

# 2 Peter 1:1 - 2a

## Remembering Truth When it Really Counts

*“... a primer to guard against false teaching”*

### An Introduction to 2 Peter

#### The Nature of a Slave

#### 1. Author

- a. Identified by \_\_\_\_\_ around A.D. 225 as Peter’s – Early Greek papyrus manuscripts of New Testament show it was definitely accepted by the church as canonical (having the authority of \_\_\_\_\_).
- b. No compelling reason to doubt it was written by Peter.

2. **Background** – Peter is nearing \_\_\_\_\_, and writes to a church he has written before (likely 1 Peter recipients) with warnings meant to protect them from the threats he sees forming against them (2:1, 3:4)

3. **Destination and Recipients** - In 1:1, since Peter refers to those he has written before, it could be the same churches as are mentioned in \_\_\_\_\_ :”Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia”.

#### 4. Date - Two references give some clue as to the date:

- a. In 2 Peter 1:13-15, Peter indicated the \_\_\_\_\_ was near. The traditional date for Peter’s death is late AD 67, or early AD 68.
- b. Peter also mentions reading some of \_\_\_\_\_, which points to sometime after AD 60.
- c. Since 1<sup>st</sup> Peter is normally dated around Ad 64, 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter was most likely penned between AD 64 and Peter’s death in AD 67-68.

5. **Place of Writing** - The text does not give a specific place of writing, but since 1<sup>st</sup> Peter was written \_\_\_\_\_, and Peter was traditionally crucified \_\_\_\_\_, it is likely this letter was written there as well.

## 6. Context and Themes

### First Peter

- External Opposition
- Hostility
- Endurance
- Waiting
- Suffering
- Hope in the Lord's Return
- Holiness
- "Pain with a Purpose"

### Second Peter

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## 7. Outline - Guard Against False Teaching By...

- Understanding Our \_\_\_\_\_ (1:2b – 11)  
*Back to the Basics: Our Quest, Journey & Results*
- Understanding Our \_\_\_\_\_ (1:12–21)  
*Our Reminder, Our Eyewitnesses & Inspiration*
- Understanding Our \_\_\_\_\_ (2:1–22)  
*Their Infiltration, Iniquity, Impurity & Impact*
- Understanding Our \_\_\_\_\_ (3:1–18)  
*Its Certainty & Power*

## 8. The Text:

<sup>1</sup> Simon Peter, a bond-servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have received a faith of the same kind as ours, by the righteousness of our God and Savior, Jesus Christ: <sup>2</sup> Grace and peace be multiplied to you.

### It Began with a Name...

- Simon, the Hebrew name given by \_\_\_\_\_.
- Peter (Greek translation of Cephas), given by \_\_\_\_\_.
- May be an indication of the \_\_\_\_\_ (Hebrew and Greek) he addressed.
- Matt 16:13 – 18** - Even at the outset, it was Peter's **knowledge** of \_\_\_\_\_ that changed his name and prepared him for his calling.

## So Much had Changed

- a. Remember his introduction in 1 Peter: <sup>1</sup>Simon Peter, \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus Christ
- b. Near the close of his life, at the apex of his apostolic authority
- c. From *apostellein* (to send), emphasizes the elements of commission – the authority of and \_\_\_\_\_ the sender (in this case Christ). (Elwell, 85)

## So Much had Stayed the Same

- a. he was Christ's servant first, and His apostle second
- b. As \_\_\_\_\_  
Romans 1:1 "Paul, a **bond-servant** of Christ Jesus, called *as* an apostle"
- c. As \_\_\_\_\_  
James 1:1 "James, a **bond-servant** of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ"

## The Nature of a Bond-Servant

- a. Comes from early economic laws set in place \_\_\_\_\_, regulating the man who got into debt.
- b. He became the property of his creditor, in fact, \_\_\_\_\_.
- c. Set free after seven years of service
- d. Some went free, but others who knew a \_\_\_\_\_ master sought to become a bond-servant.
- e. He would be taken to the tabernacle, where a priest would lead him to the doorpost and bore a hole in his ear with an anvil.
- f. From that point on, he was the slave of his master.
- g. Where ever he walked, his ear would proclaim the \_\_\_\_\_ (Barnhouse, 9).

## Service to Christ is Freedom

### a. John 10:10

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

### b. Galatians 5:1

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

**c. Romans 6:17-8**

But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed, <sup>18</sup> and having been freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.

**A Common Sinner**

- a. “received” is from the unusual verb *lanchano*, “to obtain by lot”, implying God’s \_\_\_\_\_ rather than anything they may have done to deserve such a gift. (Luke 1:9, John 19:24)
- b. The words “of the same kind” or “as precious”(NIV) translate the word *isotimon*, from *isos* (equal) and *time* (honor, value). It was used for foreigners who had been granted the privileges of citizenship and were \_\_\_\_\_ with those of the native born.
- c. Their faith was equal with the apostles faith!
- d. Here Peter foreshadows his purpose by stressing that the faith of the apostles was \_\_\_\_\_ from that of any other believer.
- e. This understanding contradicted the pre-Gnostic doctrines or the false teachers who spoke of an inner circle of special knowledge attainable only to a \_\_\_\_\_.

**God’s Righteousness Revealed**

- a. Romans 3:21-16

<sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; <sup>25</sup> whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. *This was* to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed; <sup>26</sup> for the demonstration, *I say*, of His righteousness at the present time, so that He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

**Jesus, the One True God**

- a. Grammar here clearly indicates that “God and Savior” and \_\_\_\_\_, not two
- b. Ranks with the Christological passages of the New Testament which teach plainly Jesus is coequal in nature with God the Father.
  - a. Matt 16:16
  - b. John 1:1

c. Titus 2:13

## Grace and Peace

- a. This corresponds directly with the beginning of his last letter:  
1 Peter 1:2a “Grace and peace be yours in the fullest measure”
- b. Stresses a sincere, prayerful wish for his readers
- c. Foreshadows the importance of knowledge

## 9. Bridge to Today

- a. Do we understand we are called to be bond-servants of Christ?
  - *Has sin entrapped us?*
    - **Hebrews 12:1-2** “Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.
  - *Or perhaps legalism consumes us?*
    - **Galatians 2:20-21** I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.
    - *There are so many Christians who are narrow and cantankerous because they have given up things instead of getting Christ* – Barnhouse
- b. Do we realize Christ desires the same \_\_\_\_\_ with us as He had with the disciples?
  - **Matt 11:28-30** <sup>28</sup> “Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup> For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”