomorrow to the Lord]. **9 The Lord is not slack** [slow or delayed] **concerning his promise** [to return], **as some men count slackness** [as some people understand slowness]; **but is longsuffering to us-ward** [God is patient, slow to anger and slow to punish us], **not willing that any should perish** [or be lost], **but that all should come to repentance** [a change of heart and mind that turns one from Satan and his ways unto God and His ways. It is closely related to "conversion." See Acts 26:18; Acts 3:19; Luke 13:3, 5]. **10 But the day of the Lord** [a time when the present world and all its evil will be brought to an end and Jesus will return and judge mankind. See Mt. 25:31-33, 46] **will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens** [the sky with all things visible in it] **shall pass away with a great noise** [loud noise] , **and the elements** [heavenly bodies] **shall melt** [dissolve] **with fervent heat** [intense heat and fire], **the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up** [the earth and all it contains will be burned up].

11 Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved [or destroyed], **what manner of persons ought ye to be** [what sort of person should you be, present tense – and continue to be] **in all holy conversation and godliness** [living godly in all manner of life, conduct and behavior], **12 Looking for** [to expect and wait for] **and hasting** [hurrying up] **unto the coming** [the arrival] **of the day of God** [the return from heaven of Jesus], **wherein** [during which] **the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved** [destroyed], **and the elements** [the elements from which all things have come, the material causes of the universe] **shall melt** [perish or become destroyed by melting] **with fervent heat** [burning fire]? **13 Nevertheless** [in spite of that] **we, according to his** [God's] **promise, look for new heavens and a new earth** [a new universe and world], **wherein dwelleth** [to be always present] **righteousness** [integrity, virtue, purity of life, rightness, justice, correctness of thinking feeling, and acting].

14 Wherefore, beloved [my dear friends], **seeing that ye look for such things** [you are anticipating and waiting for these things], **be diligent** [to exert one's self, to endeavor, give attentive care and heedfulness] **that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless** [that the Lord might find you pure, faultless and living in peace]. **15 And account** [consider] **that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation** [the Lord is waiting and is patient because he wants people to be saved]; **even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; 16 As also in all his epistles** [letters], **speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood** [some things Paul writes are hard to understand], **which they that are unlearned** [ignorant] **and unstable** [fluctuating] **wrest** [twist or pervert the truth into falsehood], **as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction** [and spiritual ruin].

17 Ye therefore, beloved [These things being so, dear friends], **seeing ye know these things before** [since you already know these things], **beware** [be on guard and keep watch, present tense – and continue to be on guard] **lest ye also** [for fear that you also], **being led away with** [being carried away with] **the error of the wicked** [the acts or behavior of lawless men], **fall from** [to fall down or lose] **your own steadfastness** [your own secure position]. **18 But grow** [or increase] **in grace** [good will and loving-kindness], **and in the knowledge** [or understanding] **of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory** [or praise] **both now and for ever. Amen.**

- FOR EASY READING - THE SIMPLIFIED KING JAMES VERSION - PARAPHRASED

2 PETER CHAPTER 1

THE SIMPLIFIED KING JAMES VERSION - PARAPHRASED

1 *This is Simon Peter (one of the twelve disciples of Jesus), a servant, that is, one who gives himself up to the will of Jesus the Messiah, an apostle and ambassador of Christ. I am writing to you that have obtained like precious faith, the same Christian faith as us the apostles, through the righteousness that God gives us by our Saviour Jesus Christ:* **2** *God's free undeserved love, peace, prosperity and well-being be multiplied and increased unto you through the spiritual knowledge that brings you into a better acquaintance of God, and Jesus our Lord and Master,*

3 *According as his divine power and mighty strength has given and bestowed upon us all things that pertain, belong and relate unto life, (an active, vigorous and devoted life to God). We become more like Him through the spiritual knowledge that brings us into a better acquaintance of Him. He has called us to glory, (the character and ways of God as exhibited through Christ) and virtue (the moral excellence and manifestation of God's divine power in character and conduct):* **4** *It is by that same*

mighty power and spiritual knowledge that we are given exceeding great and valuable promises: that by these we might partake of God's divine nature, having escaped the moral corruption and decay that is in this world that operates through men's lust, that is, evil desires.

5 For this reason, give all diligence and persistent effort to supply your faith (the conviction of truth) with virtue (the moral excellence, the divine power manifested in character and conduct); To virtue seek to know and enquire spiritual understanding (knowledge); **6** To spiritual understanding seek self-control (temperance); and to self-control *add* patient continuance, endurance, and perseverance (patience); to perseverance *add* godliness (the reverence of God that is characterized by acts of godliness); **7** To godliness *add* brotherly kindness and love; and to brotherly kindness *add* agape love. **8** If these qualities exist in you in abundance, they will keep you from being unproductive and without fruit in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. **9** But the person that is deficient in these things is blind to the truth, and can't see the obvious, that he was cleansed from his former sins

10 Therefore, brethren, give diligent persistent application to make certain about God calling and choosing you: for if you do these things, you will never fall, trip or err from the salvation that God has promised you: **11** For so the act of entering into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, shall be supplied and furnished unto you abundantly.

12 Therefore I will not neglect to put you always in remembrance of these matters, though you know them, and are established and made stable in the present truth. **13** Yes, I think it is right, as long as I am in this human body, to arouse your thinking by reminding you: **14** Knowing that shortly I must leave this body behind, even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath showed me. **15** Beyond what has already been stated, I will exert myself and be diligent so that you may be able after my death to have these things always in mind after I am gone.

16 For we have not followed deceptive, made-up tales and clever stories, when we told you of the power and return of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we saw his majesty with our own eyes. **17** For Jesus received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came a voice to him from the glorious God, saying, "This is my dearly loved Son, in whom I am well pleased." **18** We ourselves heard this voice from heaven, when we were with him in the holy mount, *known to many as his transfiguration; (Mt. 17, Mk. 8 & Lk. 9)*. **19** We hold, and continue to hold a more sure, steadfast, stable, firm, and dependable word of prophecy – the Word of God spoken by the prophets; you would do well to pay close attention – their words are like light shining in a dark place until the daylight breaks through the darkness of night, and the day star (Christ) arises in your hearts:

20 Understanding this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation or private opinion. **21** For no prophecy of Scripture was ever made by an act of human will: but holy men of God spoke as they were moved and prompted by the Holy Ghost.

2 PETER CHAPTER 2

THE SIMPLIFIED KING JAMES VERSION - PARAPHRASED

1 But there were false prophets that arose among God's people, even as there shall be false teachers in the midst of you. They secretly, that is, in a way that it will be hard for you to see that they are wrong, bring in damnable *teaching* which leads to destruction and spiritual ruin. This heresy, which means they pick or choose, (especially a self-willed opinion), will deny or contradict the Lord and his Lordship. Although the Lord purchased them at the cross, *they will go their own way* and bring quick destruction, ruin and loss upon themselves both physical, spiritual and eternal. **2** A large, indefinite number of *people*, (the masses), shall follow and yield to the false teachers deadly ways, this will lead to many experiencing ruin and loss both spiritually and eternally. Because of this the true way will be scoffed at and ridiculed. **3** Through covetousness, greed and the desire for more, the false teachers shall tell falsehoods and lies to try to get hold of your money.

4 Warning: God did not spare the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell (Tartarus), the abode of the wicked dead. He delivered them into chains of darkness and blackness. *There they are* reserved and guarded until their judgment and condemnation. **5 Neither did He** spare the old world and its inhabitants on the earth, but saved Noah with seven others. Noah's message was righteousness, being right with God. *This message was* followed by the flood and brought judgment upon the world of the ungodly. **6 Warning:** God turned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes and brought judgment and punishment against them by their destruction. This is an example and warning to those that continue to live ungodly, filthy lives of evil. **7 Promise to the godly:** The Lord delivered and rescued the righteous man Lot (a man of right standing with God). He was afflicted and oppressed with the evil and wickedness that he saw and heard. **8** (For that righteous man who lived among the heathen, from what he saw and heard, was afflicted and oppressed day after day by their lawless and ungodly deeds).

9 The Lord knows how to rescue the godly from the enticements to sin, and to reserve the unrighteous unto the day of judgment to be punished. **10** Especially people that walk after the flesh, that is, their sinful nature, in the desires and pollution *that defile their souls*. They hate to be under authority or lordship. Daring men, self-pleasing and arrogant. They are not afraid to speak evil of spiritual beings. **11** Angels (God's ministering spirits) which are greater in power and might *than these men*, do not speak evil, abusive or slanderous statements of judgment against these spiritual beings, before the Lord.

12 These people, governed by the instincts of their fallen nature, are destitute and contrary to reason. They act like mere animals who have been born to be caught and killed. They speak evil of things they know nothing about. They shall utterly perish and be destroyed in their own corrupt deeds. **13** And shall receive a recompense for their unrighteousness. They openly do evil. Dirty spots and moral blemishes, delighting themselves with their own deceitfulness, believing what is not true, misleading *others* while they eat meals with you. **14** Having and continuing to have eyes full of adultery, they are unceasing in their sin. They bait, allure, entice and deceive unsteady souls. Their hearts are fixed on greedy practices; people whose misfortune is to fall, cursed children: **15** Who have forsook and departed from God's way, and wandered off following and yielding to the way and conduct of Balaam the son of Bosor. Balaam

loved the pay he could get from doing wrong. **16** He was reprovved and reprimanded sharply for his iniquity: a voiceless donkey spoke with a man's voice and forbid the insanity of the prophet.

17 These *false prophets and people like them* are waterless wells, rain clouds blown away; to whom the darkness of the nether world is reserved forever. **18** For as they speak and continue to speak arrogant and boastful words devoid of truth, they entice and deceive through the desires and cravings of the sinful nature. Through unbridled lust they lure back into sin those who have just escaped from their sinful living. **19** While they promise freedom from law and needless restraints, they themselves are slaves to corrupt living: for of whom a man is overcome, that man is a slave to whatever controls him. **20** For if after they have escaped the pollutions and defilements of the world through knowing the Lord and Saviour Jesus the Christ. If they are again entangled, mastered and overcome, they are worse off at the end than they were in the beginning. **21** For it had been more advantageous for them not to have become acquainted with the way or course of righteousness, than after they have known it, to turn their backs on the holy commandment(s), that is, the teaching given unto them. **22** But it is true what the proverb says, "The dog returns to its own vomit; and the pig that is washed returns to wallow in the mud again."

2 PETER CHAPTER 3

THE SIMPLIFIED KING JAMES VERSION - PARAPHRASED

1 This second letter, dear friends, I now write unto you; to arouse your mind and stimulate your wholesome thinking by reminding you: **2** To recall what the holy prophets said long ago, and the commandments of our Lord and Saviour given from us *to you*, the Lord's apostles: **3** First of all I want to remind you, that there shall arise in the closing days of this age, scoffers and mockers, living only to satisfy their own flesh, **4** And saying, "Where is his return that was promised by Jesus? for everything remains the same since creation day."

5 For this they deliberately forget, the heavens came into existence by the word of God long ago, and the earth was brought up from the water and was surrounded by water: **6** Whereby the world of that time, perished beneath a great and mighty flood: **7** By God's own word the present heavens and earth are reserved and destined to be consumed by fire, reserved until the Judgment Day when there shall be the utter destruction, perishing and ruin of ungodly men.

8 *Dearly* beloved, be not ignorant and unaware of this one thing, one day is like a thousand years to the Lord, and a thousand years is like tomorrow to Him. **9** The Lord is not slow or delayed concerning his promise to return, as some people understand slowness; but is longsuffering, patient, slow to anger and punish us. He is not willing that any should perish or be lost, but that all should come to repentance by having a change of heart and mind. [*In this way, people turn from Satan and his ways unto God and His ways.*] **10** The Day of the Lord, is a time when the present world and all its evil will be brought to an end, Jesus will return and judge mankind. It will happen like a thief comes in the night. The sky with all things visible in it, shall pass away with a loud

noise, and the heavenly bodies shall dissolve with intense heat and fire. The earth and all it contains will also burn up.

11 Seeing then that all these things shall be destroyed, what sort of persons should you be and continue to be? *We should* be living godly in all manner of life, conduct and behavior. **12** Looking for, expecting and waiting for the hasting, and quick arrival of the Day of God, the return from heaven of Jesus, during which the heaven being on fire shall be destroyed, and the elements from which all things have come, shall perish and become destroyed by melting and the burning of fire. **13** In spite of that, we, according to God's promise, look for a new universe and world, wherein is always present, righteousness, integrity, virtue, purity of life, rightness, justice, correctness of thinking feeling and acting.

14 Wherefore, my dear friends, seeing that you are anticipating and waiting for these things, exert one's self, endeavor, give attentive care and heedfulness, that the Lord might find you pure, faultless and living in peace. **15** And consider that the Lord is waiting and is patient because he wants people to be saved; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him has written unto you; **16** As also in all his letters, speaking in them of these things; in which some of the things Paul writes are hard to understand, which they that are ignorant and fluctuating, twist and pervert the truth into falsehood, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction and spiritual ruin.

17 These things being so, dear friends, since you already know these things, be on guard and keep watch, for fear that you also, being carried away with the acts and behavior of lawless men, fall down and lose your own secure position. **18** But grow and increase in grace, loving-kindness, knowledge and understanding of our Lord and Saviour Jesus the Christ. To him be glory and praise both now and forever. Amen.

- FOR DISCIPLESHIP PURPOSES - DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

(2 Peter Chapter 1)

Discover the answers by going to the appropriate Scriptures. Questions may have more than one answer.

1. **Read 2 Peter 1:1.** Simon Peter is described as: a. a servant. b. an evangelist. c. an apostle. d. none of the above.
2. **Read 2 Peter 1:1.** The Apostle Peter is writing to: a. non-Christians. b. his mother. c. old friends. d. believers who share in common his Christian faith.
3. **Read 2 Peter 1:2.** If you want more and more of God's grace (kindness) and peace in your life, then: a. come to know God better and better (knowledge). b. attend church on Sundays. c. make sure you tithe. d. deepen in your knowledge and experience of Jesus our Lord.

4. **Read 2 Peter 1:2.** As Christians, Jesus is: a. our Lord (Master, Boss, and King). b. our good Samaritan. c. our Grandfather.
5. **Read 2 Peter 1:3.** Godly living comes to us by knowing God better and trusting in His: a. angels. b. Divine power. c. pastors to guide us.
6. **Read 2 Peter 1:3.** As Christians God has called us to: a. His own glory. b. virtue and moral excellence. c. become rich. d. attend several Bible studies a week.
7. **Read 2 Peter 1:4.** God made great and marvelous promises so that by these you might partake of: a. the flesh. b. the Divine nature. c. the old man & his ways.
8. **Read 2 Peter 1:3 - 4.** You can escape the evil desires and corrupt influences of this world by: a. His Divine nature. b. His exceeding & great promises. c. meditation. d. His Divine power.
9. **Read 2 Peter 1:5.** The word “**diligence**” carries the idea of: a. making every effort. b. doing your level best. c. to do something with speed & haste. d. earnestness, that is, with a purposeful and serious intent. e. all of the above. You may want to see a dictionary or Strong’s number 4710 in a Greek lexicon to confirm this answer.
10. **Read 2 Peter 1:5-7.** Which of the following need to be added to our Christian faith: a. virtue, moral excellence, a noble character. b. knowledge, spiritual understanding, knowing God better. c. temperance, self-control. d. patience, patient endurance, perseverance. e. godliness . f. brotherly kindness. g. charity, love.
11. **Read 2 Peter 1:8.** The person who lacks moral excellence, knowledge of God, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love (verses 5-7) is: a. unhappy. b. glad. c. barren and unfruitful.
12. **Read 2 Peter 1:9.** The person who lacks moral excellence, knowledge of God, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love (verses 5-7) is blind and shortsighted even to the point of: a. not attending church on Sundays. b. forgetting he was purged from his old sins.
13. **Read 2 Peter 1:10.** The person who lacks moral excellence, knowledge of God, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love (verses 5-7) has: a. made his calling & election sure. b. not made himself certain about his calling & election.
14. **Read 2 Peter 1:10.** A Christian is to: a. give diligence to make his calling & election sure. b. be a slacker concerning God’s calling & election.
15. **Read 2 Peter 1:10.** A person who has moral excellence, knowledge of God, self control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love (verses 5-7) in his

Christian life shall: a. stumble and fall. b. never fall.

16. **Read 2 Peter 1:10-11.** When a Christian has made his calling and election sure by adding to his faith, moral excellence, knowledge of God, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love (verses 5-7), not only will he not fall but it is as if the narrow road of entrance has been broadened. So the entrance is: a. blocked. b. barely seen. c. supplied abundantly into the everlasting kingdom.

17. **Read 2 Peter 1:12.** Even though the believers Peter was speaking to were holding firmly to the truth they were given, Peter was still going to remind them of what?

18. **Read 2 Peter 1:13-15.** The Lord Jesus showed Peter that his death would be soon, that is why he was doing his best to: a. enjoy life. b. save a lot of money. c. make sure they remember his instructions long after he is gone.

19. **Read 2 Peter 1:16.** Peter in making known to the believers the power and the coming (or return) of the Lord Jesus, was not using: a. the wisdom of intellectuals. b. a rumor that he heard. c. cunning devised fables, that is, clever stories that were made up.

20. **Read 2 Peter 1:16.** Peter was an eyewitness to the Majesty. This is a reference to Jesus as: a. the Messianic King. b. most popular teacher of his day. c. a Rabbi.

21. **Read 2 Peter 1:17-19.** God the Father honored His Son when He spoke from heaven, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased!" Peter, James and John heard this voice that came from heaven (Matt. 17:1-9; Mk. 9:2-10; Lk. 9:28-36). Yet their conclusion is that there is a word even more sure than the audible voice of God, it is the prophets, that is, the Holy Scriptures. Peter tells us that we should: a. read the Christmas story from the Bible on Christmas. b. take heed, pay attention and follow the Scriptures closely.

22. **Read 2 Peter 1:20.** No prophecy of Scripture is a matter of: a. Jewish tradition. b. one's own interpretation (we should be looking for God's interpretation, not our own).

23. **Read 2 Peter 1:21.** No prophecy of Scripture was ever written as a mere: a. suggestion that it could be a best seller in book stores. b. act of human will.

24. **Read 2 Peter 1:21.** Scripture was written (spoken from God) as men were moved on (led or guided) by: a. their wives. b. their friends. c. the Holy Spirit.

(2 Peter Chapter 2)

Discover the answers by going to the appropriate Scriptures. Questions may have more than one answer.

1. **Read 2 Peter 2:1.** There were false prophets in Israel even as there shall be false teachers: a. in the cults. b. in witchcraft. c. among you.
2. **Read 2 Peter 2:1.** The false teacher will bring in his heresy: a. secretly & unaware. b. so evident that everyone will know. c. to the cults.
3. **Read 2 Peter 2:1.** The false teacher will secretly: a. bring in damnable heresies. b. introduce damnable heresies. c. cause others to get acquainted with heresies that will bring about ruin.
4. **Read 2 Peter 2:1.** The heresies that the false teacher brings is: a. damnable. b. destructive. c. good to help you grow in Christ.
5. **Read 2 Peter 2:1.** When we pick or choose part of God's Word instead of all of God's word we are in danger of entering into heresy? True or False.
6. **Read 2 Peter 2:1.** Notice the words "teachers, them, themselves." Peter is not describing a false teacher (singular), he is describing several individuals (teachers) that are: a. among the believers. b. in a foreign land. c. locked up in jail.
7. **Read 2 Peter 2:1.** These false teachers deny the Lord that bought them. What does it mean to deny the Lord in this context?
8. **Read 2 Peter 2:1.** The false teacher denies in practice: a. Jesus is Saviour. b. the Lordship of Jesus. c. Jesus' teachings.
9. **Read 2 Peter 2:1.** The false teacher denies "the Lord that bought them." The word "bought" has the idea of: a. to purchase and redeem. b. to own only a small part. c. letting people go their own way.
10. **Read 2 Peter 2:1.** The false teacher will bring: a. swift destruction upon himself. b. a life of comfort and ease upon himself. c. the prosperity message to town.
11. **Read 2 Peter 2:2.** a. Only a few b. Many c. Some shall follow the false teachers ways.
12. **Read 2 Peter 2:2.** The false teachers ways are: a. delightful. b. fun. c. pernicious, that is, leading to ruin or loss both spiritually or eternally.
13. **Read 2 Peter 2:2.** Because of false teaching and teachers, the way of the truth may not always be the popular message. Because of these false teachers, the way of truth will be: a. slandered. b. well spoken of. c. praised.
14. **Read 2 Peter 2:3.** One of the marks of a false teacher is: a. his kindness. b. covetousness. c. his long sermons.

15. **Read 2 Peter 2:3.** The false teacher uses feigned words to take advantage of you and your pocket book (money). “Feigned words” are: a. truthful words. b. kind words. c. words that are fabricated (made up) that give a false impression.
16. **Read 2 Peter 2:3.** The end result of the false teacher in 2 Peter 2:3 is: a. lots of money to travel with. b. judgment and damnation. c. a savings account in Switzerland.
17. **Read Romans 5:20.** It is true that God’s grace is greater than our sin. True or False.
18. **Read Titus 2:11-12.** It is true that the grace of God that brings salvation teaches us: a. that it doesn’t matter what we do. b. to deny (or say “no”) to ungodliness and worldly lusts. c. to live self-controlled lives. d. to live righteously. e. to live godly in this present world.
19. **Read Romans 6:1-2, 6, 17-18.** It is only the grace of God that brings a death to sin and brings us under a new master which is: a. the devil. b. the flesh. c. righteousness.
- 20.. **Read 2 Peter 4-5.** What is the contrast found in verses four and five?
21. **Read 2 Peter 2:6.** What is Sodom and Gomorrah an example of?
22. **Read 2 Peter 2:8.** What affect did living among ungodly and immoral people have upon Lot? a. he had a lot of opportunity to witness. b. his righteous soul was vexed day by day. c. He began to party with them.
23. **Read 2 Peter 2:10-11.** What kind of people are unafraid to verbally abuse (evil) spiritual beings? a. people who follow their own evil longings. b. people who hate to be under authority. c. false teachers. d. self-willed people.
24. **Read 2 Peter 2:12-13.** The false teacher is like an animal that lives by his instincts. They shall receive a reward of: a. righteousness. b. unrighteousness.
25. **Read 2 Peter 2:12.** The false teachers shall: a. utterly perish. b. shall live eternally. c. have life more abundant.
26. **Read 2 Peter 2:13.** The false teachers indulge in evil pleasures. They are deceitful even as they: a. try to flee to Canada. b. eat with you (probably a reference to the agape love-feast shared among Christians).
27. **Read 2 Peter 2:14.** False prophet’s or teacher’s eyes are full of: a. a bright sparkle. b. adultery. c. greed.

28. **Read 2 Peter 2:14.** The false prophet and teacher is commonly known to deceive:
a. the uneducated. b. unstable souls, that is, unsteady people who are not firm in their faith.
29. **Read 2 Peter 2:14-15.** It appears from these verses that the false teacher or prophet at one time followed the Lord but had wandered off and gone astray. This is a lesson to us all. The fruit of their life now is manifesting: a. adultery. b. an unceasing continuance in sin. c. leading others into sin. d. a heart of greed.
30. **Read 2 Peter 2:15-16.** Balaam the Son of Bosor was an example of a true prophet that had gone bad (astray). We learn from the New Testament that it would have been better for him to have not know the way of righteousness than to have turned from it (2 Pet. 2:21). His latter end was destruction (Num. 31:8). Look up the following scriptures and discuss them among your group. Num. **22:8, 17-18; 23:3, 5, 12, 16, 23, 26; 24:13; 31:8, 16; Revelation 2:14.**
31. **Read 2 Peter 2:15-16.** Turn to the Old Testament and read Numbers 22:22-33. Balaam almost lost his life for his way was: a. good & upright. b. perverse before God (Num. 22:32). c. a good example of a Christian.
32. **Read 2 Peter 2:17.** False prophets and teachers are like: a. wells without water. b. clouds driven by the wind. c. those going to school for an education.
33. **Read 2 Peter 2:17.** False prophets and teachers have made a reservation in advance to: a. the Motel 6. b. the beaches of Hawaii. c. blackest darkness, that is, eternal doom.
34. **Read 2 Peter 2:18.** False prophets: a. love to be with people. b. always pay their tithes. c. lure back people into sin that have just began to escape.
35. **Read 2 Peter 2:19.** False prophets promise liberty and freedom but are themselves: a. slaves to sin and corruption. b. controlled by drugs. c. alcoholics.
36. **Read 2 Peter 2:19.** When a man is overcome by his poor choices, he is brought into: a. liberty & freedom. b. bondage & slavery. c. depression.
37. **Read 2 Peter 2:20.** The person(s) mentioned in 2 Peter 2:20 had escaped the pollutions and defilement of the world through: a. his good works. b. a knowledge or knowing the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. c. a new year's resolution.
38. **Read 2 Peter 2:20.** It appears that the person(s) in 2 Peter 2:20 had again turned back to sin and its entanglements. His last state will be worse than his: a. beginning, that is, his first state. b. years in school. c. last vacation.
39. **Read 2 Peter 2:21.** Which would be better? a. to know the way of righteousness and to turn from it. b. to not know the way of righteousness.

40. **Read 2 Peter 2:22.** To know the Savior and then to turn from Him is: a. not as bad as not to have known Him. b. like a dog coming back to what he has vomited. c. like a washed pig going back to the mud again.

(2 Peter Chapter 3)

Discover the answers by going to the appropriate Scriptures. Questions may have more than one answer.

1. **Read 2 Peter 3:1-2.** Peter wrote two letters so that he might remind the believers of: a. the words spoken by the prophets and their predictions. b. the observance of the Sabbath. c. the commands given by our Lord and Savior.

2. **Read 2 Peter 3:3.** Don't be surprised! In the last days there will be: a. a bad economy. b. lots of religious denominations to choose from. c. scoffers, those that mock and laugh at the truth.

3. **Read 2 Peter 3:3.** What will scoffers do in the last days?

4. **Read 2 Peter 3:4.** What will scoffers say in the last days?

5. **Read 2 Peter 3:5-6.** What are the scoffers willingly ignorant of?

6. **Read 2 Peter 3:7.** What will happen to the ungodly on the Day of Judgment?

7. **Read 2 Peter 3:8-9.** The Lord isn't really being slow about His promise to return, rather He is operating in: a. His longsuffering and patience. b. His foreknowledge about the future.

8. **Read 2 Peter 3:9.** Why is the Lord being patient and longsuffering?

9. What is repentance? **See Acts 26:18-20; 1 Thessalonians 1:9.**

10. **Read 2 Peter 3:10.** The Day of the Lord (meaning salvation for some and judgment for others), will come suddenly and without advance warning. It will come like: a. a visit from mother on Christmas day. b. a thief in the night. c. a credit card bill that is not yours.

11. **Read 2 Peter 3:10.** The Day of the Lord will be accompanied by: a. a terrible noise. b. fire. c. all of the above.

12. **Read 2 Peter 3:11.** In light of the judgment that is coming against this world, how should we behave and live?

13. **Read 2 Peter 3:12.** We should be looking for and expecting: a. everything to remain the same. b. the coming of the Day of God (Lord).
14. **Read 2 Peter 3:13.** Because God has promised, we should be looking forward to: a. a lot of money. b. tax relief next year. c. the new heavens and new earth, God's promise of the future kingdom.
15. **Read 2 Peter 3:13.** One characteristic of the new heavens and earth will be that: a. the grass doesn't need to be cut any more. b. the fishing is good. c. that true righteousness and justice dwells there.
16. **Read 2 Peter 3:14.** Since we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, make every effort (be diligent) to: a. be found pure (that is, without spot). b. live a blameless life. c. be at peace.
17. **Read 2 Peter 3:15.** What does the Lord's longsuffering and patience mean?
18. Paul in his letters state that the Lord is waiting (longsuffering) and is patient so that people have time to be saved. **Read 2 Peter 3:15-16a; Romans 2:4-7** and comment.
19. **Read 2 Peter 3:16.** Unstable and ignorant people twist and pervert Paul's teachings as they do the other Scriptures. In so doing they bring on themselves: a. good times. b. spiritual and eternal ruin and loss (destruction). c. a new translation of the Bible.
20. **Read 2 Peter 3:17.** Seeing that you know the end (destruction) of the wicked, you should be on guard and beware lest you: a. be led away with the error of the wicked. b. fall from your own steadfastness. c. take things lightly because you said the sinners prayer.
21. **Read 2 Peter 3:17-18.** What final instructions did Peter give the believers?
22. **Read 2 Peter 3:18.** To Jesus the Christ belongs: a. glory. b. honor. c. praise. d. worship. both now and forever. Amen.

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