



Stand Firm
Studies in 2 Peter

Stand in Power
2 Peter 1
Lesson 14

Introduction

While Peter's audience is the same in his second letter, his theme and purpose are different. Persecution from unbelievers is hard for Christians to bear, but defection within the body of believers can be even more devastating. To counteract the effects of the false teachers who are poisoning the flock, he encouraged the believer to stand in God's power, in His truth and on His promises.

The *knowledge of God* is the central theme to accessing all that Christ has given the believer. Greek philosophers saw philosophical knowledge as the key to changing people's behavior. Peter however, understood "knowledge" to include an intimate, personal relationship with God as the only true way to lasting change.

Peter wrote this letter shortly before his death. He urgently desired that his readers grow in their faith and understand their responsibility to hold fast to the truth. He desires to stir up their minds and to remind them of the eminent return of Christ.

Treasures of the Heart

His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust

2 Peter 1:3-4

What does it say?

The first step is getting the lay of the land. **Carefully observe the text** looking to see where you might dig to find hidden treasure. **Mark your text** looking for repeated words, contrasts or similarities. Look for answers to, Who? What? When? Where? Why or How?

2 Peter 1:1-11

1 Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have obtained like precious faith with us by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ:

2 Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord,
3 as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, 4 by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

5 But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, 6 to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, 7 to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. 8 For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins.

10 Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; 11 for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Digging Deeper

Dig deeper using other resources such as a dictionary, concordance, maps & cross-references. Notate where you found it to share with the group. Look for commands to obey or questions to be answered. What does God want you to know about Himself?



2 Peter 1:12-18

12 For this reason I will not be negligent to remind you always of these things, though you know and are established in the present truth. 13 Yes, I think it is right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by reminding you, 14 knowing that shortly I must put off my tent, just as our Lord Jesus Christ showed me. 15 Moreover I will be careful to ensure that you always have a reminder of these things after my decease.

16 For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty. 17 For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." 18 And we heard this voice which came from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain.



2 Peter 1:19-21

19 And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; 20 knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, 21 for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.



Look - What do you see?

Write a summary sentence that states the **main point of the chapter** from the observations you made. What is the author trying to say?

Aim: _____

Learn – What does it mean?

What **lesson** can I draw from my observations? **Ask yourself, "What was the intended meaning of the original author?"** Is there a command to obey or a warning to heed? An example to follow or avoid? **State each lesson in a simple sentence that you could share with someone else.** (aim for 10 words or less).

2 Peter 1:1-11 _____

2 Peter 1:12-18 _____

2 Peter 1:19-21 _____

Live - How can I apply it?

Ask yourself, "What course of action do I need to take to apply each lesson?" How should it change me? What does it challenge me to do? Does it point out error in my attitude or actions? Putting it in the form of a question helps make it personal. (aim for 10 words or less).

2 Peter 1:1-11 _____

2 Peter 1:12-18 _____

2 Peter 1:19-21 _____

Challenge: Use cross-references to find correlating scripture that backs up a main point of the chapter. **Summarize your findings in your own words.**

Looking for Jesus. . .

Standing firm in the midst of persecution is accomplished through the power and knowledge of God. See if you can state what the knowledge of the Lord teaches us and how it will help you stand firm. There is not just one answer. **State these truths in your own words.**

What does the knowledge of the Lord teach us? (Be specific)

How will knowing God more help you stand firm?

What words or phrases are repeated? Repeated words help us discover the main point, and what is most important to the author.

Getting The Point

See if you can boil down the meaning of **each section** into one or two words. This helps you fully understand what the author is trying to convey. (It's fun to alliterate if you want to try) Did you catch the vision?

2 Peter 1:1-11 _____

2 Peter 1:12-18 _____

2 Peter 1:19-21 _____

Title State the main **point** of the passage in the form of a title.

Flex Your Muscles Can you discover an O.T. example of this N.T. truth?

Radiating His Truth . . .

We come to **knowledge** of Him as we learn of Him through His Word,
through prayer, and through the community of God's people.

David Gusik

Message Notes
