



Outline of 2 Peter | Adapted from Warren Wiersbe

1. The gift of spiritual knowledge	1:1-4
2. The growth in spiritual knowledge	1:5-11
3. The ground of spiritual knowledge	1:12-21
4. False teachers and their condemnation	2:1-9
5. False teachers and their character	2:10-17
6. False teachers and their claims	2:18-22
7. The true believer is to be mindful	3:1-7
8. The true believer is not to be ignorant	3:8-10
9. The true believer is to be diligent	3:11-14
10. The true believer is to beware	3:15-17
11. The true believer is to be mature	3:18

- **1 Peter** was written to encourage suffering Christians and consists of five chapters.
- **2 Peter** was written to expose false teachers and consists of three chapters.

2 Peter 1:13-14 *Yes, I think it is right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by reminding you, ¹⁴ knowing that shortly I must put off my tent, just as our Lord Jesus Christ showed me.*

2 Peter 3:18 *but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen.*

2 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: ² Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, ³ 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, ⁴ 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.*

Our security for eternal life is in our identity in Christ, *not* in our behavior. However, Peter writes that our behavior is what assures us that our faith has been placed in Christ.

2 Peter 1:5-11 *But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, ⁶ to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, ⁷ to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. ⁸ For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins. ¹⁰ Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; ¹¹ for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*

“While union (our position) with Christ is something that does not ebb and flow, one’s experience of communion (fellowship) with Christ can fluctuate... **When a believer grows comfortable with sin**, this invariably affects the level of intimacy this person feels with God. It is **not that the Father’s love grows and diminishes** for his children in accordance to their actions... Sin tends to isolate the believer, making him **feel** distant from God. Then comes the accusations - both from Satan and self.” John Owen (1616-1683)

“While a saint’s consistency in prayer, corporate worship, and biblical meditation are not things that make God love us more or less, such activities tend to foster the **beautiful experience of communion with God**. Giving in to temptations and neglecting devotion to God threaten the **communion but not the union**. And it is this **union** which encourages the believer to turn from sin and to the God who is quick to forgive, abounding in compassion, and faithful in his unending love.” John Owen

“**Making God’s love contingent on our action** is a sad but common misunderstanding in the church. Remember, a believer’s union is never in jeopardy. For God’s love can never be heightened by any act of ours, and cannot be lessened by anything in us. While **our sense of communion with God** may fluctuate, **his love does not grow and diminish**. The **wrath of God against the sin of saints was exhausted on the cross**.” John Owen

Salvation begins with justification and includes sanctification and glorification. If salvation took us immediately into glorification, we would *not* struggle with sin.

What does spiritual maturity look like?

1. Our concern for others outweighs our concern for ourselves.
2. We detect the presence of sin or danger before it is obvious.
3. We have wisdom and understanding as well as knowledge.
4. We have the discipline to carry out that which is right to do.
5. Our emotions are not the determining factor of our decisions.
6. Our awareness of needs is matched by our involvement to help.
7. We are willing to change regardless of the effort needed.
8. We pray and study God’s Word consistently.
9. We are willing to admit and confess all our sins quickly.
10. We choose friends that protect and help in our walk of Christ.
11. **To know, love, and serve Christ is priority #1.**

Philippians 2:3-4

Proverbs 22:3

Psalms 111:10

James 1:22

Eccl. 12:13, Matt 7:24

Galatians 6:9-10

James 1:22-27

1 Tim. 2:15, 2 Tim. 3:16

1 John 1:1-10

Proverbs 13:20

Matthew 6:33, 22:37-40

Hebrews 5:12-14 *For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food.*

¹³ *For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe.*

¹⁴ *But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.*

6.30.19 | Join us for an informational meeting about our November **2020 Holy Land Trip**. This meeting will be held in the chapel immediately after AM service.

6:30.19 | Cook-out with the Pastor – **5:30PM** in Worship Center (cookout, fellowship, and games)