

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

1) 02 Sept	1 Peter 1:1-12	Living with Hope
2) 09 Sept	1 Peter 1:13-25	Living in Holiness
3) 16 Sept	1 Peter 2:1-10	Living in a New Household
4) 23 Sept	1 Peter 2:11-17	Living as Strangers
5) 30 Sept	1 Peter 2:18-25	Living Under Stress
6) 07 Oct	1 Peter 3:1-12	Living at Home
7) 14 Oct	1 Peter 3:13-22	Living Without Fear
8) 21 Oct	1 Peter 4:1-11	Living in Community
9) 28 Oct	1 Peter 4:12-19	Living in Faith
10) 04 Nov	1 Peter 5:1-14	Living in Humility
11) 11 Nov	2 Peter 1:1-21	Living with Truth
12) 18 Nov	2 Peter 2:1-22 / Jude 1-25	Living with Troublemakers
13) 25 Nov	2 Peter 3:1-18	Living with Assurance

INTRODUCTION

- In brief, 2Peter Chapter 1 addresses the inspiration of Scripture; Chapter 2 – false teachers; and Chapter 3 – the “day of the Lord”
- Peter spent 3 years with Jesus watching Him perform miracles, and he spent another 40 days with Jesus after His resurrection. Though Peter worked miracles himself, he said godly experiences are not the key to spiritual growth – So what is the key?

Passage	Comments
2Peter 1:1-4	<p><b>Knowing God’s Word Provides Grace and Peace</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Peace</b> is not the absence of conflict between us and others, but between us and God</li> <li>• If there is harmony between us and God, we are in God’s will and we will get our prayers answered</li> <li>• God also provides <b>Grace</b> or providential blessings as needed to accomplish His will</li> <li>• We are also “blessed with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ” ..... Eph 1:3</li> <li>• Does our doctrine need to be perfect before God uses us and blesses us with this Grace and Peace? ..... NO</li> <li>• But we do shortchange ourselves of some blessings if we harbor false teachings and practices – hence the need to continually grow in God’s grace and knowledge</li> </ul>
1:5-9	<p><b>Knowing the Living Word (Jesus) Makes us Fruitful</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are core attributes of our Christian faith we need to have to be productive, fruitful saints – and we need to be diligent about pursuing them – Else, we become shortsighted or blind to the purpose God has for us:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Virtue / Honesty / Modesty / High Morals</li> <li>2. Knowledge / Wisdom - know what to do, when, &amp; how</li> <li>3. Temperance / Self Control / Discipline</li> <li>4. Patience / Endurance / Dependability</li> <li>5. Godliness / Goodness / Graciousness / Holiness</li> <li>6. Brotherly love &lt;phileo&gt; / Friendliness / Compassion</li> <li>7. Love &lt;agape&gt; / No Hypocrisy</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
1:10-12	<p><b>Recalling God’s Truth Strengthens Our Foundation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• v10a. “Give diligence to make your calling and election sure” – or, “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works &amp; glorify God” .... Mt 5:16</li> <li>• v10b. “...if you do these things, you shall never fail.” Theoretically, it is possible to live a sinless life. After all, Christ was our example, and since we have “every spiritual blessings in heavenly places”, and a way to escape out of every temptation, we have no excuse. Psalms 119:11 “Your word have I treasured in my heart, that I may not sin against You.”</li> <li>• v11. <b>Motivation:</b> There awaits for us a glorious future</li> <li>• v12. “...put you ALWAYS in remembrance” – we are very forgetful creatures needing constant reminders</li> </ul>

Passage	Comments
1:13-15	<p><b>Future Generations Depend on God’s Written Word</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As good and wise parents leave a legacy and an inheritance for their children, Peter endeavored to give his spiritual children everything they needed to live a successful life after he passed on</li> <li>• Peter motivated them or stirred them up with hope for a better future if they lived according to God’s word</li> </ul>
1:16-19	<p><b>Did An Experience Confirm God’s Word, or Did God’s Word Confirm an Experience?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peter witnessed powerful and truthful experiences – even hearing God speak from Heaven, &amp; so did Judas</li> <li>• But Peter wanted his readers not to focus on an experience, but to focus on the words of the prophets – which testified of the Messiah (the Dawn Star Rising)</li> <li>• Even the Pharisees &amp; Sadducees begged Jesus for an experience, but Jesus gave them Jonah..... Mat 16:1-4</li> </ul>
1:20-21	<p><b>Personal Experiences Should Not Be Used to Interpret God’s Word</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some Christians say “I know that what I have seen, felt, and experienced was of God” – but Mormons and Catholics say the same thing</li> <li>• Though all good things come from above, not all good experiences, even of healings and other subjective miracles, are of God</li> <li>• Remember, Satan can appear as an angel of light to give good experiences, and deceive even saints by the means of miracles (Rev 13:14), so discern all things</li> <li>• Everything must be discerned by God’s objective Word, and not by subjective feelings or experiences</li> </ul>

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- Spiritual growth is dependent on how we take the expounded word of God, and not on our experiences or the experiences of others
- In other words, we are to live by faith (in God’s word), not by sight (aka experiences)

NEXT WEEK: 2 Peter 2:1-22 / Jude 1-25. False prophets and false teachers tell convincing stories to misguide their listeners, yet God knows how to deliver the godly out of their snares – if they’d listen.

