

All verses are copied from <https://biblehub.com/> in King James.

The following is a non-biblical personal editorial on current events;

These are challenging times to walk in accordance with God, but we must do that. Just as I was certain that God put Donald Trump in as President in 2016; depending on the outcome of the legal challenges if we see that Joe Biden in the next president; I am just as certain that God has placed him in that position as well.

There is a difference I think; I think God gave America one last chance to come back to Him. We saw what happened for 4 years of a Trump Presidency, the never ending attacks the lies and distortions. Not that Donald Trump is the epitome of righteousness, but he held back the through the power of the Holy Spirit the spirit of destruction. I think God is now appearing to remove that restraint and allow the gates of Hell to spill out on America. Only time will tell what God's intent is here. God can still put Trump back in, but it is likely that the latter is true, so

brace yourselves and prepare for evil to run rampant.
Keep your eyes on Jesus and Him alone, He is our Rock
and our Salvation.

Now on to 2 Peter.

1 Peter was likely written between 60 and 65 AD. Christians were being persecuted and Peter would die in Rome at the hands of Nero in about 68 AD.

If we had to summarize 1 Peter it was his admonition to learn as much as possible about Jesus, God and what they have done for us through the Power of the Holy Spirit. It is only by self-study that you can be assured that you will not be deceived. It is by committing time every day to study God's Word that we will learn how-to walk-in Holiness and learn that it is not by any human effort but by again the Power of the Holy Spirit and God's Mercy and Grace that He can see us as Holy after the pattern of His Son Jesus Christ.

2 Peter was likely written between 65 and 68 AD the year of Peter's death in Rome. Jesus told Peter this prophesy during their time together. The Bible does not tell us how each Apostle died it is through tradition that many stories are told of their deaths. So, we have no Scriptural certainty of it. Besides John the Baptist

beheading we have this verse about Peter and some information that he was crucified upside down by Nero. It is said and again this is not Biblical, but that Peter asked to be crucified upside down as he felt he was not worthy to be crucified like Jesus was.

John 21:18 18 ^fVerily, verily, I say unto thee, When thou wast young, thou ^agirdedst thyself, and walkedst whither thou wouldest: but when thou shalt be old, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee, and carry thee whither thou wouldest not.

As Peter continued his teaching in the known world, he became very concerned about the false teachers that were being introduced into the church. We see the same thing today, pastors and teachers teaching the antithesis of sound Bible Doctrine. Calling things “good” that God has declared abominations. Prophecy is being fulfilled every day of our lives and the day in which our Redeemer returns is closer every minute. When I say prophecy is being fulfilled daily here is an example;

Daniel 12:4 But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.

This prophecy can be looked at in so many different ways but the fact is that people are running every direction (to and fro) seeking more and more knowledge. Consider the invention rate at this time in history. Artificial Intelligence “AI” may be one of the most dreadful paths that mankind has taken. Trying to merge bio with

mechanical creating a species that is devoid of soul and spirit. Knowledge is increasing but at what immense cost to Truth. All of this headed toward a terrible day of Tribulation.

Matthew 24: [5](#)For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many. [6](#)And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. [7](#)For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. [8](#)All these are the beginning of sorrows.

[9](#)Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. [10](#)And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. [11](#)And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. [12](#)And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. [13](#)But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. [14](#)And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

As you take the time to parse out these verses in Matthew 24 consider what is happening even today right here in America. The hatred that is being generated the lies that are being told. Then go to the middle east and see the division that is taking place there; those that are seeming to side with Israel after hundreds of years of war and now seemingly peace is breaking out. Don't be fooled, God tells us what is to come.

Peter is concerned in this 2nd letter he wrote. Take heed lest you be misled, determine in your heart to study His Word daily and live out these final days in confidence in the Blood of Christ and your calling to Him.

2 Peter 1

Greetings from Peter

[\(1 Peter 1:1-2\)](#)

1 Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:

Peter gives the Gospel in one sentence; precious faith to believe in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior granted to each believer through the righteous acts of Jesus Himself. Through His obedience, Salvation came at the Cross for all mankind, if they will only BELIEVE.

2 Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,

Peter offers a prelude to what he is going to draw attention to. He asks God for Grace and Peace to believer's and that Grace and Peace can come from one source; knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. Knowledge won't just fall on us while we stand around for it to be delivered, it takes effort and study of the most

precious Book of all time the Word of God. Be cautious about which translation you use to study, many omit verses completely, some using modern language totally miss the meaning of a word or phrase that is critical to proper interpretation and understanding. We need to take in the Whole Council of God by studying His entire Word.

Acts 20:27 For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.

Make Your Calling Sure

**3According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that *pertain* unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:
4Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the **divine nature**, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.**

Peter is pointing out that “knowledge” of God is the basis for godliness. How would we know what true “godliness” is without being able to read and understand how it is displayed? God’s Godliness has called us to “glory and virtue”. It is through gaining knowledge of the actual things that God set out to accomplish in the life of His Son and each of our lives. God’s desire is that we attain a divine nature here on earth. Understanding that divine nature will propel us into eternity with a partial understanding of

God's entire nature. Once in His presence we will understand what has been hidden during our lives on earth.

1 Corinthians 13:12 For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

Acts 26: [18](#)To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

2 Corinthians 4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. (NKJV)

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[5](#)And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; [6](#)And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; [7](#)And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

God through Peter gives sort of a formula or steppingstones to the type of path God wants for and from us.

Focus	Meaning
1. Diligence	thoroughness
2. Virtue	integrity
3. Knowledge	understanding
4. Temperance	self-control

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 5. Patience | endurance |
| 6. Godliness | holiness |
| 7. Brotherly kindness | kind |
| 8. Charity of Love | Agape love – God’s Love |

8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Q. What does it mean to God for those who love Him to be Fruitful? Fruitfulness means to;

According to Strong’s Concordance;

Phonetic Spelling: (kar-pof-or-eh'-o)

Definition: to bear fruit

Usage: I bear fruit.

Ok, bearing fruit; what kind of fruit are we talking about. If that is the fruit that the Holy Spirit gives to us, then that is they type of fruit He wants us to produce in our lives through His Power.

Galatians 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. 24And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

God delineates what “fruit” “good fruit” is;

1. Love
2. Joy
3. Peace

4. Longsuffering
5. Gentleness
6. Goodness
7. Faith
8. Meekness
9. Temperance

Hand out list

2 Peter 1:5-7

Virtue

Knowledge

Temperance

Patience

Godliness

Brotherly kindness

Charity of Love

Galatians 5:22

Diligence

Love

Joy

Peace

Longsuffering

Gentleness

Goodness

Faith

Meekness

Temperance

That list looks a lot like the list we found when discovering what God says is a “diving nature” that we are to walk in from vs 4 and He listed in vs 5-7.

This theme is found throughout the Bible as our guide to walking as Jesus wants us to walk out our lives.

Colossians 1:10 That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;

9But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

This is really an interesting verse; consider this is written to believers. God is declaring that there are some believers that are fruitless and blind. What is it that we might do or are not doing that lands us in this category?

This affliction has something to do with seeing clearly according to vs 9;

9But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off

We can't see some distant placed or some distant time. It says that this person cannot see “afar off”. The affliction is brought

about by forgetfulness about a critical event that took place in this believer.

The believer has forgotten that he was vs 9 ***“purged from his old sins”***

From Strong's Concordance; purge in the Greek

Phonetic Spelling: (kath-ar-is-mos')

Definition: a cleansing

Usage: cleansing, purifying, purification, literal, ceremonial, or moral; met: expiation.

HELPS Word-studies

Cognate: 2512 *katharismós* (a *masculine* noun derived from [2511](#) /*katharízō*, "to purge") – *purification*, which results from *God* removing undesirable admixtures (eliminating impurities).

As we all know this purging or purification takes place at the instant one admits they are a sinner, repents and asks Jesus to forgive them. They must do this with a pure heart, no deceit. At that moment the Holy Spirit moves into the person who sought forgiveness. Now God is telling us that it is possible for a believer to forget what took place during this purging of the old sins.

Seems impossible but that is what we are told can happen to a believer.

Let's take a look at an Old Testament story involving one of the greatest prophets Elisha and this idea of forgetting where we got salvation or why?

2 Kings 6: [1](#)And the sons of the prophets said unto Elisha, Behold now, the place where we dwell with thee is too strait for us. [2](#)Let us go, we pray thee, unto Jordan, and take thence every man a beam, and let us make us a place there, where we may dwell. And he answered, Go ye. [3](#)And one said, Be content, I pray thee, and go with thy servants. And he answered, I will go. [4](#)So he went with them. And when they came to Jordan, they cut down wood. [5](#)But as one was felling a beam, the axe head fell into the water: and he cried, and said, Alas, master! for it was borrowed. [6](#)And the man of God said, Where fell it? And he shewed him the place. And he cut down a stick, and cast it in thither; and the iron did swim. [7](#)Therefore said he, Take it up to thee. And he put out his hand, and took it.

The issue we are looking for is what is forgetfulness and how does it appear in the life of a believe and what can be done about it.

In the case of Elisha and his prophet students the first problem we see and have discussed is that they made a plan first and then asked for Elisha's blessing. Like these students we often craft a plan and then ask God to bless our plan.

The correct order dealing with planning and God is to ask God first what He wants us to do. Once we have that understanding then we can set out to plan with His Wisdom and Guidance. It is

like being born again, it all started with God; we were recipients of His Grace and Mercy. That Grace and Mercy is extended to “ALL mankind”. We acknowledged our need for Him and Salvation when all of a sudden, we realize we were scheduled for eternal death.

The story about Elisha continues on with the Student Prophet using a borrowed axe to cut down a tree and somehow the axe head fell off and went into a pool of water causing great distress.

The axe head is made of iron and type and symbol of God’s natural truth, God’s truth; God’s Truth His Word is sharper than any two-edged sword and is able to cut to the very marrow of the bone. God’s Word is also used to cut to very core of any issue.

The iron axe head is representative of the Holy Spirit in relationship to man, where in the Holy Spirit convicts us of wrongdoing and encourages us but often the initial conviction requires a deep cut or surgery to get to the Truth. The wood on the axe handle is a type of “flesh”. The Holy Spirit when attached to a human that is walking in obedience to God can be used to fall mighty obstacles and cut to the core of a sin or lie to find the Truth when the believer or in this case the axe is used in a manner that God wants.

But when not in agreement with God the believer (flesh) can lose its power from the Holy Spirit. Maybe like a person forgetting what actually saved them or how that salvation came about. All of a sudden, the flesh, the believer is without the power of the Holy Spirit; it has lost its power. IE the axe head falling off.

But where did the axe head go in this story. It went into a pool of water. Water is also a type of the Holy Spirit like water the Holy Spirit as He can be a cleansing power, so the power of the Holy Spirit in this story left the human host due to some huge failure on the part of the believer and returned to its home the Holy Spirit of God.

Now in this story the prophesy student rightly claims in his horror that the axe head (the power of the Holy Spirit) was borrowed. Indeed, the Power of the Holy Spirit is loaned to us as a “helper” paraclete is the Greek term used. Jesus said He must go so that He could send us this help.

John 14:16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another ^bComforter, that he may abide with you for ever; 17 Even ^cthe Spirit of truth; ^dwhom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: ^ebut ye know him; for ^fhe dwelleth with you, and ^ashall be in you.

Elisha tells the student what he must do to regain the axe head. He told him to take a stick and toss it in the water. That would be taking the flesh and putting it water (the Holy Spirit) repenting and asking God to forgive you. Once the stick or the flesh is re-submerged in the water through repentance; miraculously the axe head floated, came back into the presence of the believer. We don't see that too often; but what happened in this illustrative story is that the flesh was committed back to God, when that happened, the Holy Spirit the power of the Holy Spirit reattaches or reenters within the believer. The Believer has found what he lost; walking with God in the power of the Holy Spirit. He had to go back to the beginning to realize what saved him and how it came about. This believer had to repent of walking away from God's Truth in his life and re-acquire the Power of the Holy Spirit. Once the believe reunites with that knowledge; the Power of the Holy Spirit re-unites with the believer and becomes what God intended it be in the first place; an axe used by God to cut to the Truth of any matter.

10Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:

When things are not going right for Christians, they need to retrace their steps to find out where they got off track. Sometimes

it is all the way back to where it all started. Once they find that place they can re-engage with God through the Power of the Holy Spirit and Jesus Christ to again become fruitful. As vs 10 says it starts with diligence. A thorough examination of the facts of where you are and what has gone wrong.

A meticulous willingness to do whatever it takes to walk with God again. Conviction by the Holy Spirit is one sign of a problem in our lives. God doesn't just let us wander off; but if we persist neither does, He abandon us, it is like the story of Jesus seeking the lost sheep. There is no limit to the extent of what Jesus will do to find and return His lost sheep.

Matthew 18: [10](#)Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven. [11](#)For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost.

[12](#)How think ye? if a man have an hundred sheep, and one of them be gone astray, doth he not leave the ninety and nine, and goeth into the mountains, and seeketh that which is gone astray? [13](#)And if so be that he find it, verily I say unto you, he rejoiceth more of that sheep, than of the ninety and nine which went not astray. [14](#)Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish.

[11](#)For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

As a believer you were granted entrance into God's Everlasting Kingdom at your receiving Christ as Lord and Savior. There are degrees of rewards that will be received by the believers based on how well you used the gifts God gave you through the Power of the Holy Spirit. No effort, no rewards, but still salvation based solely on BELIEF in the Blood of Jesus Christ on the Cross and your believing that Jesus is the Son of God and your Redeemer.

12Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know *them*, and be established in the present truth.

We seem to plow the same ground time and time again when it comes to; Salvation, Jesus and Belief. It is as Peter says here, we should not be negligent to remind ourselves always, though we already know them, it helps us not to lose sight of who saved us and how that all came about.

13Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, to stir you up by putting *you* in remembrance;

The tabernacle Peter speaks of here is of course his earthly body. When Peter wrote this, he may have well known that his days were numbered with Nero on the throne and his hatred of Christianity and those who taught the Truth about the RESURRECTION.

14Knowing that shortly I must put off *this* my tabernacle, even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shewed me.

A stark reference to the prophesy that we saw earlier that Jesus had given Peter on the means of his death.

15Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able after my decease to have these things always in remembrance.

We were Eyewitnesses

(Matthew 17:1-13; Mark 9:1-13; Luke 9:28-36)

16For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.

To be an Apostle of Christ and to have walked with Him on this earth as He began His ministry to Save mankind would be a remarkable thing. But it would carry with it pain and suffering beyond compare for most of humanity. Peter had amazing highs and amazing lows in his walk with Jesus. Perhaps we can identify with that, the things we are proud of in our walk and the things we are ashamed of in our walk.

We are blessed because we believe without seeing.

Peter NEVER GAVE UP; He NEVER QUIT, and he NEVER SURRENDER!

17For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. 18And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount.

Peter remembers the event as did those who either witnessed it or heard of it;

*Matthew 17: 1And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into a high mountain apart, 2And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light. 3And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him. 4Then answered Peter, and said unto Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias. 5While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, **This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.***

19We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

Peter declares God's heart here in that the prophecy that we are allowed to read is sure and in that assurance from God Himself we are to take Heed. This taking heed God says is like a light shining in a dark place.

2 Corinthians 6:14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

We are in this world, but we should not be a part of or partakers of the evil this world has to offer. When God's Word shines on the darkness of this world it illuminates the evil that is scurrying about like rats destroying and devouring all manner of flesh in the darkness. We as believers have no relationship with that darkness and if you find yourself engaging in that darkness, REPENT immediately and return to Christ.

20Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

We don't get to make prophesy say what we want it to; we are only allowed to read it, try to understand it through the "whole council of God" and walk out accordingly. God through John gave a stern warning about a specific book of prophesy, but I think it pertains to all of his Word;

Revelation 22: 18For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: 19And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

21For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as *they were* moved by the Holy Ghost.

I often use the phrase; God through whatever writer, and I do it for this reason. These were men and women of God, I am convinced that they did not come up with these words themselves they were scribes transcribing the words that God gave them.

Amen.

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