

2nd PETER

November 1997

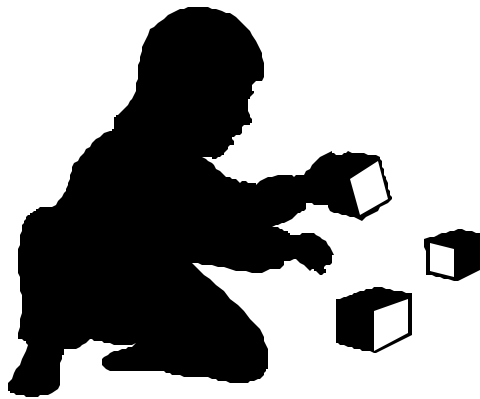
c Ministry of the Saviour

Volume 1 Issue 1

GROWING IN THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD

As we get to know Jesus better, His divine power gives us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of Him. He has called us to receive His own glory and goodness. That same mighty power has given us the great and wonderful promises that through them, you may escape from the moral decay and corruption that is in the world because of the lusts and evil desires so that you will share in his divine nature.

Add diligence to the divine promises so as to apply the benefits of these promises to your life. Then your faith will result in a life of virtue.



Grow up in the faith making every effort to develop in virtue and knowledge leading to Godliness.



PETER WRITES SECOND LETTER TO BELIEVERS

Simon Peter the half brother or our Lord, a servant, apostle, and special messenger of Jesus Christ wrote a second letter to those who are believers. He writes to all who share the same precious faith as the

Faith given to us by Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour...

...as you come into the full personal knowledge of God and Jesus our Lord.

apostles. The faith given to us by Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour who makes us right with God. Blessings to you as you come into the full personal knowledge of God and Jesus our Lord.

inside...

**Growing in the knowledge of God
False teachers
How to stand
Jesus is returning soon**

GROWING IN KNOWLEDGE *continued*

In virtue develop knowledge and intelligence. In exercising knowledge develop self control develop steadfastness patience, endurance, and in exercising steadfastness develop godliness. A life of moral excellence leads to knowing God better. Knowing God leads to self control. Self control leads to patient endurance, and patient endurance leads to godliness. Godliness leads to love for other Christians, and finally you will grow to have genuine love for every one. You possess these in increasing measure. The more you grow like this, the more you will become productive and useful in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ so that you will not be barren nor unfruitful. But those who fail to develop these virtues are blind or at least very short sighted seeing only what is near to them and has become oblivious to the fact or has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old life of sin. So be eager to

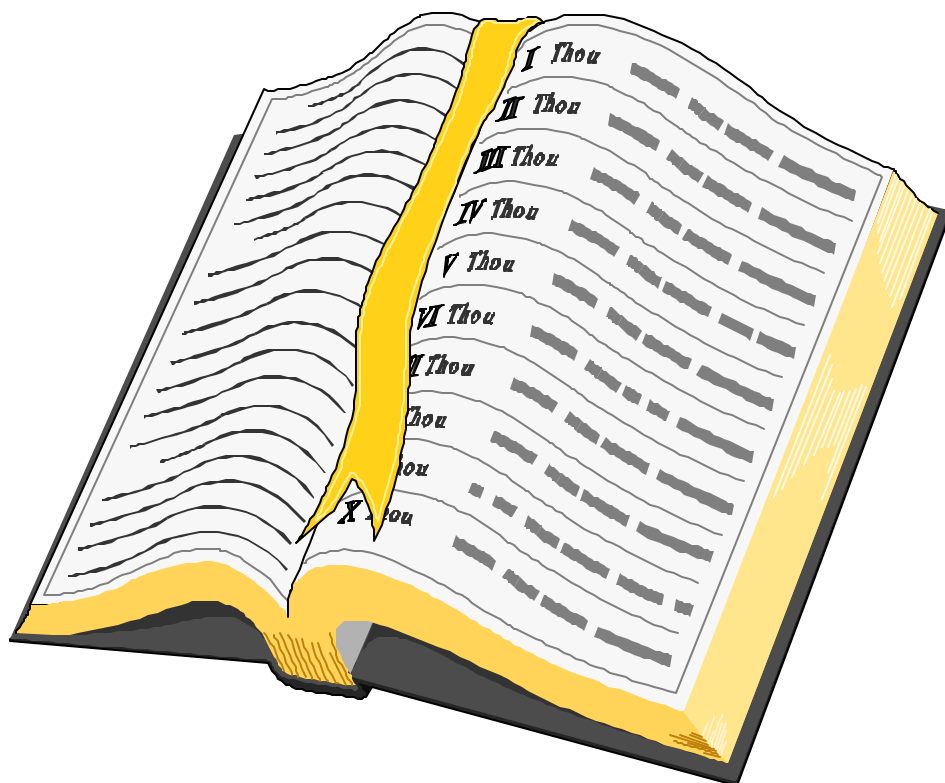
make your calling and election sure and clear to you. Work hard to prove that you really are among the saved. Doing this you will never fail nor stumble nor fall away. And you will receive a rich welcome with the gates open wide in the the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

NO PROPHECY OF SCRIPTURE CAME FROM THE PROPHET OR HAS ANY PERSONAL OR PRIVATE INTERPRETATION BUT MEN SPOKE FROM GOD BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

I'm happy being saved!

PAY ATTENTION TO THE HOLY SCRIPTURE

I intend always to remind you and stir you up to remember until the day that I depart to Heaven that you remember them long after I am gone. These are not clever made up stories of the power of our Lord who will come again. We were eyewitnesses, We heard the majestic voice call down from heaven "This is my beloved Son: I am fully pleased with him." Study the word because the Holy Spirit moved on the prophets to speak from God



THE DANGER OF FALSE TEACHERS

From the beginning of Israel, there were false prophets just as there are and will be in the future teaching false teachings among you. They will cleverly teach their destructive heresies about God and even turn against their Master who bought them, even denying the sovereign Lord bringing swift destruction on themselves. Many will follow their teaching and shameful ways and will bring disrepute and slander to the way of truth. Because of their greed, lust, and covetousness, they will exploit you with clever false arguments to get your money. God condemned them long ago, and their destruction is on the way.

God did not even spare the angels when they sinned but cast them into hell delivering them to be kept there in pits of gloom till the judgment and their doom. He did not spare the ancient world when He brought the flood on the ungodly people and saved Noah.



No false teachers welcome!

God is able to rescue godly people from their trials even while punishing the wicked right up until the day of

Remember Sodom and Gomorra and that He swept them off the face of the earth making them an example for all time. But at the same time He rescued Lot who was a good man. Lot was a righteous man distressed by the wickedness he saw and heard day after day. Note that God can rescue godly people from their trials even while punishing the wicked right up until the day of

judgment. He is especially hard on those who follow their own evil, lustful desires and who despise authority. These people are arrogant, daring even to scoff at the glorious ones without so much as trembling. Even powerful angels never speak out disrespectfully against the glorious ones. These people are like unreasonable beasts, they shall perish and be destroyed.

FALSE TEACHERS TO BE PUNISHED

False teachers are like unthinking animals, creatures of instinct who are born to be caught and killed. They laugh at the terrifying powers of Satan and his angels who are now the demons they know so little about and they will be destroyed along with them. Their destruction is their reward for the harm they have done. They love to indulge in evil pleasures in broad daylight. They are a disgrace and a stain among you. They commit

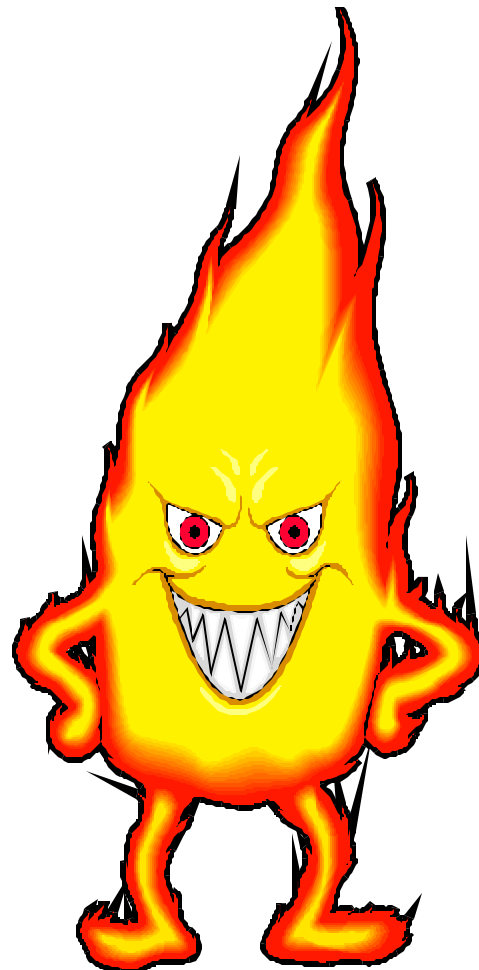
madness. These people are as useless as dried up springs of water or as clouds blown away by the wind promising much and delivering nothing. They are doomed to blackest darkness. They mouth empty foolish boastful words to brag about themselves. By appealing to the lustful desires of sinful human nature, they entice people who are just escaping from those who live in

error and wicked living. They promise you freedom, but they themselves are slaves to sin and corruption. **FOR YOU ARE A SLAVE TO WHATEVER CONTROLS YOU!**

When people have escaped from the corruption of the world through the full personal knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and then again entangled in it, they are worse off than they were before coming to Christ.

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adultery with their eyes, and their lust is never satisfied. They seduce the unstable. They never stop sinning. They have wander off the right road and followed the way of Balaam son of Beot who loved to earn money by doing wrong. Balaam was rebuked and stopped from his mad course when his donkey rebuked him with a human voice and restrained the prophet's



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For it is better to have never obtained a full personal knowledge of the way of righteousness than to know it and then reject the holy commandments that were given to them. They make the proverbs come true: "A dog returns to its vomit," and "A washed pig returns to the mud."

Never go back to the world after knowing Jesus!

THE LORD JESUS IS COMING

Dear friends this is my second letter to you. In my last letter to you I tried to stimulate your wholesome thinking and refresh your memory. I want you to know, remember and understand what the holy prophets said long ago and what our Lord and

WHAT DO YOU DO WHILE WAITING FOR JESUS TO RETURN ?

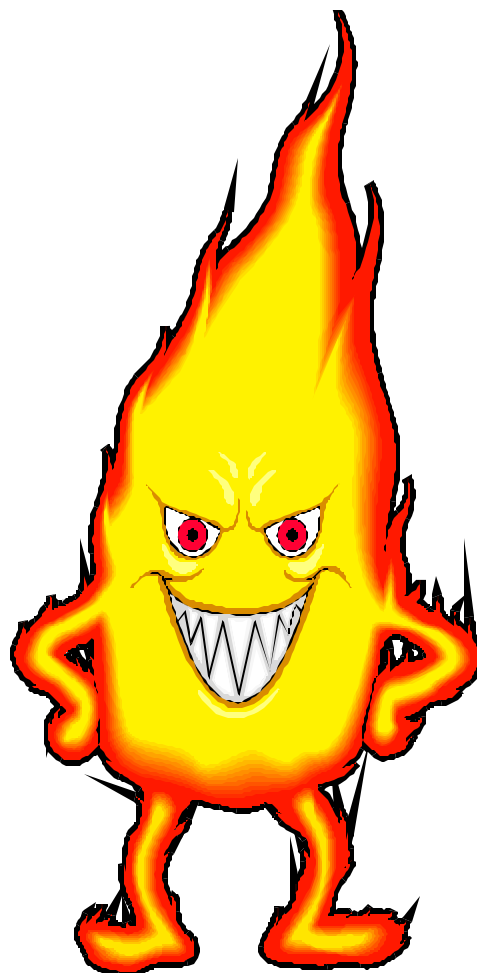
Grow in the knowledge of God. The five verses that someone used to lead you to the Lord is not enough to keep you from being misled by the false teachers. Most of those who fall away do so because they were confused by wrong teachings. Read the words of the apostles and the prophets and spend time with God so that you will understand his word so that you will not be misled by every strange teaching that comes

Saviour commanded through your apostles.

First, you must understand that in the last days there will be scoffers who will mock and laugh at the truth and do every evil thing they desire. They will say that Jesus promised to come back, where is he? Generation after generation comes and goes and everything is the same. These people forgot on purpose that

long ago by God's word the heavens existed and the earth was formed out of water and by water. By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men. **Just as He used water to destroy the world with a mighty flood, God has also commanded that the heavens and the earth will be consumed by fire on the day of judgment, when ungodly people will**

Scoffers will come..
Hold fast to the teachings of the Bible.



perish.

Scoffers willfully overlook the fact— that heavens came into existence long ago by the word of God.

If someone tells you that instead of God creating man, that he came from a monkey, avoid that scoffer!

A PROPHETIC WARNING OF DANGER

Peter writes, "I am warning you ahead of time so that you can watch out and not be carried away by the errors of these wicked people. I don't want you to lose your own secure footing. But grow in the special favor and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."

He is extraordinarily patient toward you not desiring that any should perish but that all should turn to repentance.

Be on guard so that you will not be carried away by the error of lawless and wicked persons and fall from your own present firm condition with steadfastness of mind.

The Lord will come when it is time. He does not delay and be tardy or slow about what He promises according to the concept of some people regarding slowness.

It is a fact that with the Lord, one day is as a

thousand years, and a thousand years is as one day. (note Ps.90:4) He is extraordinarily patient toward you not desiring that any should perish but that all should turn to repentance.

The day of the Lord will come as an unexpected thief in the night. Then the heavens will pass away with a terrible noise, and everything in them will disappear in fire and the earth and everything on it will be exposed to judgment. Since everything around us is

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going to melt away, what holy lives you should be living. But we are looking forward to the new heavens and the new earth He has promised. A world where everyone is right with God. While you are waiting, live a pure, blameless life and be at peace with God.

Remember, the Lord is waiting so that people have time to be saved. It is just as Paul wrote to

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you in all of his letters. Where he is hard to understand, some of those who are ignorant and unstable have twisted his letters around to mean something very different from what he meant just as they do other parts of the scripture. This results

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in their own disaster for them.

Ministry of the Saviour
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