

The World English Bible (WEB): 2 Peter

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*** START OF THE PROJECT GUTENBERG EBOOK, THE WORLD ENGLISH BIBLE (WEB): 2 PETER ***

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Book 61 2 Peter

001:001 Simon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ,
 to those who have obtained a like precious faith with us
 in the righteousness of our God and Savior, Jesus Christ:
001:002 Grace to you and peace be multiplied in the knowledge of God
 and of Jesus our Lord,
001:003 seeing that his divine power has granted to us all things
 that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge
 of him who called us by his own glory and virtue;

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001:004 by which he has granted to us his precious and exceedingly great promises; that through these you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world by lust.

001:005 Yes, and for this very cause adding on your part all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence; and in moral excellence, knowledge;

001:006 and in knowledge, self-control; and in self-control patience; and in patience godliness;

001:007 and in godliness brotherly affection; and in brotherly affection, love.

001:008 For if these things are yours and abound, they make you to be not idle nor unfruitful to the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

001:009 For he who lacks these things is blind, seeing only what is near, having forgotten the cleansing from his old sins.

001:010 Therefore, brothers,{The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings."} be more diligent to make your calling and election sure. For if you do these things, you will never stumble.

001:011 For thus you will be richly supplied with the entrance into the eternal Kingdom of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

001:012 Therefore I will not be negligent to remind you of these things, though you know them, and are established in the present truth.

001:013 I think it right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by reminding you;

001:014 knowing that the putting off of my tent comes swiftly, even as our Lord Jesus Christ made clear to me.

001:015 Yes, I will make every effort that you may always be able to remember these things even after my departure.

001:016 For we did not follow cunningly devised fables, when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty.

001:017 For he received from God the Father honor and glory, when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."{Matthew 17:5; Mark 9:7; Luke 9:35}

001:018 We heard this voice come out of heaven when we were with him on the holy mountain.

001:019 We have the more sure word of prophecy; and you do well that you heed it, as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns, and the morning star arises in your hearts:

001:020 knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of private interpretation.

001:021 For no prophecy ever came by the will of man: but holy men of God spoke, being moved by the Holy Spirit.

002:001 But false prophets also arose among the people, as false teachers will also be among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, denying even the Master who bought them, bringing on themselves swift destruction.

002:002 Many will follow their immoral{TR reads "destructive" instead of "immoral"} ways, and as a result, the way of the truth will be maligned.

002:003 In covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words: whose sentence now from of old doesn't linger, and their destruction will not slumber.

002:004 For if God didn't spare angels when they sinned, but cast them down to Tartarus{Tartarus is another name for Hell}, and committed them to pits of darkness, to be reserved for judgment;

002:005 and didn't spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah with seven others, a preacher of righteousness, when he brought a flood on the world of the ungodly;

002:006 and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them to destruction, having made them an example to those who would live ungodly;

002:007 and delivered righteous Lot, who was very distressed by the lustful life of the wicked

002:008 (for that righteous man dwelling among them, was tormented in his righteous soul from day to day with seeing and hearing lawless deeds):

002:009 the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptation and to keep the unrighteous under punishment for the day of judgment;

002:010 but chiefly those who walk after the flesh in the lust of defilement, and despise authority. Daring, self-willed, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries;

002:011 whereas angels, though greater in might and power, don't bring a railing judgment against them before the Lord.

002:012 But these, as unreasoning creatures, born natural animals to be taken and destroyed, speaking evil in matters about which they are ignorant, will in their destroying surely be destroyed,

002:013 receiving the wages of unrighteousness; people who count it pleasure to revel in the daytime, spots and blemishes, reveling in their deceit while they feast with you;

002:014 having eyes full of adultery, and who can't cease from sin; enticing unsettled souls; having a heart trained in greed; children of cursing;

002:015 forsaking the right way, they went astray, having followed the way of Balaam the son of Beor, who loved the wages of wrong-doing;

002:016 but he was rebuked for his own disobedience. A mute donkey spoke with a man's voice and stopped the madness of the prophet.

002:017 These are wells without water, clouds driven by a storm; for whom the blackness of darkness has been reserved forever.

002:018 For, uttering great swelling words of emptiness, they entice in the lusts of the flesh, by licentiousness, those who are indeed escaping from those who live in error;

002:019 promising them liberty, while they themselves are bondservants of corruption; for a man is brought into bondage by whoever overcomes him.

002:020 For if, after they have escaped the defilement of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in it and overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first.

002:021 For it would be better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after knowing it, to turn back from the holy commandment delivered to them.

002:022 But it has happened to them according to the true proverb, "The dog turns to his own vomit again," {Proverbs 26:11} and "the sow that has washed to wallowing in the mire."

003:001 This is now, beloved, the second letter that I have written to you; and in both of them I stir up your sincere mind by reminding you;

003:002 that you should remember the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and the commandments of us, the apostles of the Lord and Savior:

003:003 knowing this first, that in the last days mockers will come, walking after their own lusts,

003:004 and saying, "Where is the promise of his coming? For, from the day that the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation."

003:005 For this they willfully forget, that there were heavens from
of old, and an earth formed out of water and amid water,
by the word of God;

003:006 by which means the world that then was, being overflowed
with water, perished.

003:007 But the heavens that now are, and the earth, by the same word
have been stored up for fire, being reserved against the day
of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.

003:008 But don't forget this one thing, beloved, that one day
is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years
as one day.

003:009 The Lord is not slow concerning his promise, as some count slowness;
but is patient with us, not wishing that any should perish,
but that all should come to repentance.

003:010 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night;
in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise,
and the elements will be dissolved with fervent heat,
and the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.

003:011 Therefore since all these things will be destroyed like this,
what kind of people ought you to be in holy living and godliness,

003:012 looking for and earnestly desiring the coming of the day of God,
which will cause the burning heavens to be dissolved,
and the elements will melt with fervent heat?

003:013 But, according to his promise, we look for new heavens and a
new earth, in which righteousness dwells.

003:014 Therefore, beloved, seeing that you look for these things,
be diligent to be found in peace, without blemish and blameless
in his sight.

003:015 Regard the patience of our Lord as salvation; even as our beloved
brother Paul also, according to the wisdom given to him,
wrote to you;

003:016 as also in all of his letters, speaking in them of these things.
In those, there are some things that are hard to understand,
which the ignorant and unsettled twist, as they also do
to the other Scriptures, to their own destruction.

003:017 You therefore, beloved, knowing these things beforehand,
beware, lest being carried away with the error of the wicked,
you fall from your own steadfastness.

003:018 But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and
Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now
and forever. Amen.

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PETER ***

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