

# Outline of the Second Epistle of St. Peter

## I. Salutation (1:1-2)

## II. The Certainty of the Believers' Salvation (1:3-21)

### A. Its Subjective Basis: The Work of God (1:3-11)

#### 1. Past: What God has Done (1:3-4)

a. His Divine Power Enabling Believers (1:3)

b. His Divine Nature Indwelling Believers (1:4)

#### 2. Present: What Believers Should Do (1:5-9)

a. The Use of God's Resources (1:5-7)

b. The Results of Using God's Resources (1:8-9)

#### 3. Future: What Believers Will Receive (1:10-11)

a. Temporal Results: The Certainty of Salvation (1:10)

b. Eternal Results: The Inheritance of the Kingdom (1:11)

### B. Its Objective Basis: The Word of God (1:12-21)

#### 1. Peter's Testament as a Reminder of Salvation (1:12-15)

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b. The Necessity of the Reminder: Peter's Death (1:13-14)

c. The Promise of the Reminder: A Written Record (1:15)

#### 2. Defense of the Truth of the Message (1:16-21)

a. Apostolic Eyewitnesses (1:16-18)

b. Old Testament Prophets (1:19-21)

1) The Value of OT Prophecy (1:19)

2) The Source of OT Prophecy (1:20-21)

## III. The Deception of the False Teachers' Message (2:1–3:16)

### A. Their Antinomianism (2:1-22)

#### 1. The Coming of the False Teachers (2:1-3a)

#### 2. The Condemnation of the False Teachers (2:3b-9)

a. Their Condemnation Sure (2:3b)

b. OT Precedent (2:3b-8)

c. The Coming Judgment (2:9)

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## 3. The Characteristics of the False Teachers (2:10-22)

- a. Rejection of Authority (2:10-12)
- b. Fleshly Indulgence (2:13-16)
- c. Slavery to Sin (2:17-22)

## B. Their Denial of the Lord's Return (3:1-16)

- 1. Documentation of the False Teachers Reiterated (3:1-2)
- 2. Denial by the False Teachers Repudiated (3:3-7)
- 3. Day of the Lord Revealed (3:8-13)
- 4. Deportment of Believers Required (3:14-16)
  - a. The Appeal for Behavior (3:14)
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## IV. Conclusion (3:17-18)

- A. Summary of Letter (3:17)
- B. Benediction (3:18)

# Précis of the Life of St. Peter

## I. Prior to our Lord's crucifixion (The Gospels)

Peter was part of the inner circle of Jesus' disciples, along with James and John. Being a natural-born leader, he became the *de facto* spokesman for the Twelve.

Peter was enthusiastic, strong-willed, impulsive, and, at times, brash.

- It was Peter who took Jesus aside to rebuke Him for speaking of His death.
- It was Peter who refused his feet to be washed.
- It was Peter who drew his sword and attacked the servant of the high priest.
- And it was Peter that boasted that he would never forsake the Lord, even if everyone else did—but later denied three times that he even knew the Lord.

Yet it was this same Peter

- Who witnessed the transfiguration of our Lord on the Holy Mount.
- And who declared Jesus as “the Christ, the Son of the living God,”.

## II. After our Lord's crucifixion (The Book of Acts)

Following our Lord's crucifixion a dramatic change occurred in Peter. He was eye-witness to our resurrected Lord and restored to service.

- On the day of Pentecost, filled with the Holy Spirit, he used the “keys to the kingdom of heaven” to preach the Gospel to people from all over the world who had gathered at Jerusalem for Passover and the Feast of Weeks.
- Brought before the Sanhedrin Peter did not deny Jesus.
- He healed the sick and raised Tabitha from the dead.
- And it was Peter who, sent by the Holy Spirit, first preached the Gospel to Gentiles at the house of Cornelius.

## III. The Epistles (1 Peter and 2 Peter)

Assurance:

- That we are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

Exhortation:

- To holy living that by our behaviour (our walk and conversation) we may make our election and calling sure; being fruitful in the knowledge of our Lord. To submit to civil authorities for the Lord's sake and even win those who are without the word.

Warning:

- To guard against false teachers (doctrine), by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.
- To be prepared; the Lord is not slack concerning the promise of His coming, wishing all to come to repentance; but day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night.