

Peter Testifies, Even as He Prepares to Die (1:12–15)

12 Therefore, I will always be likely to remind you of these things, even if you already know them and are firmly set in the truth at hand.

13 Indeed, I think it is right, as long as I am in this “tent” of flesh, to awaken you in remembrance, 14 for I know that very soon I will put aside my “tent,” just as our Lord Jesus Christ has made plain to me. 15 Nevertheless, I will eagerly make it possible, each time you have need, to recall these things after my departure.

Knowledge Is Revealed by the Voice of God (1:16–21)

16 For we have not followed sophistic myths when we made known to you the power and presence of our Lord Jesus Christ, for we became endowed eyewitnesses of his majesty. 17 For he received from Heavenly Father honor and glory, when a voice enveloped him under from his majestic splendor saying: “This is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased.” 18 And we heard this voice emanating from heaven, when we were with him up on the sacred mountain.

19 We have, therefore, the more sure prophetic word, to which you do well to pay attention, as you would to a lamp that shines in a dark place, until when day breaks and the morning star rises again in your hearts. 20 But first know this, that every prophecy in scripture did not come about by one’s own explanation. 21 For prophecy does not come about from the will of mankind, but men speak prophecies of God as they are carried about by the Holy Ghost.

False Teachers Will Intrude among You (2:1–3a)

2:1 And there were false prophets among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will covertly bring in destructive heresies, repudiating the master who has purchased them and bringing upon themselves an impending destruction. 2 Many shall follow in the immoral ways of these teachers, and on account of them, the way of truth will be reviled. 3 In their greed they will take your money in exchange for their counterfeit ideas.

God Willingly Delays Their Punishment (2:3b–9)

The judgment against them issued by God long ago does not cease; their destruction does not slumber. 4 For if God did not spare fallen

angels, but committing them to the underworld in chains of darkness in the underworld where they are being held for judgment; 5 and if God did not spare the ancient world but protected only Noah (a herald of righteousness) and seven others, when God brought a flood on a world of the ungodly; 6 and if God condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha, turning them to ashes, making their destruction an object lesson of what happens to ungodly people; 7 and if God rescued Lot, a righteous man, who was oppressed by the licentious behavior of the lawless, 8 for this righteous man, living day after day among them, was tortured in his righteous soul by the lawless deeds he saw and heard— 9 then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly from temptation and how to retain the unrighteous to be punished at the day of judgement.

Telltale Sins and Doom of False Teachers (2:10–22)

10 Especially, he will punish those who walk after the flesh in the lust of impurity and who despise leadership. Bold and arrogant, they are not afraid to blaspheme against the dignitaries. 11 Even angels, who are greater in might and power, do not bring such a slanderous judgment against them before their Lord. 12 But these people, acting like irrational animals, naturally born to be caught and killed, blaspheme about things of which they are ignorant; in their own destruction, even they shall be destroyed. 13 Being unrighteous, they shall receive a reward of unrighteousness. They consider it pleasure to indulge themselves in the daytime. They are blots and blemishes, indulging themselves in their own deceptions as they feast together with you. 14 They have eyes full of adultery, eyes that never cease from sin. They beguile souls who are not well grounded. They have hearts trained to be covetous. Cursed children! 15 Having abandoned the straight way, they wander, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the reward of unrighteousness. 16 But Balaam was stopped short in his own misconduct: his mute donkey spoke in man's voice and restrained the prophet's insanity.

17 They are springs without water, mists of darkness that are blown in by a windstorm; to them the gloom of darkness has been held in store. 18 Speaking excessive boasts of vanity with indecent lusts of the flesh, they entice those few who had escaped from those who continue in error. 19 Promising liberty to them, they themselves are slaves of corruption: for by whom a person is overcome, by the same he has

been enslaved. 20 For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world by a recognition of their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in and overcome by them, their final state has become worse for them than where they started out. 21 For it would have been better for them to have not recognized the way of righteousness than, after they had recognized it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them. 22 Then it has happened to them as it says in the true proverb, “The dog has returned to his own vomit” [Prov. 26:11]; and, the sow, having been washed, to her wallowing in the mud.

Remember Your Testimony (3:1–2)

3:1 This now, beloved ones, is the second letter I write to you. In these letters, I awaken pure thinking in you by way of remembrance, 2 that you may remember the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets and remember the commandment of the Lord and Savior spoken by your Apostles.

God Willingly Delays His Second Coming (3:3–9)

3 Knowing this first, that in the last days there shall come mocking “deluders” [Isa. 3:4 LXX], walking after their own desires 4 and saying, “Where is the promise of Christ’s coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things still continue since the beginning of the creation.” 5 But of this they are willfully unaware, that a long time ago the heavens were organized, and the earth was organized from and through the water by God’s command, 6 and then the world was destroyed, flooded by water. 7 By the same command, the heavens and the earth are still being preserved by the same command of God and are held in store for fire on the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly people. 8 So beloved ones, do not forget this one thing, that for the Lord one day is as a thousand years and a thousand years is as one day. 9 The Lord does not delay his promise as some people consider delay; but he is simply patient toward us, not wanting that some perish, but that all progress to repentance.

Prepare for the Coming Day of the Lord (3:10–13)

10 But “the day of the Lord will come as a thief” [1 Thes. 5:2], and on that day, the heavens will disappear with a great sound, and the