NEW TESTAMENT SYNTHESIS NOTES

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SECOND GENERAL (CATHOLIC) EPISTLE BY PETER

INTRODUCTION: What would you do in response to Peter's exhortation "to abundantly supply: in accompanying circumstance to you Faith, the moral excellence, the knowledge, the self-restraint, the patient-endurance, the godly piety, the brotherly fondness, and the love so that you be not even unfruitful in the knowledge of The Lord of ours, Jesus Christ?" (1:5-8 APT).

Review:

- 1. The Theme of The Bible: The Coming of The Messiah, The King and His Kingdom of Righteousness and Peace.
- 2. The Purpose of The Bible: To Present The Lord Jesus Christ as The Redeemer or To Teach The God's Plan of Redemption.

PRESENTATION:

I. Facts to Be Noted

Author: Peter, the Apostle Date Written: Autumn- Winter A.D. 67-68 from Palestine Written to: Predominantly Jewish-Christians dispersed throughout Asia Minor (2 Pet. 3:1 cf. 1 Pet. 1:1)

Key Verse: 1:12 Key Word: "knowledge"7x Content: Christian Perils Theme: Remembrance

A. Authorship of Second General (Catholic) Epistle by Peter.

The writer of this Epistle identifies himself in the opening statement as Simon Peter, bondslave and apostle of Jesus Christ (1:1). He was a fisherman from Kahpernah-oúm (Mk. 1:16,21).

- 1. Internal Evidence to Peter's authorship is clear by:
 - a. The accepted title that bears his name, which was placed at 'the head of the scroll' of the circulated copies,
 - b. His opening salutation (1:1). <u>To deny authorship is to deny inerrant, infallible, plenary, verbal inspiration</u>.
 - c. Peter claimed to be eye witness to Christ's majesty on the Mount of transfiguration (2 Pet. 1:16-18).
 - d. He referred (1:14) to the statement The Lord Jesus made regarding his death, recorded by the beloved apostle John (Jn. 21:18,19).
 - e. He claimed authorship to First Epistle which bears his name and is attributed to Peter (3:1). And
 - f. He claimed to be one of the apostles of The Lord Jesus Christ (3:2; 1:1).
 - g. To question Peter's authorship is to deny verbal plenary inspiration. In rejection of denial of Petrine authorship the following five reasons are given:
 - (1) The title at the head of the scroll is ascribed to 'Peter.'
 - (2) The author of 2 Peter claimed to be an apostle (1:1).
 - (3) The author also claimed to be on The Mount of Transfiguration with Christ Jesus (1:16-18).
 - (4) This is the second Epistle addressed to these readers, therefore the author of 1 Peter is also the author of 2 Peter (3:1).
 - (5) There are three councils in Church History that endorsed the authorship of both Petrine Epistles as Peter; the Council of Laodicea (A.D. 366), The Council of Hippo (A.D. 393), and the Council of Carthage (A.D. 397).
 - Additionally W. Graham Scroggie wrote: "It has been pointed out that words are used by the writer of this Epistle which are used by Peter in the Acts, as, for example, 'obtained' (1:1 and Acts 1:17; 'holiness' [or 'godliness'] (1:3,6.7 and Acts 3:12); 'day of The Lord' (3:10 and Acts 2:20); 'wages [or reward] of iniquity [or unrighteousness] (2:13,15 and Acts 1:18). These are but a few of many instances and they add to the evidence that the speaker in The Acts was the writer of this Letter." *Know Your Bible,* Vol. 2 by Dr. W. Graham Scroggie.
- 2. External Evidence to Peter's authorship comes from the Muratorian Canon (A.D. 160-200: "We receive also . . . that of Peter which [foot note inserted here states, A probable emendation reads 'and one epistle only of Peter; a second is extant actually, currently existing]." As stated above three Church Councils: in A.D. 366, in 393, and in 397, all had recognized Second Peter as canonical. Both **Asthanasias** (296-373) and Cyril of Jerusalem (350-386) accepted all seven Catholic Epistles (this includes 1 and 2 Peter) as canonical. Also Firmilian, Bishop of **Kaisáh-reh-eeah** (Caesarea) of (Caesarea) of **Kahppahdoh-kéeah** (Cappadocia) wrote c. 270 of "Peter and Paul, the blessed apostles, . . . who execrated heretics in their Epistles, and warned us to avoid them." Only 2 Peter contains such reference (2 Pet. 2:1-22); 1 Peter does not.

There is much debate about attributing authorship of Epistle of Second Peter to the apostle Peter. This is

mainly due to its late acceptance by the Early Church at large. After wading through the pros and cons of each viewpoint, it was noted that there are more reasons to accept Peter as the writer than to reject Him. None of the objections to Petrine authorship are consequential. They fail to prove that He is not the writer, but merely cast doubt that he is the writer. Nor do they offer an acceptable alternate writer. To reject a proposition without offering a creditable and acceptable possibility is to reflect oneself as an unreasonable bigot.

- B. <u>The Recipients of this General (Catholic) Epistle by Peter</u> were predominantly Jewish Christians of the Dispersion scattered throughout Asia Minor and the ones with like precious faith (2 Pet. 1:1; 3:1 cf. 1 Pet. 1:1).
- C. Provenance (the place written). This is neither known nor discerned.
- D. <u>Dating of this Second General (Catholic) Epistle by Peter</u> is based upon the anticipated sudden martyrdom of Peter himself which, it is consensually agreed, took place between Autumn, A.D. 67 and early Spring A.D. 68, where is not substantiated. Shortly before that this Epistle was written between Autumn and Winter, A.D. 67-68.
- E. The Characteristics in Second General (Catholic) Epistle by Peter include: exhortative, cautionary, and prophetic.
- F. <u>The Purpose of Peter</u> in writing this Epistle is to indicate his anticipation of his imminent death (1:15; 2:1) and to warn of false teachers and their corrupt and corrupting doctrines.
- G. Scenes in 2 Peter: The Mount of Transfiguration (1:18), the old time (1:21), **Tahrtahrohs**, the deepest hell (2:4), **Sohdóhmmah** (Sodom) and **Gómohrrhah** (2:6), His Coming Presence (3:4), the Flood (3:5,6), The Day of God (3:12); New Heavens and A New Earth (3:13, and Eternal Day (3:18).
- H. The Characters in 2 Peter:

Peter (1:1), The Lord Jesus Christ (1:1,8,11,14,16; 3:18), angels that sinned (2:4), Noah (2:5), Lot (2:7,8), Balaam (2:15,16), and Paul (3:15).

I. Outline based on Corruption:

- I. Moral Corruption (1:1-14).
- II. Doctrinal Corruption (1:15-2:22).
- III. Steadfastness in view of this Corruption (3:1-18).
- J. Alternate Outline Based upon Knowledge:
 - I. True Knowledge Proceeds from The God, Purifies Man, and Produces Fruit (ch. 1).
 - II. False Knowledge Pollutes Man and Precludes Faith (ch. 2).
 - III. Faulty Knowledge Pertaining to The Coming of Christ is Perfected (ch. 3).

K. Prophecies:

- 1. How The God reckons time prophetically: 1,000 years = 1 day and 1 day as 1000 years (3:8 cf. Ps. 90:4).
- 2. Destruction of The Heavens and The Earth (3:12 cf. Micah 1:4).
- 3. New Heavens and a New Earth (3:13 cf. Isa. 65:17; 66:22).

L. Contrast between 1 Peter

and

2 Peter

- 1. To support the Saints and Encourage them in Persecution
- 2. Enemies are mentioned
- 3. Much Suffering
- 4. Persecution without
- 5. Stand in Grace

1. To Warn against False Teachers and

Corrupting Doctrines

- 2. Darkness is mentioned
- 3. Much Error
- 4. Errors within
- 5. Grow in Grace
- M. Particularly notice the words 'diligence' (2 Pet. 1:5,10) and 'remembrance' (1:12,13,15: 3:1).

II. The Theme of The Bible: The Coming of The Messiah, The King and His Kingdom of Righteousness and Peace.

Since the initial coming of the Messiah has taken place and His Return was imminently expected, and since Paul discussed the doctrine of The Coming-Presence of The Lord Jesus Christ rather extensively in both of The Epistles to Thessalonians and in 1 Corinthians, and in Romans. Paul only succinctly referred five times to The Coming-Presence of The Lord Jesus Christ. Then He reminded his readers that we all must present ourselves before the **Báymah** (Judgment Seat on steps) in anticipation of the coming-again of The Messiah to Earth to set 3:13-17; 4:1,2 up His Kingdom. However in **Ehféhseeous** (Ephesians), Paul does not mention The Coming-Presence of The Lord Jesus Christ directly, but alludes to His coming when referring to The Lord Jesus Christ loving The Church. He "delivered Himself over in Her behalf of Her . . . so that He present Her to Himself, The Church Glorious, not having spot or wrinkle or any such things." Likewise The Kingdom of The God is not mentioned positively, but rather from the negative standpoint by reminding his readers of those who are sexually immoral or unclean or covetous or idolaters continually are not having inheritance in The Kingdom of The Christ and of God. Then in **Kohlohs-sah-eh-êes** (Colossians), we are recipients of Redemption through His Blood and forgiveness of Sins and then he cited only the ones of the circumcision (Jewish heritage) whom he deemed as fellow-workers in The Kingdom of The God. Then in **Feeláymohn** (Philemon), since Paul was dealing with a personal matter between himself and two brothers (**Ohnáyseemohs** and **Feeláymohn**) in union with The Lord Jesus Christ in The Kingdom of The God, The Kingdom is not specifically mentioned.

In <u>Hebrews</u> in chapter one (vs. 8,9), the sceptre of The Lord Jesus Christ's Kingdom (also previously referred to as 'The Kingdom of God' is declared to be Righteousness (AV) [rightness (APT)]. The Son is addressed as 'The God' and The Kingdom is referred to as 'Your Kingdom,' but in the same quotation The Father addressed Himself as 'The God of Yours' Who has significantly anointed 'You" and also as

The One who wields 'the scepter of rightness' (Heb. 1:8,9) and Who 'laid the foundation to The Earth' at its 'beginning' (1:10). Then in Hebrews twelve it is recorded that the saints receive "an immovable Kingdom alongside with Christ, let us have grace by means of which we sacredly serve The God well-pleasingly with modesty and reverence" (Heb, 12:28 APT). In 1 Timothy there is only one mention of the coming King of kings, the Blessed and a only Potentate and the appointed times of His coming splendid appearance (6:14-16 APT). In Paul's short Epistle to Téetohs (Titus) there is no mention to The Coming Kingdom but the emphasis is upon The Church and the disciple-saints in building His Church by means of discipleship.

Then <u>in 1 Peter</u> there is no mention of The Coming Kingdom of The Messiah and His reign in Righteousness and in Peace. And <u>in Jude</u> also there is no mention of The Coming Kingdom of The Messiah, but in His closing exhortation, Jude urges his readers "to keep yourselves watchfully secure in God's love as ones persistently expectantly awaiting the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto Eternal Absolute-Life and to stand before and directly in His view unblemished with exceeding gladness (1:20-24 APT). Now <u>in 2 Peter</u> once again the theme is confirmed as emphasis is laid upon His coming presence (1:11-16), which he mentions again (3:4,12) and is followed by the perishing of the old and replaced by the New Heavens and New Earth. He exhorts his readers to be diligent in constantly persevering so as to be found in Him ones who are unspotted and without rebuke in peace when He indeed appears again.

III. The Purpose of The Bible: To Teach The God's Plan of Redemption:

So far, with regard to The Plan of Redemption, The Word of The God has revealed these Truths: in James the problem of faith demonstated by works was clarified. In Galatians it is revealed that Faith is the means whereby we live in union with The Son of God, receive The Promise of The Spirit, become the sons of The God, and are in the sphere of Spirit. Also in Galatians a new dimension to Redemption is added, Justification by means of The Lord Jesus Christ's Faith [note: it is our personal faith in The Lord Jesus Christ's Faith that results in Salvation]. To be justified is to be declared righteous freed of: blame, guilt, and / or penalty of Sin as a result of The Lord Jesus Christ taking Sin upon Himself and becoming: a curse in behalf of us and the propitiation of our sins in order to provide Redemption which includes complete freedom from bondage to Sin and

Satan. In Thessalonians we are taught that the exchange of bond-slavery, of which Jesus spoke, takes place at Redemption. Paul referred to the redeemed disciple-saints as "Salvation's purchased possession." Then Paul presented The God's determined will as a result of Redemption and emphasized sanctification (separation unto a holy relationship with The God) and the consequences of rejecting it. Thus far (up to early winter

of A.D. 58), the contents of the plan of Redemption contain these practical doctrines emphasized <u>in Romans</u>: Salvation, Sin, Exchange of Masters in bond-service, Redemption, Reconciliation and Justification (3:26-30; 4:25-5:18; 8:30-34), Sanctification, and Eschatology {the doctrine of last things} (8:19). <u>In Ehféhseeous</u> (Ephesians) Redemption was referred to in three instances. In the first instance (1:7), 'Redemption' referred to the initial occurrence of Redemption of every disciple-saint, when the sinner is identified in union with The Lord Jesus Christ through totally committed faith unto Him and His shed-blood, the result is forgiveness of gross stupid errors (sins). In the second instance (1:14), Paul referred to the occasion of the completion of Redemption of every disciple-saint, when the whole person in the glorified body united with the soul and spirit appears in the presence of The Lord Jesus Christ. Then in <u>1 Timothy</u> God reveals: the one mediator between God and man, the place of the women in the church, the means of fulfilling her desire, the qualifications for selection and operation for governing officers of the local church and behavior toward and financial care of them, behavior in The Church both worldwide and local, disciplinary action toward those openly and obviously sinning and toward anyone teaching a different doctrine, and the care of widows and behavior of bondslaves and their masters. The church is God's instrument for expounding Truth.

In Téetohs (Titus) there is one mention of 'Redemption.' It is found on the verb 'ransom' meaning 'to pay the price for release.' The word 'Redemption' includes three aspects of Salvation: ἀγοράζω (ahgohrádzō) meaning 'to buy a slave in the marketplace'; ἐξάγοράζω (eksahgohrádzō) meaning 'to buy a slave-in-the-marketplace out-of the marketplace not to be sold into bondage again'; and the verb form of the noun translated 'redemption', λυτρόω (lutróō) meaning 'to pay the ransom price for release from bondage.' Here in **Téetohs**, Paul uses the third term which calls for the completed process of redemption. He then stated that bondage from which we were redeemed, which is all lawlessness and included the resulting condition, completely cleansed from all Sin and sins to become one of The God's special chosen people with boiling zeal for intrinsically-good works. Please note the difference between intrinsical and beneficial. These works are not human works benefitting humans but rather intrinsic coming from within our new nature and The Saving Grace implanted and motivated by The Lord Jesus Christ Himself relating to communicating the Gospel to all humans. Because that is The God's intention according to the reference by Paul to Téetohs to "The Saving Grace of The God," which 'splendidly appeared to all humans.' This Saving Grace is that by which all saints are being-educated-by-discipline" in order to be able to communicate This Grace to all humans. Then in 2 Timothy, redemption and its cognate words are not mentioned, but Paul alludes to redemption by describing the behavior of The Lord's bondslave (2:24-26) when one understands that Redemption includes the price that The Lord Jesus Christ paid to redeem (buy back) every lost sinner to Himself, all of whom are bondslaves to Satan, Sin, disobedience, and unrighteousness, to become bondslaves to The Lord Jesus Christ, The God, obedience, and Righteousness (Rom. 6:16-22). Thus this additional revelation clarifies that which is absolutely necessary for every regenerated disciple-bondslave to fulfill in order to prove that he or she is truly the bondslave of The Lord Jesus Christ.

Now in First Peter Redemption and its cognate words appear only once. The means of Redemption is clarified in the first chapter where reference to Redemption relates to the ransom price that was paid for the Redemption of every human being (1:18) and that by mentioning the means and cost of the ransom price in our Redemption, both negatively and positively. "Not ransomed with corruptible things", namely with silver or with gold... but on the contrary with Christ's precious blood, and Unspotted Lamb, Who was raised up out of dead ones and has been given glory (majestic-radiant-splendor" (1:18,19). However in connection to Redemption, The God reveals in First Peter that we are regenerated unto a continually Absolutely-Living Hope which shall be fulfilled at Jesus Christ's Revelation (the consummation of Redemption) to be revealed in the last season of time (1:3-7). By using the imperative mood of command, Peter commanded that the recipients of his Epistle, both in A.D. 65-66 and down through the years until The Lord Jesus Christ appears, are to "perfectly hope for the grace being brought to you at the time of Jesus Christ's Revelation!" (1:13). Later in his Epistle the result of redemption for those who have been redeemed (2:16) is declared, exhorting the ransomed to godly behavior. After likening the pilgrim-saints to being children of obedience, newborn babes, absolutely-living stones, sojourners and pilgrims, he addressed them as free ones from bondage. And as such the exhortation to them is to properly behave by persistently respectfully valuing and highly esteeming all people that are not redeemed with tender affection and constantly loving those who are redeemed, called the brotherhood. Then while on Earth we are to be constantly ready ones to give an account of the hope within us when anyone questions our source of and the reason for such hope (3:15). Also Peter commands us, "Since-being-exceedingly-glad-ones, also be-rejoicing in-The Revelation of-the glory of-His (4:14).

IV. The Progressive Revelation of The God:

Previously it was noted that <u>in Romans</u> foundation Truths of The Christian Faith were revealed, especially explaining The Righteousness of The God, Sin, condemnation and Judgment, Justification by Faith, Salvation including Sin, Exchange of Masters, and sphere of the flesh. It was revealed that Israel's fall resulted in her being set aside, which resulted in blessing for the Gentiles for the duration of Grace and The Church Age until The Christ raptures The Church, followed by Israel's suffering in Tribulation for seven years "until the fullness of The Gentiles enter." This will take place before The Messiah King returns to Earth to set up The Promised Kingdom. Israel's fullness in restoration will bring greater blessing for the world. Practical, reasonable, sacred service to The God is to be performed by a public presentation of the body as an Absolutely-Living sacrifice in return for the dying Sacrifice by The New Master, The Lord Jesus Christ. After this occasion transpires, each one is to be renewed in the mind so as to utilize the grace-gifts, serving as bondslaves to The Lord in love. The Truth concerning the future judgment for all saints, who shall present themselves at The Christ's **Báymah** Seat was disclosed.

Then in Ehféhseeous (Ephesians) at least sixty-three (63) doctrines, many of which were previously expressed, were mentioned or given, one of which is enlightenment, another dealing with the gifted leaders of The Church with their selected realm of ministry for the purpose of building- up The Church as The Body of The Christ to grow unto maturity by means of discipleship with each one having a part in adding to The Body increase of members and nurturing them to maturity in The Christ. Paul especially dealt with three doctrines specifically, on the one hand with unity (oneness) and union with The Lord Jesus Christ; on another hand The God's determined will for a persistently, godly, daily walk and on another hand with the necessary armor with which the disciple-saints are to clothe themselves to be able to standfast strongly against the wiles of the Devil and his evil forces of various sorts of fallen spirit-beings. In addition to these two important doctrines, the following were further expanded or introduced throughout this Epistle: the determined will of The God; the sealing ministry of The Holy Spirit; the completion of Redemption when the glorified body shall acclaim His glory; the dead condition of all sons of the disobedience three dispensations {periods of time under The God's Redemption administration}: Dispensation of The Fullness of Times of The Gentiles, The Dispensation of The Grace of The God, and The Dispensation of The Mystery; and four more Mysteries to that which was previously noted: The Mystery of His Determined Will, The Mystery of The Christ, The Great Mystery of Christ and The Church, and The Mystery of The Gospel, also The God's purpose and plan in providing redemption; and method of revealing His mysteries to the world, angels, and all created beings; and The God's determined will for every saint is a persistently, godly, daily walk, and the persistent stand and withstanding in warfare by every disciple-saint of The God. Finally, Paul made it very clear that the warfare of the true child of The God, who is a summoned disciple-saint is on the spiritual level and not on a flesh and blood level, nor on a social level, nor on a moral level, nor on a legal level, and not a political level, nor even on a religious level. But on the contrary, our warfare is spiritual. So often those claiming to be Christian, succumb to the trap and wile of the Devil, which is to get involved in battle on one or more of these other levels: religious, social, moral, legal, or political, all of which are aspects of flesh and blood warfare. A warfare on these other levels shall result to the detriment of our intricate relationship with our Blessed Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ as well as hindering the effect of The Gospel in the Salvation of souls.

<u>In Kohlohs-sah-eh-ĉes</u> Paul emphatically stated that the spread of The Gospel extended to bearing fruit in the whole world (1:6), but more it was proclaimed to every creature under heaven (1:23). This was accomplished by late mid A.D. 62, the time when this Epistle was written. This could only be accomplished by the precise obedience to The Lord Jesus Christ's third and fourth commandments (Mk 16:15; Mt. 28:16-20) by every regenerated disciple's enthusiastic participation in discipleship by training as disciples, and in turn, training others to become disciples and then disciple others. Next Paul reemphasized Christology: The Lord Jesus Christ is The Glorified Head of The Church, which is His Body: He also is The Preeminent One, absolutely preeminent in the sphere of all things (1:18). Paul's aim should be the aim of every disciple saint, that is to present every human perfectly complete in union with The Lord Jesus Christ at The Báymah Seat judgment immediately after The Rapture of His Church (1:28). Then Paul exhorted this local church to deal positively with seven heresies that threatened to destroy the union with The Lord Jesus Christ that the saints had initially experienced. These were: Jewish festivals, new moon and Sabbath observance (2:16); angelology, gnosticism, asceticism, will-worship, prohibition of normal body ingestion and abuse thereof, elements of the world: spirits, philosophy, vain deceit, and dogmas according to the commands and teachings of humans, and exclusivism. Then in light of the fact of the glorification of the saints at Christ's coming again is displayed (3.4), the readers are commanded to persistently mind the things above and not on things upon Earth and to put to death their body members, which were previously serving in union with sins as sons of disobedience, by stripping off the old human with his practices and clothe themselves at once with The New Human (3:2-12). Finally, the fact that there were two other churches established and existing in southeast Asia in addition to this one in Kohlohssaí (Colossæ) being ministered to by Ahr-khéepohs (Archippus), one in Lah-ohdee-keh-éeah (Laodicea) meeting in the house of Numfáhs (Nymphas) and the other in Hee-ehráhpohlees (Hierapolis). While in Feeláymohn (Philemon), it is disclosed that the saints at Kohlohssaí (Colossæ) met in the house of Feeláymohn (vs. 1,2) and that Ohnáyseemohs belonged to Feeláymohn as a runaway bondslave. For some reason he was imprisoned in Rome and converted under Paul's prison ministry and began to serve Paul domestically in the bonds of The Gospel in union with The Lord Jesus Christ (10-16). Ohnáyseemohs was sent back to Feeláymohn by means of Tukh-eekóhs (Tychicus) with this epistle (Col. 4:7-9). This Epistle exemplifies and applies the doctrine of imputation to the lives of the regenerated-disciple saints both in Paul's life and throughout the remaining time until The Second Coming of The Lord Jesus Christ.

Then in **Filippá** Then in **Filippáysious** (Philippians) The God revealed Himself as gracious, loving, righteous, and forgiving so that anywhere with Him <u>vsious</u> (Philippians) The God revealed Himself as gracious, loving, righteous, and forgiving so that anywhere with Him is joy unspeakable, even in prison. Three of the seven means of Fellowship (κοινωνία (koinōnéeah) in Scripture are emphasized: Fellowship

in Spirit (2:1-3), Fellowship with His Sufferings (3:10), and Fellowship in The Gospel (1:5; 4:14-19). Paul explained and Fellowship in The Gospel. He referred to the local church's on -going relationship with her missionary in both giving and receiving both financially and in prayer and communication as God's method of provision for His bondslaves serving as pastors, qualified teachers, and commissioned missionaries involved in evangelizing, discipling, and then baptizing those who are discipled, and congregating them into local churches, while trusting and looking to The Lord God alone to meet all needs was revealed and explained. He also referred to this Fellowship as "the public-ministry $\{\lambda \epsilon \iota \tau \circ \nu \rho \gamma (\alpha s) (leh-eetour-géeahs) of the local church" (2:29,30). Then how the race of Faith is to be run: with eyes upon the goal persistently pursue the prize of our vocation by concentrating the mind upon The Lord Jesus Christ and persistently mind the same thing as others who are more mature are continually walking orderly in file with the same rule of conduct (3:13-17).$

In Hebrews The God revealed that He has exalted Christ better than angels and all human systems and heroes through Whom He has provided Eternal Redemption. The Christ has performed and perfectly completely fulfilled all the qualifications absolutely necessary to become The Originator (Captain or Author or Chief Military Leader or Prince) of The Salvation of ours (2:8-10,14-17; 4:14-16), and through obedience became Causer of Eternal Salvation and Great High Priest after the order of **Mehlkhee-sehdéhk** (5:5-10; 7:17, 21), and both Guarantor and Mediator of a better Covenant (7:22; 8:6; 9:15 APT). And since He Established the New Covenant, He has Made the first obsolete (8:13; 10:9). By offering His own blood on the Mercyseat in The Holy Place He secured forgiveness of sins and Eternal ransoming (the transaction of payment of the ransom price for all once forever (9:11-15, 22-26). Since The Lord Jesus Christ performed and continues to perform all the mediations of The Great High Priest through His high priestly ministry with all its implications, The Only Way directly to The God is open and accessible through Christ by faith (10:19-23). Then Paul listed a register of the cloud of witnesses summarizing the Heroes of The Faith of The Old Testament (11:1-12:1). Then he likened the life of Faith as a race run with our eyes upon The Originator and perfecter of The Faith who patiently endured crucifixion, who promised with two triple negatives to assure us his faithfulness unto the absolute end (13:5). He ended his treatise to Hebrews with statements of encouragement, exhortation, injunction, warning, entreaty, and salutation (13:1-25).

Then in 1 Timothy The God reveals the one mediator between God and man, the place of the women in the church, the means of fulfilling her desire, the qualifications for selection and operation for governing officers of the local church and behavior toward and financial care of them, behavior in The Church both worldwide and local, disciplinary action toward those openly and obviously sinning and toward anyone teaching a different doctrine, and the care of widows and behavior of bondslaves and their masters. The church is God's instrument for expounding Truth.. In Téetohs (Titus), supplemental qualifications and responsibilities of elders and those saints of three age groups in The Church were stated. Then Téetohs was exhorted to teach the saints that every age group is to display 'the saving grace of The God' through their example. Paul explained the reason and the means of doing this as well as the principle of spiritual growth and the practice of discipleship. Then Paul laid special emphasis upon dealing with human heretics by avoiding and refusing to fellowship with them and stated three reasons for such severe action, all of which we do well to heed and practice. The Holiness of God is strongly emphasized and conformity to it by His people is expected. Such conformity possibly (most likely) will result in suffering for Christ, or for a godly life. Such suffering glorifies The God.

In 2 Timothy The God reveals in the first place that although things are looking dark in the spiritual realm and becoming more difficult, oppressive, and frightful to those who are adhering closely to The Faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, be reminded of the grace-gift of The God and His miraculous power and love, and never be ashamed one bit of The Lord when suffering hardship. Nor be ashamed not one bit of other bondslave-disciples who suffer hardship (1:6-12) and you yourself suffer hardship as an intrinsically as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. Then Paul gave a description of a Lord's bondslave (2:24-26). He also gave a description of the behavior of the humans in the ferocious seasons of time in the last days (3:1-7) and wicked humans and wizards progressing worse and worse, persistently misleading and persistently being led astray (3:13). Also Paul added information concerning Inspiration of all Scripture (3:16,17). An added fact pertaining to the coming season of time when humans shall not forbear teaching of sound doctrine, on the contrary they shall heap up upon themselves teachers that tickle the ears of the hears according to their lusts which shall turn them away from The Truth to myths (4:3,4). Then Paul gave his testimony concerning his life's work in The Faith and introduced the Victor's Crown which he expected to receive from The Lord, The Righteous Judge in That (Judgment of saints) Day (4:6-8). After giving a personal report concerning his fellow-workers, some of which forsook Him, and of (John) Mark who, after starting out to serve The Lord but defected and years later was converted and regenerated to become a profitable bond-slave of Jesus Christ in domestic service (4:11 cf. Acts 12:25; 13:5,13; 15:37;38). Then Paul reminded Timothy and warned him of Alexander who thrust himself away from the faith and became shipwrecked concerning the faith (1 Tim. 1:19,20) but had further exemplified many evils against Paul and shall be repaid according to his works (4:14,14 as every human shall. Finally, before closing his Epistle, Paul indicated His expectation that The Lord shall rescue him from every wicked work and shall save him for His Celestial Kingdom.

In 1 Peter the fact that the regenerated disciple-saints are regarded by The God as elect pilgrims scattered abroad unto an incorruptible, unpolluted, and unfading inheritance standing-kept-watchfully-secure in Heaven and securely protected by The God's miraculous power (1:3-5). Additionally the inspiration of prophetic prophecy of The Old Testament Scriptures in regard to The Christ was validated as inspired by The Holy Spirit (1:10-12). The Holiness of God is strongly emphasized and conformity to it by His people is expected (1:15,16). Such conformity possibly (most likely will) result in suffering for Christ, or for a godly life. Such suffering glorifies The God and culminates in the glory of The God which will be shared with those who suffer properly (3:14; 4:14). Household servants (employees), wives, husbands are explored to demonstrate proper behavior and conduct of life and admonished to endure suffering while performing righteous acts with The Christ as The Prototype whose footsteps we are to follow (2:19-23; 3:13-17; 4:1,2; 4:12-19). The Truth concerning final judgment of every human, whether regenerated or still in one's sins, is reinforced (4:5-19). Special admonition to those men serving The Lord as elders is introduced and the reward of the unfading Victor's Crown of Glory is noted. Peter reaffirms the necessity to be ever on guard for our adversary, The Devil (5:7-9). Now in Jude emphasis on recognizing Apostasy and intensely agonizing to combat it is stressed to the bondslave-disciple-saints of The Lord Jesus Christ. This solemn and earnest warning has not been heeded consistently and faithfully but The Church and its saints throughout the years so that it is more serious, widespread, and damaging to The Church and The True Gospel of The Christ in these later years and is progressively increasing and more damaging as we near the imminent Return of The Lord Jesus in the air for His Church. Jude has cited three examples of the different kinds of apostasy: immorality polluting the flesh (vs.6-8a cf. Gen. 1-25); rebellion and blasphemy against The God after serving Him (vs. 8b-10); and hatred and murder (v. 11a cf. Gen. 4:3-6); preaching and prophesying for remuneration (v. 11b cf. Num. 22:1-25:1), and contradiction against a bondslave servant of The LORD (v. 11c cf. Num. 16:1-35). They participate in The Lord's Supper and church suppers, pasturing together with the saints by listening to The God's Word with them, but never maturing in Christ. Rather they are ever living in thick darkness, never bearing fruit {neither the fruit of The Spirit (Gal. 5:22) nor the fruit of reproduction by leading souls to The Lord Jesus Christ and then discipling and nurturing them to full maturity for The God thereby increasing The Body of The Christ (Eph, 4:13-16)}. Jude also revealed an historical Truth not pervious recorded in Scripture that Enoch, who pleased and walked with The God for three hundred years and did not die but was translated into Heaven (Gen. 5:22-24 cf. Heb. 11:5) prophesied of The Lord Jesus Christ's coming back to Earth with myriads {en thousands} of His saints to execute judgment against all {genitive plural thus indicating all people, all places and all things} (v. 14). Further Jude reemphasized the declared teachings of the apostles concerning the last period of time, that mockers, sensual ones according to their own passionate lusts of ungodliness shall be continually journeying through life while causing divisions {by making followers of themselves} (vs. 18,19). Finally,

Jude declared that The God is continually able to guardedly protect us free from stumbling [tripping] Christ. Finally, Peter revealed that those who wrest or wrench The Scriptures do so to their own destruction because "they are untrained as disciples" (3:16).

DISCUSSION:

	1. What can be said about those who claim to be Bible Scholars and yet deny and or question that the writer of 2 Peter is the apostle Peter, who himself clarified that Scriptural inspiration of the writers of Scripture were controlled by the Holy Spirit (1:19-21)?
	2. What is the twofold purpose for Peter to write The Second Epistle to the disbursed Hebrews in Asia Minor ?
	3. What is the seven-fold exhortation to redeemed saints by Peter in this Second Epistle? (Give reference in 2 Peter).
	a. b.
	c. d.
	e. f.
	g.
	4. What is the name of the deepest hell where the sinning angels are being securely guarded in deep darkness (2:4 APT)?
	5. Why are some mockers claiming that The Lord is slack concerning His promise? What is the Scriptural answer to the challenge (3:3,4,9)?
	6. What reference is made to lack of training in discipleship in 2 Peter? (3:15-17 APT)
A	PPLICATION: What changes will you make beginning today to abundantly supply in the seven areas of your spiritual life in Peter's appeal to disciple-bondslave saints (2 Peter 1:5-8 APT please read again)?