

THE SECOND EPISTLE
of
PETER

Wycliffe-Purvey, 1395

Chapter 1

1:1 Simon Peter, servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have taken with us the even-faith [to them that have taken with us the even much faith], in the rightwiseness of our God and Saviour Jesus Christ,

1:2 grace and peace be filled to you, by the knowing of our Lord Jesus Christ. [grace to you, and peace be full-filled, in the knowing of our Lord Jesus Christ.]

1:3 How all things of his god-like virtue, that be to life and piety [that be into life and piety], be given to us, by the knowing of him, that called us for his own glory and virtue.

1:4 By whom he gave to us most [and] precious promises; that by these things ye shall be made fellows of God's kind, and flee the corruption of that covetousness [fleeing the corruption of that covetousness], that is in the world.

1:5 And bring ye in all busyness, and minister in your faith virtue, and in virtue knowing [soothly in virtue science, *or knowing*];

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Chapter 1

1:1 Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:

1:2 Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,

1:3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that *pertain* unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

1:4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

1:5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;

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1:6 in knowing abstinence [in science soothly abstinence], in abstinence patience, in patience piety;

1:7 in piety, love of brotherhood, and in love of brotherhood charity.

1:8 For if these be with you, and overcome [and overcome, *or be plenteous*], they shall not make you void, neither without fruit [nor without fruit], in the knowing of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1:9 But to whom these be not ready, he is blind, and gropeth with his hand, and forgetteth the purging of his old trespasses.

1:10 Wherefore, brethren, be ye more busy [more busy ye], that by good works ye make your calling and choosing certain; for ye doing these things shall not do sin any time [soothly ye doing these things, shall not sin any time].

1:11 For thus the entering into [the] everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, shall be ministered to you plenteously.

1:12 For which thing I shall begin to admonish you evermore of these things; and I will that ye be knowing, and confirmed in this present truth.

1:13 Forsooth I deem justly [Forsooth I deem just], as long as I am in this tabernacle, to raise you in admonishing;

1:14 and I *am* certain, that the putting away [for the putting off] of my tabernacle

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1:6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;

1:7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

1:8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make *you that ye shall* neither *be* barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1:9 But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

1:10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:

1:11 For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

1:12 Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know *them*, and be established in the present truth.

1:13 Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, to stir you up by putting *you* in remembrance;

1:14 Knowing that shortly I must put off *this* my tabernacle, even as our Lord

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is swift, by this that our Lord Jesus Christ hath showed to me.

Jesus Christ hath showed me.

1:15 But I shall give busyness, that oft after my death ye have mind of these things.

1:15 Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able after my decease to have these things always in remembrance.

1:16 For we not following unwise tales, have made known to you the virtue and the before-knowing [the virtue and prescience, *or before-knowing,*] of our Lord Jesus Christ; but we were made beholders of his greatness [but made beholders of his greatness].

1:16 For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.

1:17 For he took of God the Father honour and glory, by such manner voice slid down to him from the great glory, This is my loved Son, in whom I have pleased to me; hear ye him.

1:17 For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

1:18 And we heard this voice brought from heaven, when we were with him in the holy hill.

1:18 And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount.

1:19 And we have a firmer word of prophecy, to which ye giving attention do well, as to a lantern that giveth light in a dark place, till the day begin to give light, and the day star spring in your hearts.

1:19 We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

1:20 And first understand ye this thing, that each prophecy of scripture is not made by proper interpretation; [First understanding this thing, that each prophecy of scripture is not made by proper, *or own,* interpretation;]

1:20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

1:21 for prophecy was not brought any time by man's will, but the holy men of God inspired with the Holy

1:21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake *as they were* moved by the

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Ghost spake.

Holy Ghost.

Chapter 2

Chapter 2

2:1 But also false prophets were in the people, as in you shall be masters liars, that shall bring in sects of perdition; and they deny that Lord that bought them, and bring on themselves hasty perdition. [+Forsooth there were and false prophets of the people, as and in you shall be master liars, which shall bring in sects of perdition; and they denying that Lord that bought them, and bring on themselves hasty perdition, *or damnation.*]

2:1 But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

2:2 And many shall follow their lecheries, by whom the way of truth shall be blasphemed;

2:2 And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.

2:3 and they shall make merchandise of you in covetousness by feigned words. To whom doom now a while ago ceaseth not [To whom doom now sometime ceaseth not], and the perdition of them nappeth not.

2:3 And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.

2:4 For if God spared not angels sinning, but betook them to be tormented, and to be drawn down with bonds of hell into hell [but betook them to be tormented, drawn down with bonds of hell into hell], to be kept into doom;

2:4 For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast *them* down to hell, and delivered *them* into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;

2:5 and spared not the first world, but kept Noah, the eighth man, the before-goer of rightwiseness, and brought in the great flood to the world of unfaithful men [bringing in the deluge, *or great flood*, to the world of unpius men];

2:5 And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth *person*, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;

2:6 and he drove into powder [and

2:6 And turning the cities of Sodom

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driving into powder] the cities of men of Sodom and of men of Gomorrha, and condemned by turning upside-down, and put them the ensample of them that were to doing evil [putting example of them that were to doing evil, *or unpiouſly*];

2:7 and delivered the just Lot, oppressed of the wrong, and of the lecherous conversation of cursed men;

2:8 for in sight and hearing he was just, and dwelled amongst them [dwelling with them] that from day into day tormented with wicked works a just soul.

2:9 For the Lord knoweth how to deliver pious men from temptation, and keep wicked men into the day of doom to be tormented; [The Lord knew to deliver pious men of temptation, soothly to keep wicked men into the day of doom to be tormented;]

2:10 but more them that walk after the flesh, in coveting of uncleanness, and despise lordshipping, and be bold, pleasing themselves, and dread not to bring in sects, blaspheming;

2:11 where angels, when they be more in strength and virtue, bear not the execrable doom against them [bear not against them the execrable, *or cursed*, doom].

2:12 But these *be* as unreasonable beasts, naturally into taking [by kind into taking], and into death, blaspheming in these things that they know not, and shall perish in their corruption,

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and Gomorrha into ashes condemned *them* with an overthrow, making *them* an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly;

2:7 And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked:

2:8 (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed *his* righteous soul from day to day with *their* unlawful deeds;)

2:9 The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:

2:10 But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. Presumptuous *are they*, selfwilled, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities.

2:11 Whereas angels, which are greater in power and might, bring not railing accusation against them before the Lord.

2:12 But these, as natural brute beasts, made to be taken and destroyed, speak evil of the things that they understand not; and shall utterly perish in their own corruption;

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2:13 and receive the hire of unrightwiseness. And they guess delights of defouling and of wem, to be likings of the day, flowing in their feasts with delights, doing lechery with you, [receiving the hire of unrightwiseness, guessing the volupties of the day delights of defouling and of wem, with delights flowing, in their feasts doing lechery with you,]

2:14 and have eyes full of adultery, and unceasing trespass, deceiving unsteadfast souls, and have the heart exercised to covetousness; the sons of cursing, [having eyes full of adultery, and unceasing trespass, deceiving unsteadfast souls, having the heart exercised in covetousness, the sons of cursing,]

2:15 that forsake the right way, and erred, following the way of Balaam of Bosor, which loved the hire of wickedness.

2:16 But he had reprovng of his madness; a dumb beast under yoke, that spake with voice of man, that forbade the un wisdom of the prophet. [Soothly he had correction, *or reprovng*, of his madness; a dumb beast under yoke, speaking with voice of a man, forbade the un wisdom of the prophet.]

2:17 These be wells without water, and mists driven with whirlwinds [and clouds driven with whirling winds], to whom the thick mist of darkneses is reserved.

2:18 And they speak in pride of vanity, and deceive in desires of flesh of lechery them, that escape a little. Which live in error,

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2:13 And shall receive the reward of unrighteousness, *as* they that count it pleasure to riot in the day time. Spots *they are* and blemishes, sporting themselves with their own deceivings while they feast with you;

2:14 Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children:

2:15 Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam *the son* of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;

2:16 But was rebuked for his iniquity: the dumb ass speaking with man's voice forbad the madness of the prophet.

2:17 These are wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever.

2:18 For when they speak great swelling *words* of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, *through much* wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error.

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2:19 and promise freedom to them [promising liberty, *or freedom*, to them], when they be servants of corruption. For of whom any man is overcome, of him also he is servant.

2:20 For if men forsake the uncleannesses of the world, by the knowing of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and again be wrapped in these [again enwrapped in these], and be overcome, the latter things be made to them worse than the former.

2:21 For it was better to them to not know the way of rightwiseness, than to turn again after the knowing, from that holy commandment that was betaken to them.

2:22 For that very proverb befelled to them, The hound turned again to his vomit, *or casting*, and a sow *is* washed in wallowing in fen. [Soothly that thing of very proverb befell to them, An hound turned again to his vomit, *or casting up*, and a sow washed in the wallowing, *or slough*, of clay, *or fen*.]

Chapter 3

3:1 Lo! ye most dear-worthy brethren, I write to you this second epistle [Lo! I write to you, most dear, this second epistle], in which I stir your clear soul by admonishing together,

3:2 that ye be mindful of those words [that ye be mindful of the words], that I before-said of the holy prophets, and of the commandments of the holy apostles of the Lord and Saviour.

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2:19 While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.

2:20 For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning.

2:21 For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known *it*, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them.

2:22 But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog *is* turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.

Chapter 3

3:1 This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in *both* which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance:

3:2 That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour:

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3:3 First know ye this thing, that in the last days deceivers shall come in deceit [First knowing this thing, that in the last days scornors shall come in deceit], going after their own covetings,

3:4 saying, Where is the promise, or the coming of him? for since the fathers died, all things last from the beginning of creature [for since fathers slept, *either died*, so all things last from the beginning of creature].

3:5 But it is hid from them willing this thing, that heavens were before, and the earth of water was standing by water, by God's word [that heavens were first, and the earth of water and by water being, *or standing*, together by God's word];

3:6 by which [things] that same world cleansed, then by water perished.

3:7 But the heavens that now be, and the earth, be kept by the same word, and be reserved to fire into the day of doom and perdition of wicked men. [Forsooth the heavens that now be, and the earth, by the same word put again, be kept to fire into the day of doom and perdition of unpius men.]

3:8 But, ye most dear, this one thing be not hid to you [*be not unknown*], that one day with God *is* as a thousand years, and a thousand years *be* as one day [and a thousand years as one day].

3:9 The Lord tarrieth not his promise, as some [men] guess, but he doeth patiently for you, and will not

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3:3 Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,

3:4 And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as *they were* from the beginning of the creation.

3:5 For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:

3:6 Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:

3:7 But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

3:8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day *is* with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-

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that any man perish [not willing any to perish], but that all turn again to penance.

3:10 For the day of the Lord shall come as a thief, in which heavens with great rush shall pass [in which heavens with great rush, *or fierceness*, shall pass], and elements shall be dissolved by heat, and the earth, and all the works that be in it, shall be burnt.

3:11 Therefore when all these things shall be dissolved, what manner men behooveth it you to be in holy livings and piety [in holy livings and pieties],

3:12 abiding and hieing into the coming of the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom heavens burning shall be dissolved, and elements shall fail by burning of fire [⁺by which heavens burning shall be dissolved, and elements shall fail by burning, *or heat*, of fire].

3:13 Also we abide by his promises [Soothly we abide after his promise] new heavens and new earth, in which rightwiseness dwelleth.

3:14 For which thing, ye most dear, abiding these things, be ye busy to be found to him in peace unspotted and undefouled [in peace unspotted and unfouled].

3:15 And deem ye long abiding of our Lord Jesus Christ your health, as also our most dear brother Paul wrote to you, by wisdom given to him. [And deem ye the long abiding of our Lord your health, as and our most dear brother Paul wrote to you,

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ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

3:10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

3:11 *Seeing* then *that* all these things shall be dissolved, what manner *of persons* ought ye to be in *all* holy conversation and godliness,

3:12 Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

3:13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

3:14 Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.

3:15 And account *that* the longsuffering of our Lord *is* salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you;

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after wisdom given to him.]

3:16 As and in all his epistles he speaketh in them of these things; in which be some hard things to understand, which unwise and unstable men deprave [As and in all epistles he speaking in them of these things; in which be some hard things in understanding, the which unwise, *or untaught*, and unstable men deprave], as also they do other scriptures, to their own perdition.

3:17 Therefore ye, brethren, before-witting keep yourselves, lest ye be deceived by error of unwise men, and fall away from your own firmness. [Therefore ye, brethren, before-witting keep yourselves, lest ye over-led, *or deceived*, by error of unwise men, fall away from your own firmness.]

3:18 But wax ye in the grace and the knowing of our Lord Jesus Christ and our Saviour; to him *be* glory now and into the day of everlastingness. Amen.

3:16 As also in all *his* epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as *they do* also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.

3:17 Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know *these things* before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own stedfastness.

3:18 But grow in grace, and *in* the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him *be* glory both now and for ever. Amen.