



To Hold Firmly to the Witnesses of Christ's Majesty 2 Peter 1:12-21

Our Prayer Eternal God, you continually watch over and guide the affairs of this world. We thank you that over countless centuries you have ensured the endurance and preservation of your holy word so that we also may study it today and learn of you and your love for us. Your word is the truth that leads to our salvation. We ask that you would continue to preserve it among us, so that we may always grow stronger in the conviction of our faith in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Peter's Last Words

Chapter 1, verses 1-11

1. To those who have received a "precious faith."
2. God called us by his own glory and goodness; his power and his precious promises.
3. Increase and be productive in your faith.
4. Make your calling and election sure for your own sake.

Always Remember

Chapter 1, verses 12-15

Think About It...

Share an example of repetition as valuable.

Know It.

1. When did Jesus make clear that Peter would soon put aside the "tent of the body"? Cf. John 13:36 and John 21:18-19

2. What was Peter's clear goal with this letter?

Grow In It!

1. Based on this section from 2 Peter, do you find value in "liturgical worship"?
2. How might Peter's phrase "tent of this body" improve your own outlook on life?
3. List three people that you care about, or for whom you are responsible. Next to their name, write at least one action you can carry to so they will "always be able to remember these things"? Share one of your answers within your group.
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.

The Eyewitness Accounts

Chapter 1, verse 16-18

Think About It...

What makes for good story?

Know It.

1. What is the "power and coming" of Jesus Christ?
2. Look up the gospel accounts of the transfiguration and note the important details:
Matthew 17:1-9 Mark 9:2-10 Luke 9:28-36
3. Why was it important for Peter, James, and John to witness the transfiguration?

4. What is Peter's key point in this section?

Grow In It!

1. Agree/ Disagree: The fact that Peter and the other apostles were eyewitnesses of Christ doesn't mean as much to us as it did to Peter's audience.
2. What responsibility do you have as a witness for Christ?

The Origin of Prophecy

Chapter 1, verses 19-21

Think About It...

Why is it important to know the source of information?

Know It!

1. Define "prophet" and "prophecy."
2. Explain Peter's illustration that the word of the prophets is a "light shining in a dark place."
3. Verses 20-21 are a *sedes doctrinae* for *verbal inspiration*. What does that mean?

Grow In It!

1. What confidence does this section give you?

2. Evaluate the following statement about the Bible:

Biblicism holds to an infallible Bible that can be the absolute authority in matters of belief and morals.... Fundamentalist biblicism is rejected by most theologians and is out of favor in most of the seminaries that train clergy for the parish ministry. They reject biblicism not merely because historical science has disclosed errors and contradictions in the biblical writings, but rather because the authority of the Bible is elevated at the expense of the authority of Christ and his gospel.

-Carl Bratten, Christian Dogmatics, Vol. I, p.74f.

3. "Why should I study, believe, or even listen to the Bible? Work within your group to provide a thorough answer to that question. List the objections to the Bible people may have and answer those objections.

Your Prayer

