

Translation of 2 Peter by Tony A. Bartolucci

1:1 Simon Peter, a slave and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to those who have received a faith of the same kind as ours, in 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 Just as His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness through the knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence. **4** Through these He has given to us precious and very great promises, in order that by them you may become a partaker of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption which is in the world by lust. **5** Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence: in your faith supply moral excellence, and in [your] moral excellence knowledge, **6** and in [your] knowledge, self control, and in [your] self control, perseverance, and in [your] perseverance, godliness, **7** and in [your] godliness, brotherly kindness, and in [your] brotherly kindness, love. **8** For if these things are yours and are increasing, they make you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. **9** For he who is lacking these is blind or shortsighted, being forgetful of the purification of his former sins. **10** Therefore, brethren, be diligent to make your calling and election sure, for in doing these things you will never fall. **11** For in this way the entrance to the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, will be abundantly supplied to you.

12 Therefore, I will always be ready to remind you concerning these things, although you have come to know them and have been established in the truth which is present with you—**13** but I consider it right, as long as I am in this temporary dwelling, to stir you up by way of reminder, **14** knowing that the removal of my dwelling is imminent, as also our Lord Jesus Christ made clear to me. **15** And I will also be diligent that at any time after my departure you may be able to remember these things.

16 For we did not follow ingenious myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of His majesty. **17** For when He received honor and glory from God the Father such a voice was borne to Him by the Majestic Glory: "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." **18** And we heard this voice borne out of heaven when we were with Him in the holy mountain. **19** And we have the prophetic Word made more sure to which you do well to pay attention as a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts. **20** Knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is *a matter* of one's own interpretation. **21** For no prophecy was ever made by the will of man, but men, moved by the Holy Spirit, spoke from God.

2:1 But false prophets also arose among the people, just as also there will be false teachers among you who will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves. **2** And many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of truth will be blasphemed; **3** and in their greed they will exploit you with false words; their judgment from long ago is not idle and their destruction is not asleep.

4 For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into Tartarus and delivered them to chains of darkness, reserved for judgment; **5** and did not spare the ancient world but protected Noah, the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, when He brought a flood upon the ungodly world; **6** and if by reducing the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to ashes He condemned them to ruin, making them an example of what will happen to the ungodly; **7** and if He rescued righteous Lot, oppressed by the sensual conduct of lawless men **8** (for by what that righteous man saw and heard while living among, his righteous soul was tormented day after day with their lawless deeds), **9** then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from temptation, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment for the day of judgment:

10 And especially those who indulge the flesh in its corrupt desires and despise authority. Bold [and] arrogant, they do not tremble when they speak out against the glorious ones. **11** Whereas angels who are greater in might and power do not bring a slanderous judgment against them before the Lord. **12**

But these, like unreasoning animals, born as creatures of instinct to be captured and destroyed, reviling in their ignorance, will also be destroyed in their corruption. **13** suffering wrong as the wages of wickedness, they consider it a pleasure to indulge [themselves] in the daytime. They are stains and blemishes, reveling in their deceptions as they feast with you. **14** having eyes full of adultery and that never cease from sin, enticing unstable souls, having a heart trained in greed. Accursed children! **15**

Forsaking the right way they have gone astray, having followed the way of Balaam, the [son] of Basor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness. **16** But he was rebuked for his own lawlessness: a dumb donkey, speaking with the voice of a man, restrained the insanity of the prophet.

17 These are springs without water and mists driven by a storm, for whom the deep gloom of darkness has been reserved. **18** For by speaking arrogant, empty [words] they entice by fleshly desires, by sensuality, those who barely escape from the ones who live in error; **19** They promise them freedom while they themselves are slaves of corruption. For whatever overcomes a person, to this he is enslaved. **20** For if after they have escaped the defilements of the world by the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled and overcome by them, the last state has become worse for them than the first. **21** For it would be better for them not to have known the way of righteousness than having known it, to turn away from the holy commandment delivered to them. **22** It has happened to them according to the true proverb: A DOG RETURNS TO ITS OWN VOMIT, and, *a sow, after washing, returns to wallowing in the mud.*

3:1 Beloved, this is already the second letter I have written to you in which I am trying to stir up your sincere mind by way of reminder: **2** that [you] remember the words spoken in the past by the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior spoken by your apostles.

3 Knowing this first, that in the last days mockers will come with mockery, following after their own lusts, **4** and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they have from the beginning of creation." **5** For when they maintain this, it escapes their notice that the heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and

through water by the word of God, **6** through which the world at that time was destroyed, being flooded with water. **7** But the present heavens and the earth by the same word are being stored up for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men. **8** But do not let this one thing escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years and a thousand years as one day. **9** The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not willing for any to perish, but for all to come to repentance.

10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with burning heat and the earth and the works done on it will be exposed. **11** Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, **12** awaiting and earnestly desiring the coming of the day of God, on account of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning and the elements will dissolve with intense heat! **13** But according to His promise we are expecting new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.

14 Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him spotless and blameless, [and] in peace. **15** And consider the patience of our Lord to be salvation, just as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him wrote to you— **16** As also in all his letters, speaking in them concerning these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which the unlearned and unstable twist, as also the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction. **17** You, therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, be on your guard so that you are not carried away by the error of unprincipled men [and] fall from your own steadfastness, **18** But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. [Amen.]