



Precious Promises (II Peter 1:1-4)

Peter's Last Will and Testament

Introduction:

Author: Peter, a simple fisherman

Audience: All Believers

Timeframe: Close to his death

Content: The most important things he could tell someone

Reason: Remind them of what they already know

Construction: Three Chapters; 61 Verses; 1514 Words

Main Premise: The path to true discipleship and the roadblocks to getting there!

Highlights:

The foundation everything is built on: Free Faith

The only way to obtain that faith: The righteousness of Christ

Six Precious Promises: Divine Power; We have everything we need for a Godly life; Participate in the divine nature; Escape the corruption in the world; Neither barren or unfruitful; Abundant entrance into the Kingdom

Seven things you must add to your free faith if you want all the promises. This is NOT FREE! Virtue, Knowledge, Self Control, Perseverance, Godliness, Brotherly Love, Love

The one thing that will block you from receiving God's promises and partaking in the divine nature: Forgetting you have already been cleansed from your past sins.

II Peter is: A prophetic word confirmed; A warning against bad doctrine, false teachers, and false prophets; A reminder to be steadfast and patient; An affirmation that Paul taught all the same things, albeit in a much more complex and confusing fashion. (The simple fisherman vs. the Torah scholar!)

It all starts with FREE FAITH!

“Simon Peter, a **bondservant** and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have obtained **like precious faith** with us **by the righteousness** of our God and Savior Jesus Christ: **Grace and peace** be multiplied

to you in the **knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord**, as His **divine power** has given to us **all things that pertain to life and godliness**, through the **knowledge of Him** who called us by **glory** and **virtue**, by which have been given to us **exceedingly great and precious promises**, that through these you may be **partakers of the divine nature**, having **escaped the corruption** that is in the world through lust." II Peter 1:1-4 NKJV

II Peter 1:1-4

☑ *"Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have obtained **like precious faith** with us **by the righteousness** of our God and Savior **Jesus Christ**:" II Peter 1:1 NKJV*

☑ Like Precious Faith

☑ There is only one type of faith that can redeem you and that is the same faith that Peter had. When he says that he is addressing those who have that redeeming faith and who obtained that faith like he did, he is thereby addressing all believers and only believers!

☑ **Faith is...** "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen... But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder

of those who diligently seek Him.” Hebrews 11:1, 6
NKJV

☑ **Saved by...** “**And you He made alive, who were dead** in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. **But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),** and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. **For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,** not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God

prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”

Ephesians 2:1-10 NKJV

- ☑ **You are the Christ—flesh and blood has not revealed this to you:** “When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, **“Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?”** So they said, “Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, **“But who do you say that I am?”** Simon Peter answered and said, **“You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”** Jesus answered and said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for **flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.** And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then He commanded His disciples that they should tell no one that He was Jesus the Christ.” Matthew 16:13-20 NKJV

- ☑ **Through the Righteousness of Christ—and NO other way!**

- ☑ **Christ is God's righteousness:** "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved. For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, **but not according to knowledge.** For they being **ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness,** have not submitted to the **righteousness of God.** For **Christ is the end [goal]** of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes." Romans 10:1-4 NKJV
- ☑ **We are in Christ who is our righteousness and sanctification and redemption:** "But of Him you are **in Christ Jesus, who became for us** wisdom from God—**and righteousness and sanctification and redemption**— that, as it is written, "He who glories, let him glory in the LORD."" I Corinthians 1:30-31 NKJV
- ☑ **We become the righteousness of God in Christ!** "Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, **be reconciled to God.** For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, **that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.**" II Corinthians 5:20-21 NKJV

☑ *“Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the **knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord,**” II Peter 1:2 NKJV*

☑ **Knowledge of Yahweh and Y’shua**

☑ **Knowledge by Revelation:** “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has **blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,** just as He chose us **in Him** before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to **adoption as sons** by Jesus Christ to Himself, **according to the good pleasure of His will,** to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved. **In Him** we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence, having made known to us the mystery of **His will,** according to **His good pleasure** which **He purposed** in Himself, that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—**in Him. In Him** also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose **of Him** who works all things according to the counsel of **His will,** that

we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory. **In Him** you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory. Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, **may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know** what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,” Ephesians 1:3-18 NKJV

- ☑ **Knowledge of your New Identity:** “Therefore **remember** that you, once Gentiles in the flesh—who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands—that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. **But now in Christ Jesus**

you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.” Ephesians 2:11-13 NKJV

☑ *“as His **divine power** has given to us **all things that pertain to life and godliness**, through the knowledge of Him who **called us by glory and virtue**,” II Peter 1:3 NKJV*

☑ **Divine Power**

☑ **Continuing in Ephesians 1—what is this DIVINE POWER that we have access to?** “and what is the **exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe**, according to the working of His **mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead** and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.” Ephesians 1:19-23 NKJV

☑ **He resurrected by divine power, and so have you!** “What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? **Or do you not know that as**

many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, **knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.** For he who has died has been freed from sin. Now **if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him,** knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him. For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. **Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”** Romans 6:1-11
NKJV

All things that pertain to life and godliness

- All your needs!** “But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at last your care for me has flourished again; though you surely did care, but you lacked opportunity. Not that

I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. **I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.** Nevertheless you have done well that you shared in my distress. Now you Philippians know also that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church shared with me concerning giving and receiving but you only. For even in Thessalonica you sent aid once and again for my necessities. **Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account.** Indeed I have all and abound. I am full, having received from Epaphroditus the things sent from you, a **sweet-smelling aroma, an acceptable sacrifice**, well pleasing to God. **And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.** Now to our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen." Philippians 4:10-20 NKJV

- ☑ **Exercise yourself toward godliness:** "If you instruct the brethren **in these things**, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully followed. But

reject profane and old wives' fables, and **exercise yourself toward godliness**. For bodily exercise profits a little, but **godliness is profitable for all things**, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come. This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance." I Timothy 4:6-9 NKJV

☑ **Freely gives us all things:** "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also **freely give us all things?**" Romans 8:31-32 NKJV

☑ **Exceedingly abundantly above:** "Now to Him who is able to do **exceedingly abundantly above** all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen." Ephesians 3:20-21 NKJV

☑ **Sufficiency in all things:** "And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all **sufficiency in all things**, may have an **abundance** for every good work." II Corinthians 9:8 NKJV

☑ **Called by glory and virtue**

☑ **Our Glory the Lord of Glory!** "But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God

ordained before the ages for **our glory**, which none of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known, they would not have crucified **the Lord of glory.**" I Corinthians 2:7-8 NKJV

- ☑ **Glorified together:** "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are **children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ**, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be **glorified together.**" Romans 8:14-17 NKJV

- ☑ *"by which have been given to us **exceedingly great and precious promises**, that through these you may be **partakers of the divine nature**, having **escaped the corruption** that is in the world through lust." II Peter 1:4 NKJV*

- ☑ **Exceedingly great and Precious Promises**

- ☑ **In II Peter 1:1-11—Six Precious Promises:** Divine Power; We have everything we need for a Godly life; Participate in the divine nature; Escape the corruption in the world;

Neither Barren or unfruitful; Abundant entrance into the Kingdom

- ☑ **Partakers in the divine nature—and that nature is...**
- ☑ **If you've see me you've seen the Father (His divine nature):** "Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? **He who has seen Me has seen the Father;** so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'? **Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me?** The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works. Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves." John 14:9-11 NKJV
- ☑ **God is Love:** "Beloved, let us love one another, for love is **of God;** and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, for **God is love.** In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. **In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us** and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. **No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another,**

God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son as Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, **God abides in him, and he in God. And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.** Love has been **perfected among us** in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world. **There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear**, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love. **We love Him because He first loved us.** If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen? And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God must love his brother also." I John 4:7-21 NKJV

- ☑ **God is love and love is...** "Love **suffers long** and is **kind**; love **does not envy**; love **does not parade itself**, is **not puffed up**; does **not behave rudely**, **does not seek its own**, is **not provoked**, **thinks no evil**; **does not rejoice in**

iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never fails. But whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away.” I

Corinthians 13:4-8 NKJV

☑ [For a great series of devotions about love, See [Suffer Well Devotion](#) #'s 155-171]

☑ **Escape corruption that in the words (lust)**

☑ **Escape Lust!** “Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. **No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man;** but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, **but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.**” I Corinthians 10:12-13 NKJV

☑ **Don't be deceived—when you are off track it is because you are being drawn away by your own desires!** “Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him. **Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am tempted by God”;** for God cannot be tempted by

evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. **But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.** Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death." James 1:12-15 NKJV

☑ **Selfish Desires:** "Where do wars and fights come from among you? **Do they not come from your desires for pleasure** that war in your members? You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask. **You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures.**"

James 4:1-3 NKJV

NEXT WEEK

The Path to the Divine Nature (II Peter 1:5-15)