

# Session 1, 2 Peter

## Introduction:

**AUTHOR: Very Important for Authenticity of the Epistle...and the Rest of the Word of God**

## Who?

**The apostle Peter, as stated in the salutation (1:1).**

**The writer claims:**

- **To have had special revelation from the Lord concerning his demise (1:14; cf. John 21:18-19)**

*<sup>18</sup> Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go. <sup>19</sup> Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, "Follow me!"*

- **To have been present when the Lord was transfigured on the mountain (1:16-18; cf. Mt 17:1-9)**

*<sup>1</sup> After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. <sup>2</sup> There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. <sup>3</sup> Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus. <sup>4</sup> Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." <sup>5</sup> While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!" <sup>6</sup> When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. <sup>7</sup> But Jesus came and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid." <sup>8</sup> When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus. <sup>9</sup> As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus instructed them, "Don't tell anyone what you have seen, until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."*

- **He also alludes to the first epistle (3:1), and**
- **Acknowledges acquaintance with the apostle Paul (3:15).**

## TIME AND PLACE OF WRITING

**Peter makes reference to his imminent death (1:14).**

It is generally accepted that Peter died during the reign of Nero. Since Nero committed suicide in 68 A.D., the epistle must be dated before then.

The epistle was therefore probably written sometime during **67 A.D.**

**The place of writing is uncertain, though if written while imprisoned shortly before his death, it would have probably been from Rome.**

## PURPOSE OF THE EPISTLE

**Peter states His purpose:**

**To stir up his brethren by way of remembrance (1:12-15; 3:1)**

**How?**

**Knowing his death is imminent (1:13-14), Peter wanted to ensure that his readers:**

- Remain established in the truth (1:12)
- Be mindful of both the words spoken before by the prophets and the commandments given by the apostles, especially in regards to the promise of the Lord's return (3:1-4).

## THEME OF THE EPISTLE

**The theme of 2nd Peter can be gleaned from its last two verses (3:17-18), and stated as:**

*"You therefore, beloved, since you know this beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked; but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen."*

**"BEWARE, BUT GROW"**

**Peter:**

- Warns Christians to beware lest they fall from their steadfastness, being led away by error.
- Exhorts them to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ.

**NOTE:** After the opening salutation, virtually every verse of the epistle is either an encouragement to grow or a warning against false teachers (including those who scoff at the idea of the Lord returning).

**If we are to be the Christ-like person that the Bible promotes... and the Lord expects...We need to do as Peter states to the Christians at the time of the writing.**

**Did you know that there is a move within the Christian Churches to encourage coexistence with the Muslims through involved intermingling of fellowship and congregational worship?**

**Stand firm.... Stand true to the Christian belief system.**

*Jesus said... "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No man can come to the Father except through me."*

**This borders on Chrislam:**

**"We are brothers; we are a family of God. Not one of us is better than the other in His eyes. He loves us both. The future can only be won against the "Evil one" by all of us standing strong together."**

**Who stated this?**

**Whoever stated it does not adhere and stand steadfast according to the Word of God.**

**Chrislam (pronounced /'krɪslɑɪm/), or The Will of God Mission, is a Nigerian syncretic religion which mixes elements of both Christianity and Islam.**

**Its followers recognize both the Bible and the Qur'an as holy texts, and practice "running deliverance," a distinctive practice of spiritual running which members liken to Joshua's army that took Jericho, or the Muslim practice of walking around the Ka'aba.**

**Chrislam uses both the Bible and Qur'an and sees them both as holy texts. During the worship service, verses are read from both the Bible and the Qur'an. According to Ebenezer Edohasim, a man who worshipped with the Chrislamic people, there was no friction between the two religions and both texts were accepted by the congregation as true. The people of the congregation are also free to shout out to Allah or God in worship. The Chrislamic people believe that Muhammad, Moses, and Jesus were all great prophets and we need to love them all.<sup>[2]</sup> Worship services include singing of Christian and Islamic hymns to praise God and attract his presence.<sup>[3]</sup> During the times of Christmas, Easter, Ramadan, and other Christian and Islamic religions celebrations, both are accepted and celebrated without judgment or hostility. Inside their place of worship there is an altar similar to those built by Abraham where the worshippers pray and seek the face of God. There are prayers going on here most of the day.<sup>[3]</sup> Like other religions they believe in evangelism and try to convert new members every day.**

**Sounds good to those seeking to compromise and befriend the world...but, this religion (cult) has one great false teaching (many other false precepts); but the one that gives away their identity as a false and abominable religion is...they do not believe Jesus was and is the Son of God. Therefore, one that admonishes and approves this lie will not be approved by God.**

**We must stand firm on our beliefs and not accept any pretense of some other way into heaven...except through Jesus, the Son of God; believing His statement that the ONLY WAY TO THE FATHER IS THROUGH HIS SON.**

**ARE YOU READY TO BE CALLED A "BIGOT" AND ONE THAT HAS "NO TOLERANCE" FOR OTHER RELIGIONS?**

**As Christians, we are to believe the Bible as the only infallible and true Word of God.**

***Romans 12:1-2, "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. <sup>2</sup> Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will."***

***To please God...is to love His Son!***