

## **Monday II Peter 1**

Spiritual growth is a life-long journey; it ends only when we get to Heaven. Until then we have a lot of work to do. That is the basic teaching of II Peter 1. What is involved in spiritual growth? What is the goal? What is available to help in the journey?

1. Read II Peter 1 – What two things does Peter call himself in verse 1?
2. Define each of those two things.
3. What do these two descriptions reveal about Peter's attitude about himself?
4. How should we display those same attitudes?
5. To whom is Peter writing?
6. Through what are we able to obtain faith?
7. What two things did Peter want to be multiplied to these Believers?
8. According to verse 2, through what are those things multiplied?
9. How can we gain that?
10. How are you doing at increasing your knowledge in Jesus Christ?

As Peter began his letter, he made it clear that he was writing to Believers. Faith in Jesus Christ alone is where the journey of spiritual growth begins.

## **Tuesday II Peter 1**

Peter began his letter by identifying himself as a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ. He didn't live for his own plans, but for the plans of His Savior, Jesus Christ. He prayed that the Believers' grace and peace would be multiplied through the knowledge of Jesus Christ. Then he told in the next few verses how that can even be possible.

1. Read II Peter 1 – Verse 3 is a continuation of the statement started in verse 2. According to verse 3, what is given to us in order to help grace and peace grow in our lives?
2. What is it that gives us those things?
3. If we have been given all things that pertain to life and Godliness, what reason do we have why we can't be Godly in this life?
4. God's divine power has given us all things that pertain to life and Godliness. According to verse 3, through what do those things come?
5. According to verse 3, God has called us to what two things?
6. According to verse 4, what else has been given to us?
7. What is so important about calling them exceeding great and precious?
8. What is one promise in God's Word that is very precious to you?
9. Since we have been given so much, should we be growing?

God has given us exceeding great and precious promises that will help us in our life-long journey of spiritual growth. He has given us everything we need to live a victorious Christian life.

## Wednesday II Peter 1

God has given us so much. He has given all things that pertain to life and Godliness and exceeding great and precious promises to help us in our journey of spiritual growth. There is another reason for all these gifts.

1. Read II Peter 1 – According to verse 4, we were given the promises so that we might be partakers of what?
2. What is a partaker?
3. The divine nature is one over which sin has no power. How can we be partakers of that?
4. Read Romans 6:1-2 – What do these verses have to do with our ability to partake in the divine nature?
5. Go back to II Peter 1. According to verse 4, part of participating in the divine nature is escaping what?
6. What are some of the corruptions that are prominent in our world today?
7. Peter said that these corruptions are in the world “through lust.” What does James 1:14-15 say about lust?
8. Read I John 2:15-17 – What should be our attitude toward the corruptions of this world and the lusts of our flesh that cause them?
9. How do we sometimes display love for the corruption of the world?

God doesn't want us to participate in the corruption of the world. We've escaped that through the power of Jesus Christ. We don't have to live in it anymore. We can live above it!

## Thursday II Peter 1

Peter has established the Believer's standing in Christ. We have faith through the righteousness of Jesus Christ. We have everything we need to be Godly. We have great and precious promises to help us participate in the divine nature. We have escaped the corruption of the world. However, faith is just the beginning. There's still more work to be done.

1. Read II Peter 1 – Now Peter is going to give us a list of things that we are to add to our faith. He is going to give us some areas of spiritual growth that need to be seen in every Believer's life. According to verse 5, how hard are we supposed to try to add these things to our life?
2. What seven things are we to add to our faith? Define each one.
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.
  - d.
  - e.
  - f.
  - g.
3. According to verse 8, what is the benefit having those things abundantly in your life?
4. To be spiritually barren is to have such a little knowledge of God that you are useless to Him. To be spiritually unfruitful is to have such a little knowledge of God that there is no evidence of being connected to Him. How can you develop the seven things above in your life?

God wants us to grow. The more we grow, the more productive and useful we will be to Him. Give all diligence to your spiritual growth. Make time to read God's Word. Make time to pray. Make time to serve Him. Make time to grow!

**Friday**  
**II Peter 1**

Peter gave us a list of seven things that we should add to our faith. We should be growing. We should not be the same today as we were yesterday. There are definite benefits of spiritual growth; you are useful to God. There are also negatives to a lack of spiritual growth. What are they?

1. Read II Peter 1 – According to verse 9, what are the three negative effects of not growing?
2. How much can blind people see?
3. If you are not growing, at the very least, you will be short-sighted. What are some of the drawbacks of not being able to see far in the distance?
4. If you are not growing, you will soon forget that you have been saved and cleansed from your sin. How is that destructive to your spiritual life?
5. According to verse 10, what should we do in stead of not growing?
6. How can we make our salvation sure or clearly known to the world around us?
7. What is the benefit of making your salvation clearly known to the world around you?

Peter wants us to understand that not growing has devastating results. We will have no spiritual understanding, we won't be able to see danger before it gets here, and we will grow cold and unthankful for our salvation. Keep growing!

**Saturday**  
**II Peter 1**

Peter has already made a strong case for the importance of continual spiritual growth. He reminds us of eternity in verse 11 and tells us that the real pay-off for spiritual growth is there.

1. Read II Peter 1 – According to verse 12, the people to whom Peter was writing already knew these things. Why did he do anyway?
2. Why did he think it was necessary to repeat them?
3. Peter said in verse 13 that it was necessary to stir up the people. According to verse 14, why did he think that was necessary?
4. According to verse 15, what was Peter's goal for the people after his death?
5. According to verse 16, what did Peter not follow?
6. What two things did Peter make known to the people?
7. Of what was he an eyewitness? You can read more about it in Matthew 17.
8. According to verse 17, what two things did Jesus receive from His Father at His transfiguration?
9. Whose voice did Peter, James, and John hear at Jesus' transfiguration?
10. What did that voice say?

Peter knew it was easy for people to become forgetful, so he wanted to remind them of some very basic things. He knew he wouldn't be around forever, so he wanted them to be strengthened. Let reminders from God's Word stir you to keep growing!

## Sunday II Peter 1

Peter heard something that very few people have ever heard, the voice of God the Father. He saw something that few other people were able to see, the glorified Son of God. Who could ever refute something heard directly from the mouth of God? Peter declared that we have something much more trustworthy.

1. Read II Peter 1 – What did Peter consider to be more sure than seeing the glorified Christ and hearing the voice of the Father?
2. According to verse 19, did Peter think it was a good thing to obey God's Word?
3. Peter compared obeying God's Word to a light in the darkness. What is he trying to teach by that comparison?
4. When will we no longer need the Bible?
5. According to verse 20, how much of Scripture is open to private interpretation?
6. Verse 21 gives the reason. What is it?
7. If the Bible didn't come by the will of man, how did it come?
8. Peter was teaching that the Bible is more reliable than seeing Christ fact-to-face. How important is it then for us to read God's Word everyday?
9. What is the connection between God's Word and spiritual growth?

There is no greater tool for spiritual growth than God's Word. No other book can effect the kind of change that God's Word can.

## Monday II Peter 2

Chapter 1 was all about our need for continual spiritual growth. In chapter 2 there is a change of focus. Peter began to warn his readers about the possibility and likelihood of false teachers who will try to creep into the church. What's the problem with them? What will happen to them? How can I recognize one?

1. Read II Peter 2 – Peter began the chapter by outlining the dangers of false teachers. Peter mentioned false prophets in verse 1. When would they have been around?
2. Then he mentioned that false teachers will be coming to the church. Is this really any different than things used to be?
3. What will the false teachers bring with them?
4. According to verse 1, will they come in boldly and openly or quietly and behind the scenes?
5. These "damnable heresies" are destructive to the faith. According to verse 1, what basic teaching do they reject?
6. What do these false teachers bring upon themselves?
7. According to verse 2, how many people will follow their pernicious or destructive ways?
8. How will these false teachers speak of the way of truth?
9. Verse 3 says that false teachers are covetous. Because of that, what will they do to you?

False teachers do not have pure motives. Because of their covetousness, they will try to take advantage of you for their own personal gain. Beware of anyone who teaches anything that is contrary to the plain teaching of the Bible. Know your Bible!!!

## **Tuesday II Peter 2**

False teachers are dangerous. Their teachings are destructive. They speak evil of the truth and take advantage of people for their own personal gain. Because these actions are unacceptable and despicable to God, He will not let them go unpunished. What will happen?

1. Read II Peter 2 – Verse teaches that they bring swift destruction on themselves. They have no one else to blame for their punishment other than themselves. Peter gave several examples of evil groups of people who received the punishment that they deserved. What group did he mention in verse 4?
2. Who was the first angel to sin?
3. What was his sin?
4. What was the sin of the rest of the angels who sinned?
5. What did God do with the angels that sinned?
6. Why are they there? For what are they waiting?
7. According to verse 5, what other group of people were punished?
8. What did God use to bring punishment on that group of people?
9. For what sins were they punished? See Genesis 6:5 for more information.

God hates pride and rebellion. That's why He punished the fallen angels. God hates evil thinking. That's why He punished everyone but Noah and his family. God can and will punish sin. Be sure to be in a right relationship with Him!

## **Wednesday II Peter 2**

Peter is building his case for the future destruction of false teachers. He gave the example of the fallen angels and the evil thinkers from Genesis 6. He then gives one more example and some encouragement for us.

1. Read II Peter 2 – According to verse 6, what other group was punished for their sin?
2. Of what sin was that group guilty?
3. How severe was their destruction?
4. According to verse 4, why did God punish Sodom and Gomorrhah so severely?
5. Whom did God deliver in the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrhah?
6. According to verse 7, how did the lifestyle of the Sodomites affect Lot and his family?
7. According to verse 8, how often did the lifestyle of the Sodomites affect Lot and his family?
8. Are the people around you helping your spiritual life or hindering it?
9. Peter started verse 4 with "If God spared not..." Verse 9 is the conclusion to that thought. What two things does God know how to do?

Like it or not, the people around you affect you. Some help; some hinder. It is extremely important that you too don't vex your soul from day to day by simply being around the ungodly actions of the people around you. Choose your friends very carefully!

## Thursday II Peter 2

After Peter explained the dangers of false teachers and what will eventually happen to them, he told his readers what they look like. This wasn't a physical description, but a philosophical description. What kinds of ideas do false teachers have? What do they think, teach, and do?

1. Read II Peter 2 – Verse 10 begins as a continuation of verse 9. It begins, though, by giving a description of false teachers. What two things about false teachers did Peter mention in the beginning of verse 10?
2. What does it mean to walk after the flesh?
3. In the second half of verse 10, Peter gave three more characteristics of false teachers. What are they?
4. Notice that two characteristics deal with their attitude toward authority. How can you show proper respect for authority?
5. False teachers speak evil against authority. According to verse 11, who doesn't, even though they are great in power?
6. Verse 12 calls false teachers “natural brute beasts.” What does that expression mean?
7. According to verse 12, false teachers speak evil of what other things?
8. What will happen to them?

Many unsaved people speak evil of spiritual things because they don't understand them. Unsaved people criticize Biblical teachings. Don't follow them! Their destination is not good!

## Friday II Peter 2

Peter began to describe for us what false teachers believe, think, and say. He continues his description through the end of the chapter. He didn't do it to be unkind to anyone, but to help us be aware of the dangers of false teachers. What else is there about them?

1. Read II Peter 2 – Peter continues his description in verse 13. What will false teachers receive for their actions?
2. They find pleasure in rioting in the day time. What does that mean?
3. What did Peter call them in the middle of the verse?
4. They sport themselves with their own deceivings. They think it's fun and funny to be deceitful. At the same time, what are they doing?
5. According to verse 14, their eyes continually see something. It's not that they see it physically, but that they are continually thinking about it. What is it?
6. What else do they do to unstable souls?
7. These people trick and entrap people who are unlearned and not completely grounded in God's Word. What should that cause you to do?
8. With what is the false teacher's heart exercised?
9. Verse 14 says that they have cursed children. What did Jesus say about his practice in Matthew 18:6?

False teachers go after people who aren't grounded in God's Word. They don't bother with people who know it well because they won't get very far. Be sure to read and study your Bible everyday to prevent being deceived by false teachers and teachings.

## Saturday II Peter 2

False teachers are everywhere, and they can creep into the church totally undetected. Peter didn't want these Believers to be led astray, so he gave them warnings and instruction to stay right. He told the people the signs of false teachers.

10. Read II Peter 2 – According to verse 15, what have false teachers forsaken?
11. Whose way have they followed?
12. What was he asked to do in Numbers 22:5-6?
13. Baalam finally decided to do what he was asked to do. Go back to II Peter 2. According to verse 16, what did God use to tell Baalam that his actions were wrong?
14. Verse 17 describes false teachers as wells without water. What good is that?
15. They are also described as clouds driven around by wind. False teachers will come and go, but do they really last?
16. What is reserved for them?
17. According to verse 18, what do they speak?
18. What do they use to allure people?
19. Who has escaped from those who live in error?
20. What should that motivate you to do?

Beware of false teachers! They will use things that appeal to your flesh to trap you and trick you. It is only by staying right and pure in your walk with the Lord that you can escape from them. Don't be trapped. Stay close to God!

## Sunday II Peter 2

False teachers are dangerous, and God doesn't want us to be tricked by them and led astray from the truth of His Word. To help us, He gave us the description of false teachers.

1. Read II Peter 2 – What do false teachers promise to their followers in verse 19?
2. While they are promising freedom, what is their own condition?
3. Who has brought the false teachers into bondage?
4. Verse 20 is not teaching that a person can lose his salvation. It is talking about a false teacher who gains enough understanding of spiritual things that they are able to escape the vicious cycle of their false teaching. However, they are soon trapped again in their old teachings. What are the consequences for that?
5. According to verse 21, for those false teachers who only gain enough insight to get out of their old life for a while and never really get saved, what is the severity of the punishment waiting for them?
6. What two comparisons did Peter give to false teachers who leave for a while and then come back?
7. A dog throws up because there is something in its stomach that isn't good. Does it make sense to go back and eat it again?
8. A pig that is washed goes back and wallows in the mud. Does that make sense

It doesn't make sense either for a person, saved or unsaved, to go against the clear teachings of the Bible.

## Monday II Peter 3

In this third chapter, Peter reminded his readers about the coming of Christ. It's an important topic. He is coming again, and he wanted the people to be ready for Christ's return. Though no one knows the exact time when Christ is returning, there are a few signs to show that it is near.

10. Read II Peter 3 – Peter uses the word “beloved” as he was writing. What does that reveal about his attitude toward the people?
11. What did he want to do with their minds?
12. How did he want to do that?
13. Why do you think Peter thought it was necessary to remind the people of things they already knew?
14. According to verse 2, what two things did Peter want the people to remember?
15. The rest of the chapter deals with the words of the prophets and the commandments of the Apostles. According to verse 3, there was one thing that was particularly important for them to remember. What was it?
16. Scoffers are people who mock God's Word and claim that it is not really true. Why was it so important to remember that scoffers would come in the last days?

There are many people in the world today that mock God's Word by saying it is out of date, irrelevant, a story book, or a bigoted hate book. Beware of anyone who speaks against the clear teachings of the Bible. They are not your friend!

## Tuesday II Peter 3

Scoffers are coming in the last days. They will mock and discredit the Bible. Peter gave some specifics about what they will mock and discredit. What are those things? Why are they so significant to Believers today?

1. Read II Peter 3 – According to verse 3, scoffers will come in the last days. They will mock and discredit the Bible. They will be walking after what?
2. What do you think it mean to walk after your own lusts?
3. Walking after your own lusts is doing what feels good. It is living to fulfill your own agenda. What do you think their agenda is?
4. From where do you think they get those ideas?
5. According to verse 4, what clear promise of Scripture do these people doubt?
6. Who are the fathers mentioned in verse 4?
7. These scoffers say that Christ isn't coming because things are continuing as they always have been. Someday, God's kingdom will usher in righteousness. Until then how are things continuing?
8. According to verse 4, when did things begin down the road or trouble?
9. Who is the only solution to that problem?

Scoffers of the Bible will claim that it is not true because Christ promised that would return and make everything right. Just because it hasn't happened yet, doesn't mean it will never happen. God's just giving more people an opportunity to get saved.

**Wednesday**  
**II Peter 3**

Jesus is returning. He said that He would. It's just a matter of time until God tells His Son to return. Until then we must be diligent and watchful of the scoffers that will undoubtedly come and are already here.

5. Read II Peter 3 – According to verses 5-6, the scoffers are willingly ignorant of what?
6. Why do you think they choose not to know or recognize the reality of the world-wide flood?
7. According to Genesis 6:5, why did God destroy the earth with a flood?
8. According to Genesis 9:11, will God ever destroy the earth again with a flood?
9. Go back to II Peter 3. According to verse 5, how was the earth created?
10. According to verse 7, the universe we see now is kept by what specific thing?
11. God is preserving the world today by His Word. For what purpose is He preserving it?
12. Last time God destroyed the earth with a flood. What will He use the next time He destroys it?
13. Whom will He destroy with it?

God's Word is powerful. What He says will always come true. Someday, He will destroy it again, this time with fire. We have a job to do. We must tell people of the coming judgment and tell them how they can escape it!

**Thursday**  
**II Peter 3**

God's Word is powerful. It will always come true. God promised a long time ago that Christ would come again. It hasn't happened yet, and that is one of the events that the scoffers will use to discredit the Bible. Even though there will be so much doubt about that event, Peter didn't want the people to adopt the scoffers' thinking and be deceived into thinking that Christ wasn't coming.

10. Read II Peter 3 – According to verse 8, what one thing does Peter want the people to know as far as Christ's return is concerned?
11. Many people have used the phrase "one day is with the Lord as a thousand years" to support the idea that the days in Genesis 1 are long periods of time. They fail to mention the other half of the verse which cancels out the first phrase. What does this verse really teach?
12. The argument that the scoffers use is that God promised it thousands of years ago, but nothing has happened. Peter simply said that time doesn't matter to God. It will happen when God is ready. According to verse 9, why hasn't Christ returned yet?
13. According to verse 9, does God want everyone to be saved? It's not a trick, but if you need help, look up I Timothy 2:3-4.
14. According to verse 9, God is not slack concerning His promises. What does that mean?
15. All of God's promises will come true in His time. What did Solomon say about God's reliability in I Kings 8:56?

The only reason Christ hasn't returned yet is because God is waiting for more people to get saved. Just because one of God's promises hasn't been fulfilled yet, doesn't mean it isn't going to happen. God works when He's ready.

## Friday II Peter 3

God's promises will always come true, even if they are a long time in their coming. Peter is now going to describe what the Day of the Lord will be like. The Day of the Lord is not the Rapture; it is probably the time when God will make a new heaven and a new earth.

10. Read II Peter 3 – According to verse 10, how will the Day of the Lord come?
11. Do thieves announce their coming?
12. What is Peter teaching about the Day of the Lord?
13. What is the only way to be ready for the Day of the Lord?
14. Describe what will happen on that day.
15. Peter now turns his attention to how this knowledge affects us today. What question did he ask in verse 11?
16. What is the answer to that question?
17. What two areas of our life did Peter address?
18. According to verse 12, is this day one that we should fear, or should we be eagerly looking forward to it?
19. Why?

Since the Day of the Lord will happen without warning, our lives should be holy and Godly. Knowledge of the future should cause you to change your behavior. Change it!

## Saturday II Peter 3

God has given us a sneak peak into the future, and that sneak peak should change the way we live. God gave it to us for a reason, not to be squandered, but to be used for the furtherance of the cause of Christ.

1. Read II Peter 3 – According to verse 13, why do we look for a new heaven and a new earth?
2. How will the new heaven and new earth be characterized?
3. According to verse 14, about what three things did Peter tell us to be diligent?
4. Why do you think that it is so important that we be diligent about those things?
5. Peter said in verse 15, "...the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation;" Compare that statement to verse 9 and tell what that statement means.
6. Every day that the Lord waits is another chance for people to get saved. Who else wrote about Christ's longsuffering?
7. According to verse 16, in how many of his epistles did Paul mention the coming judgment?
8. Why do you think he mentioned it so often?
9. What are some of the other passages where Paul mentioned the Day of the Lord?

Peter reminded the people of things that they already heard from Paul. It's easy to get busy and forget that people everywhere are on their way to Hell. Stay focused on what is really important!

**Sunday**  
**II Peter 3**

Peter concludes his letter with one final challenge to his readers. It ties the whole letter together, the life-long journey of spiritual growth, the dangers of false teachers, and the coming of the Day of the Lord. What is his final instruction?

1. Read II Peter 3 – Peter spoke of Paul’s writings in verse 16. According to that verse, was everything Paul wrote easy to understand?
2. Peter said that there were two groups of people who, when they come to these passages, wrest or twist them. Who are they?
3. Unlearned and unstable people end up twisting the Scriptures because they have not grown to a necessary point of maturity. They also twist many other passages. According to verse 16, who is help responsible for that?
4. According to verse 17, we have been given a sneak peak into the future. What is our responsibility in light of it?
5. There is always a danger of being deceived. We must never let down our guard. Check everything you hear with the Bible. Another way to keep from falling is to keep growing. According to verse 18, in what two things should we continue to grow?
6. Did Peter give his readers an option whether they wanted to grow or now?
7. What did Peter want Jesus to receive both now and for ever?

Continued, life-long spiritual growth is the best defense against becoming stagnant, deceived, and destroyed by your own doctrinal errors. Make spiritual a life-long pursuit so that you will be ready to defend your own mind and heart against the mocking of the scoffers who are here and ever increasing.