

PETER'S  
SECOND LETTER  
AND JUDE

**By Frank Jamerson**

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*Spiritual "equipment" for the contest of life.*

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## False Teachers

### According to Peter

Secretly bring in destructive heresies

Exploit by covetousness

God's judgment is certain

Did not spare angels

The ancient world – Noah

Sodom and Gomorrah

Will judge the unjust

Presumptuous and self-willed,  
speak evil of dignitaries

Like natural brute beasts

They carouse in the daytime

While they feast with you

Eyes full of adultery

Forsook right way and went in  
way of Balaam

Wells of water

Clouds carried by tempest

Promise liberty

Had escaped pollutions of world

Entangled again and overcome

Like a dog and sow

### According to Jude

Have crept in unnoticed

Turn the grace of God into  
lasciviousness

God's judgment is certain

Did not spare Israel

Did not spare angels

Sodom and Gomorrah

Reject authority, speak  
evil of dignitaries

Naturally, like brute beasts

They corrupt themselves

Spots in your love feasts

Serve only themselves

Have gone in way of Cain

Run in error of Balaam

Clouds without water

Rebellion of Korah

Autumn trees – no fruit

Raging waves of the sea

Wandering stars – go into  
blackness of darkness

**Lesson 1**  
**INTRODUCTION**

A. Introduction to 2 Peter:

1. The author: Peter (He had written a “former epistle,” 3:1; he was with Jesus at the transfiguration, 1:18; Matthew 17:1).
2. Time: Peter speaks of his approaching death, 1:14. The time of his death is unknown, “but the early church Fathers state in their writings that he was crucified about the same time Paul was put to death under Nero, which took place in A.D. 68. The approximate date for the letter would be about A.D. 67” (**The New Testament Epistles** by Victor E. Hoven, p. 137).
3. Purpose:
  - a. The first epistle emphasized overcoming external suffering. The second emphasizes overcoming internal opposition.
  - b. There were false teachers who threatened their faith, 2:1-3; 3:1-3, 17.
  - c. They needed to grow in grace and knowledge, 1:2, 3, 5, 8, 12, 15; 3:2, 5, 18. The words “know” and “knowledge” appear 16 times in the book.
4. Brief outline:
  - a. The cultivation of Christian character, chapter 1.
  - b. The condemnation of false teachers, chapter 2.
  - c. The confidence in the Lord’s return, chapter 3.

B. Salutation, 1:1-4:

1. Peter identifies himself as a servant (doulos: slave), and an apostle of Jesus Christ. (Contrast this with titles of honor worn by religious leaders today!)
2. “Us” (Jewish believers) and “those” (Gentile believers) have the same faith. (Compare the word precious in 1 Peter 1:7, 19; 2:4, 6, 7).
3. “By the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ” (refers to God, the Savior Jesus Christ); stresses both the deity and saving power of Christ, cp. John 1:1-3, 14; 20:28; Colossians 2:9; Hebrews 1:8.
4. The knowledge being spoken of “is not merely intellectual understanding, although that is crucial and necessary. It is also an experiential ‘knowledge,’ one that is put to practice in one’s

## *DOUBLETEAMING THE ...*

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experience” (**Truth Commentary on 2 Peter and Jude**, by Clinton Hamilton, p. 13).

5. “Life and godliness” is contrasted with “the corruption that is in the world through lust.”
  - a. Life refers to the new life received in Christ, Romans 6:4; 2 Corinthians 5:17.
  - b. Godliness denotes the proper attitude toward God that results in doing what is well-pleasing to Him.
  - c. “Exceeding great and precious promises” - include forgiveness (Acts 2:38), eternal life (1 John 2:24, 25; 5:11, 12), or salvation by grace, Ephesians 2:8, 9.
  - d. We become “partakers of the divine nature.” We do not share the same substance (deity), but the quality, or characteristics of the divine nature, Galatians 2:20.

### **STUDY QUESTIONS:**

1. Give two internal evidences that Peter is the author.
  
2. What is the probable date of writing?
  
3. What is the theme of 2 Peter?
  
4. Give a brief outline of the book (by chapters).
  
5. What two things are indicated by the expression “our God and Savior Jesus Christ”?
  
6. By what are we given all things that pertain to life and godliness?

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(Explain)

7. To what does life refer?
8. What does godliness mean?
9. To what is life and godliness contrasted?
10. What are the great and precious promises?
11. How do we become partakers of the divine nature?
12. When we become partakers of the divine nature, what do we escape?