

Purpose

To warn Christians about false teachers and to exhort them to grow in their faith

Author

Peter

To Whom Written

The church at large

Date Written

Approximately 67 AD, three years after *1 Peter* was written, possibly from Rome

Setting

Peter knew that his time on earth was limited, so he wrote about what was on his heart, warning believers of what would happen when he was gone — especially about the presence of false teachers.

Key Verse

"As we know Jesus better, His divine power gives us everything we need for living a godly life..." *2 Peter 1:3*

Special Feature

The date and destination are uncertain, and the authorship has been disputed. Because of this, *2 Peter* was the last book admitted to the canon of the Bible. Also, there are similarities between *2 Peter* and *Jude*.

An Overview (3 Chapters)

- Guidance for Growing Christians (*1:1-21*)
- Danger to Growing Christians (*2:1-22*)
- Hope for Growing Christians (*3:1-18*)

Major Themes

- *Diligence*: If our faith is real, it will be evident in our godly behavior. If people are diligent in Christian growth, they won't backslide or be deceived by false teachers.
- *False Teachers*: Peter warns the church to beware of false teachers. These teachers were proud of their position, promoted sexual sin, and advised against keeping the Ten Commandments. Peter countered them by pointing to the Spirit-inspired Scriptures as our authority.
- *Christ's Return*: One day Christ will create a new heaven and earth, where we will live forever. As Christians, our hope is in this promise. But with Christ's return comes His judgment on all who refuse to believe.