



Sermon Title: "2nd Peter: Preparing for the Journey"

Scripture: 1st & 2nd Peter

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Sunday, February 5, 2023

I. PREPARING FOR THE JOURNEY

1 Peter 1:1-2 and 1 Peter 2:11-12

1) In 1st Peter, Peter is writing to "elect exiles"; in 2nd Peter, he is still writing to "elect exiles", but he addresses them as those who (by faith!) SHARE FULLY in the joy and glory of Christ!

2 Peter 1:1 and 2 Peter 1:3

1 Peter 5:12 and 2 Peter 3:18

2) Peter ends 1st Peter by pleading with us (elect exiles) to "stand firm" in the grace of God; Peter ends 2nd Peter by encouraging us (equal standing saints) to grow (grow continually!) in the grace and knowledge of Jesus!

2 Peter 1:12-15

Note: Peter was passionate for God's people to REMEMBER the grace and the work of Jesus!

*"Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go." (This He said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.)
And after saying this He said to him, 'Follow Me.'" (John 21:18-19)*

Note: The year is somewhere around 64 to 67 AD, persecution under Emperor Nero is escalating, Peter knows that he will soon die (by crucifixion) for his faith in Jesus, and so the Holy Spirit inspires Peter to write one last letter for the good of the Church.

3) In 1st Peter 5:8, Peter warns believers to be watchful against their adversary, the devil, who prowls around like a roaring lion; in 2nd Peter chapter 2, Peter warns believers to be watchful against the devil's puppets (self-consumed and self-deceived false teachers).

1 Peter 5:8 and 2 Peter 2:1-2

Note: The motivations, the characteristics, and the tragic end of false teachers have not changed!

4) In 1st Peter, Peter makes multiple references to the return of Jesus; in 2nd Peter, he amplifies, deepens, and intensifies the absolute certainty of the victorious Day of the Lord!

2 Peter 3:10-13

Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application...

1. Who is 1st Peter specifically addressed to? Who is 2nd Peter addressed to? What do we learn from these introductory verses? What did Peter believe about those he was writing to?
2. 1st Peter and 2nd Peter both end by mentioning and discussing grace. Why? What is Peter's point as he ends each letter?
3. What recurring point does Peter make in 2nd Peter 1:12-15; 3:1-2? Why is this important and what does this tell us about ourselves?
4. Are Peter's comments about false teachers still relevant for us today? How do you know?
5. What is 2nd Peter chapter 1 primarily about? What about chapter 2? What about chapter 3?