

2 Peter 1-3 notes .

The Epistle: 2 Peter was written to the same bre. and sis. as 1 Peter- see 2 Pet 3v1 “2nd epistle”. 1 Peter was written to encourage the Jewish bre. and sis. in the area of northern Turkey (1 Pet 1v1). Nero would blame the Christians for the fire of Rome. Because of this they would shortly face a martyrdom by “fiery trials” 4v12, 1v7 & by “roaring lion”’s 5v8 at the hand of Nero’s men. 2 Peter was however written to warn the same bre and sis of a **more dangerous trial** - false teachers and leaders (2v1) who would call on them to follow their “pernicious ways” (2v2).

The Author: The author was clearly the apostle Peter, who -

- 1). wrote both epistles (3v1),
 - 2). was an apostle (1v1,3v2),
 - 3). witnessed the transfiguration (1v17-18, citing from Mat 17v5),
 - 4). died a martyr (1v14, predicted Jhn 21v18-19),
- so 1v1 is certainly true - “Simon Peter” wrote it.

The Time: 1 Peter was written about the time when Nero burnt Rome, blaming it on the Christians – this was AD60. 2 Peter was written very shortly afterwards in AD65-67 just before Peter was martyred in AD68 and when the “day of the Lord” (AD70) was very near 3v7,10,12.

The Theme: 2 Peter contains a warning in almost every verse! It was a call to refuse the apostasy and to (3v1) “stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance” of the pure, sound basis of faith laid by the apostles.

The Message Found In The Key Words: (different Gk words below with similar meanings)

- 1). “**knowledge**” 15x: ‘epignosis’ 1v2,3,8,2v20, ‘gnosis’ 1v5,6,3v18, ‘oida’ 1v12,14,2v9, ‘ginosko’ 2x, ‘epiginosko’ 1x, ‘gnorizo’ 1x
 - 2). “**godliness**” 12x: ‘hagios’ 1v18,21,21,2v21, 3v2,11, ‘eusebeia’ 1v3,6,7 3v11, ‘eusebes’ 2v9, ‘katharismos’ 1v9.
 - 3). “**destruction**” 8x: ‘apullumi’ 3v6,9, ‘apolia’ 2v1,1,2,3,3v7,16.
 - 4). “**endeavour**” or “**diligence**” 5x: ‘spoude’ 1v5,10, ‘spoudazo’ 1v15, 3v14, ‘pseudo’ 3v12.
- These words teach that – a sound **knowledge** of God’s ways, manifest in a life of **godliness** will avoid **destruction**, provided we pursue that godliness with zeal or **diligence**.

Chptr 1: Give Diligence To Make Your Calling and Election Sure.

The Purpose of a Full Knowledge of God, 1v1-4. (Epignosis Defined)

The key point he wishes to make is that when the Truth comes under challenge, the only answer for us is to have a clear and exact knowledge (Gk “epignosis”) of the God’s ways.

1v1. “Simon Peter” (Hebrew and Greek names – echo of the 2nd Key – salvation to the Jew and Gentile) = “**hearing rock**”. We too must be ‘hearing rocks’ that accept God’s Word and become like Christ, the foundation stone [different word “lithos” = ‘stone’ used 1 Pet 2v4,5,6,7,8].

“**servant**” = Gk. “doulos” = ‘bond slave’ i.e. one who submerges his will in that of his master’s. Ex 21v5-6 shows a slave must give his ear to his master at all times.

“**apostle**” = ‘one sent’ to do and go whatsoever and wheresoever his master commands.

“**obtained**” = (Vines) ‘obtained by lot’ – not by works but by grace. Wey “To those whom have been allotted the same precious faith as that which is ours”. So to have Peter’s faith we also must be moved by God’s words.

“**through**” Gk. “en” = ‘in’.

1v2-4 is the customary benediction.

1v2. “grace” = ‘unmerited Divine favour’ (found in the introduction to all N.T. epistles except Hebrews, James, 1 and 3 John). God doesn’t have to extend grace to us, but without it we would not find a place in the kingdom.

But it is important to note, this is **“through the knowledge”** Gk. “epignosis”=‘full and exact knowledge’ (used also 1v3,8, 2v20) of God and His son (**Jhn17v3** .“gnosis”).

1v3. “According” RV “seeing that” - this connects the ideas from v1-2 to v3.

“power” Gk. “dunamos” from which we get 'dynamo'. The **“knowledge”** Gk. “epignosis” of God should move us like a dynamo in the work of the Truth. This knowledge called us by Christ's (resurrectional) **“glory and (moral) virtue”** to the Truth (see -1 Pet 2v9).

1v4. So we inherit the **“exceeding great and precious promises”** by this way, which leads to knowledge.

“escaped the corruption” means to flee the moral or physical corruption.

“world”= “kosmos”=‘order of things’. We must flee this 'order of things' because its moral corruption can overcome us and that can lead to our spiritual death.

How To Manifest Christ's Ways 1v5-11. (Epignosis Applied)

1v5. “besides this” Roth, Moffat, RV 'for this very reason' i.e. To escape moral corruption that leads to physical corruption.

“give all diligence” Jer.B. “You have to do your utmost yourselves”- not be half hearted.

“add”=‘furnish’ a room-once empty and barren. This requires **8 steps** with **seven qualities** built on faith (so the numbers speak of a **new beginning** which when accomplished is perfect) :-

1. **“virtue”**=‘moral excellence’.

2. **“knowledge”**=Gk.'gnosis'='seeking to know' more. So having developed a faith in the first principles he is determined to grow in the knowledge of God's Word.

1v6.

3. **“temperance”**=Gk.'enkrateia'=RSVmg, Wey, 'self control'

4. **“patience”**=Gk.'hupomone'=(Bull) 'bear up under' i.e face trial knowing that it is according to God's will and designed for our betterment.

5. **“godliness”**=Gk.'eusebia'= an attitude which shows a reverence for God and His ways.

1v7.

6. **“kindness”**=Gk.'philadelphos'='phileo love of the brethren' – an affectionate loving care for our brethren and sisters.

7. **“charity”**=Gk.'agape'='a profound respect based on knowledge and manifest in self denial'.

1v8. “in you” - i.e. as part of our character.

“abound”= Gk.pleonazo Vine 'superabound', then we will **“neither barren”**=‘yield no return’ because of inactivity.

“in”= Gk. 'eius'='towards' manifesting the full qualities of Christ that we have learnt about.

1v9. “blind”- one lacking these is like the Laodiceans in **Rev3v17** - spiritually **“blind and naked”**.

“forgotten”- if we stop developing in the Word , we will quickly forget our privileged position and could end up following the apostates of **Ch 2**.

1v10. “Wherefore” i.e. To avoid this blindness and forgetfulness.

“give diligence”= (Bull) 'make haste', 'do the utmost'.

1v11. “ministered”- same word v5 = (Bull) 'furnished abundantly', 'super add'.

Determination To Develop a Full Knowledge Of Christ 1v12-15. (Epignosis Established)

Peter never forgot his role as a shepherd (**John 21**) and determined to always give his brethren and sisters the best guidance he could give.

1v12. Jer.B. “*That is why I am continually recalling the same truths to you*”. This is the quality of a good shepherd.

“***even thou***” - these truths are vital for our spiritual survival.

1v13. Jer.B. *'it is my duty --- to keep stirring you up with reminders'*

1v14. “*shortly*” - tradition has it that he died **AD 68** & **2 Peter** was written just before in **AD65-67**.

“***Christ hath showed***” **John 21v18-19** “*signifying by what death he should glorify God*”.

1v15. “*I will endeavour*” Nestles “*give diligence also always to have you*” ----.

Peter achieved this by being the source of information for the Gospel of Mark which they were to be sent.

The Authenticity and Reliability Of God's Revelations 1v16-21 (*Epignosis Confirmed*).

Peter states that the revelation **1)**. on the Mt of Transfiguration **v16-18** and **2)**. from the prophets of old **v19-21** is certain proof of the veracity of God's Word.

1v16. “*cunningly devised fables*” **Gk** “*myphos*” **JerB mg** “*myths that have been cleverly devised*”.

“***power and coming***” **Gk** “*dunamos parousia*”; “*parousia*”=‘being with’ i.e. ‘presence’.

“***eye witness***” **JerB** ‘*saw them for ourselves*’ – he knew it to be true.

“***majesty***” - the prophets (Elijah) and the Law (Moses) met in Christ.

1v17. “*received from God honour and glory---voice*” - he was not just **morally** excellent but in the Transfiguration he was portrayed as having **physical** glory.

“***my beloved son --- pleased***” - an allusion to **Gen 22v2** and **Psa 2v7**.

1v18. “*from heaven*” **Mat 17v5** “*a bright cloud---a voice out of the cloud*” - like from the Shekinah glory that filled the Holiest.

“***holy mount***” - Mt Hermon, but was not named, as they prob. knew it as the mt. of transfiguration.

1v19. “*more sure*” - **Diag.** “*more confirmed*”. **Jer.B. mg** says this is a preliminary glimpse of scriptural prophecy being fulfilled.

“***take heed***” (**Bull**) =‘pay attention to’.

“***light***” = **Gk.** “*lucknos*”=‘portable lamp’ illuminating the pilgrim in his walk through this wilderness.

“***day star arise***” = **Gk.** “*phosphorus*”, used in **Rev 22v16** of Christ. **Jer.B.** “*until the dawn comes*” with Christ's return, see - **Mal 4v2**.

“***in your hearts***” - where the still small voice of the Word works, see – **Is 40v2 mg.**

1v20. “*Knowing this first*” = **Wey.** “*above all remember*”.

“***private interpretation***” = **RR** ‘*private origination*’, **Amp.B.** “*no prophecy ever originated because some man willed it*” – see **Num 24v13** “*If Balak would give me his house full of silver and gold, I cannot go beyond, but what the LORD saith, that will I speak?*”.

1v21. “*moved*”=**Gk.** “*phero*”=‘borne along’, (**Bull**)‘bear along’.

Symbols used: **Gk.**=Greek, **Bull**=Bullinger, **Wey**=Weymouth, **JerB**=Jerusalem Bible, **Roth**=Rotherhams, **Amp.B**=Amplified Bible, **Diag**=Diaglot, **RSV**=Revised Standard Version, **RV**=Revised Version.

2 Peter 2 notes .

Apostasy: the Peril of the Last Days.

Peter's Aim: to “stir up” 1v13 with the gospel, 3v1 using this epistle.

Chptr 2: The destructive Influence Of False Teachers.

A falling away was predicted by Christ Mat 7v15,20, 24v4-5,v11-12 and Paul Acts 20v28-31.

1. The Coming Of False Prophets, 2v1-3. (Apostasy Foretold)

2v1. “But” These prophets were apostate and a stark contrast to those in 1v19-21.

“there were”-there were false prophets in the past - see Deut 13v1-2, 18v20.

“false prophets” Gk 'pseudoprophetai' falsely prophesying a) for popularity Jer 6v14, Ez 13v16, b).personal gain Mic 3v11, 1Tim 6v5, c).immoral reasons Is 28v7, Jer 23v14,32, and so being led away many from God Deut 13.

“even as there shall be” As predicted by Christ (Mat 7+24) and Paul (Acts 20 etc).

“privily bring in” Wey “cunningly introduce”.

“damnable heresies” Lit. “heresies of destruction”.

“Lord” Gk 'despoten'='absolute monarch' i.e Jude relates this to God manifest in Christ, so they denied God manifestation.

“swift destruction” TCNT “speedy ruin”.

2v2. “many” – ‘many’ perished in the wilderness I Cor 10v5 as in 1v16.

“follow” – note the contrast 1v16. these followed false shepherds Mat 7v15.

“pernicious ways” Gk 'apoleia' =(Bull) 'destructive'. Other mss “asegeia”=RSV “licentiousness”. [note: wrong doctrine leads to wrong practice].

“evil spoken of” Gk 'blasphemo'. JerB “brought into disrepute”.

2v3. “through covetousness” Gk 'pleonexia'='desire to have more' in goods, gain, importance, advantage.

“with feigned words” Gk 'plasteis'=(Bull) 'fashioned as by a potter', 'fabricated words'.

(Barclay) 'cunningly forged arguments'- like plastic. They were molding the ecclesia into their own ways.

“merchandise”=(Bull)'to travel for business' hence 'cheat' – move around to peddle their wares as the Canaanites or Rome today Rev 18v13.

“judgment --- not” JerB “the condemnation pronounced so long ago is at its work already”- pronounced in Deut 13v1-5, 18v20, at work already - see 2v4-6 etc..

“their damnation” Nestles “destruction of them slumbers not”.

“slumbers not”- God never slumbers Ps 121v3-4.

2. Divine Judgment Upon The Apostates Vv4-9. (Apostasy Condemned).

A. Human Pride Judged v4

2v4. “the angels”- no definite article - Gk 'aggelos' often used of men Mat 11v10, Mk 1v2, Lk 7v24,27, 9v52, James 2v25. Here it was Korah, Dathan + Abiram of Num 16, who were discontented and moved by pride they rebelled against Moses and Yahweh.

“hell” Gk 'tartaroo' used only this once in NT. (Note however Jude v6).

“chains of darkness” Roth, Nestles “pits of gloom”; earth opened up Num16v29-32.

“reserved into judgment” Nestles 'to judgment being kept' – see Mat 8v12

B. Judgment on Unbelievers v5

2v5. “saved Noah” Roth 'preserved'. How? Gen 7v16 “shut him in”.

“eighth” - the number signifies a new beginning (I Pet 3v20) .

“preacher of righteousness” - Noah fearlessly taught the ways of righteousness (Rom 4v2-9) calling on them to believe.

C. Judgment of Wicked Works Vv6-9

2v6. “Sodom and Gomorrha” - center of gross immorality (see Rom1v27) They were lax Ezek 16v49 and failed to regard God's righteous ways Jer 23v14..

“**ashes**” - as of a funeral pile. (same doom for today's civilization Mal 4v3).

“**ensample---ungodly**” NEB “making them an object lesson for godless men in future days”

2v7. “delivered” RSV, JerB, Roth 'rescued'.

“**vexed**” Gk 'kataponeo'='to wear down by hard labour', hence worn out.

“**vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked**” JerB “sickened by the shameless way in which these vile people behaved” as we should be - see Ezek 9v4-5.

2v8. “dwelling among them” Roth “since he dwelt right among them”.

“**vexed**” Gk 'basonizo' Bull 'examine' then 'torture', yet his children weren't shocked.

“**unlawful**” RV “lawless”.

2v9. “the Lord knoweth how” JerB “These are examples of how the Lord can rescue the good from the ordeal”.

“**temptations**” Gk 'peirosmos' from 'to pierce with a spear'. Used of both trials and temptations – I Cor 10v13, Mat 6v13.

“**reserve**” – same v4, Bull “preserve”, “maintain” as in Rom 6v6-16.

3. The Nature of the Apostacy – its ignorance and perversity Vv10-17 (Apostasy defined)

Wrong doctrine leads to wrong living and faces greater condemnation.

2v10. “chiefly” Wey “especially” – so there are degrees of punishment:- 1st.for error and 2nd wrong practice.

“**walk after the flesh**” Wey 'abandoned to sensuality'- see 3v3 and Jude v16 – see Gal 6v7-8, 5v16..

“**lust of uncleanness**” Wey “craving for polluted things”

“**Presumptuous --- dignities**” Roth “have no respect for authority”- compare Jude v8.

“**speak evil of dignities**” Gk “blaphemeo” as in v2.

“**dignities**” Gk “doxa” which was an apostle or elder.

2v11. “angels” refers here to angels (see same in Jude v9).

“**greater in power and might**” Roth “though greater in might and power” – see Ps 103v20.

“**railing accusation**” Roth “defamatory accusation” - the angels are slow to judge following Mat 7v1-4.

2v12. “natural brute beasts” TCNT “these men however are like animals without reason” - Jude v10

“**brute beasts**” Gk 'alogos'='without reason' or the ability to reason on the Word.

“**made to be taken and destroyed**” Nestles 'for capture and corruption'.

“**speak evil**” Gk 'blasphemo agnoeo'. “Agnoeo” used 3x 2v2,10,12 = “to observe’ or ‘perceive’.

2v13. “receive reward of unrighteousness” NEB “suffering hurt for the hurt they afflicted”, as did Judas Acts 1v18 and see Is 3v9-11. What we sow we get Gal 6v7-8.

“**count it a pleasure**” JerB “happy to give themselves up to debauchery in broad daylight”.

“**riot**” Gk 'truphen' Nestles 'luxury' (used also Lk 7v25 where rendered “live delicately”.

“**spots they are & blemishes**” We should be without such spots/blemishes Eph 5v27. When baptised we put on unblemished garments Gal 3v26 + we should keep it that way Rev 3v4, I Pet 1v19.

“**deceiving**” Best Mss change to Gk 'agapais'='love feast' – they “sport themselves”or “revel” at the memorial meetings as in I Cor 11v21 and Jude v12.

“**feast**” Gk 'suneuocheo'='sumptuously feast' – converting memorial meetings to revelry I Cor 11v21..

2v14. “eyes full of adultery” Gk “an adulteress”. We should 1).restrain our eyes Mat 5v28, and 2).refuse to follow the Roman adulteress Rev17v5.

“cannot cease from sin” Diag “unrestrained from sin”. We should rather follow Christ 1 Pet 4v1.

“beguiling”-rendered “allure” 1v18 – We should follow Eph 4v13-14.

“cursed children” Diag 'children of a curse' of judgment Mat 25v41, idea also Eph 2v3.

2v15. “right way” Gk 'straight way' as in Mat 3v3

“Balaam”=JT 'waster of the people'. Desire of money moved Balaam to disobey Num 22v37 (Jude v11, Rev 2v14) and he advised to use seduction Num 31v16.

“wages of unrighteousness” Wms “fell in love with the profits of wrong doing”.

2v16. “But was rebuked for his iniquity” JerB “he was called in order for his faults”.

“dumb ass” Not normal word for **“ass”** - Gk “upozugion” (Bull)='an animal subject to the yoke'. Redeemed by a lamb Ex 13v13, ridden by kings 1 Kgs 1v33,38 so a humble brother who can reprove those who go astray.

2v17 “wells without water”=Nestles “springs”. False prophets who promise refreshment but are empty, Jer 14v3. In Christ there is the water of the Word Jhn 4v14.

“clouds” ASV “mists driven by a storm” that blot out the sun (Jude v20) and are carried by the prevailing stormy winds unto -

“darkness” TCNT “for them the blackest darkness have been reserved”.

“for ever”- omit – not in the best Mss.

4. Apostasy In Action – its effect on others Vv18-22.

2v18. “great swelling words of vanity” Vincent 'speech filled with high sounding verbosity without substance' – same Jude v16.

“allure through lusts of the flesh”- teach that they are at liberty to do as they want.

“wantoness” Vine 'licentiousness'.

“clean escaped”-best Mss Gk 'obligos'='scarcely'-these are new converts JerB “just escaped from paganism”.

2v19. “promise liberty” - only the Truth gives genuine liberty through grace Gal 5v13.

“servants of corruption” Gk 'doulos'='slaves' to corrupt thinking and ways.

“for of whom ---bondage” JerB “if anyone lets himself be dominated by anything, then he is a slave to it”.

2v20. “escaped the pollutions” Gk 'miasma'='RV “defilements”. These had been transformed from the worldly ways by the Word Eph 5v26-27 and by Christ's sacrifice Heb 2v11, 13v10.

“through the knowledge” Gk 'epignosis' - designed to keep them pure Jhn 17v17.

“entangled” (Bull) 'mix oneself up with'.

“latter end is worse” Why? Because 1). hardened to sin Mat 12v43-45, 2).condemnation awaits 2 Cor 5v10-11, Gal 6v7-8.

2v21. “better---not to have known” - knowledge is the basis of responsibility James 4v17 etc and judgment was inevitable for those who didn't respond Rom 2v8.

“known---known” Gk 'epignosis'.

“to turn from---them” KJV most accurate but JerB “desert the holy rule that was entrusted to them”.

2v22. “true proverb” – JerB “what he has done is exactly as the proverb rightly says”.

Note the second half of the verse is **cited from Prov 26v11**.

“the dog---sow” – both are unclean animals typical of those outside the Truth Lev 11v7, Deut 14v8, Ex 22v31 which we must beware of Phil 3v2.

“turned to his own vomit” - natural for a dog as ways of flesh are to man 1Jhn 2v15, Rom 7v5.

“washed---mire” NEB “the sow after a wash rolls in the mud again”- such was natural for a pig.

2 Peter 3 notes .

The Certainty Of Christ's Coming.

Peter stated that despite what the scoffers claimed, Christ would “come” (Gk “parousia” 3v12) in AD70 and later at his second coming, and the political orders at each time would be overthrown in war.

The Scoffer's Challenge 3v1-4.

Scoffers then as today scorned the promise that Christ will come !!

3v1 “second epistle” The first was 1 Peter when the trials were without. This 2nd epistle was thus written also to the Jews of Asia Minor I Pet 1v1, but now the trial is **within** the ecclesia.

“beloved”=Gk. “agapetoi” used 5x in 2 Peter and 3x in Jude.

“now”=Roth “this already beloved is the second letter I am writing unto you”.

“in both which”=Bas. “in this as in the first ---”.

“I stir up” Same as in 1v13 (Bull) = ‘wake up fully’.

“pure” = ‘that which was tested by light’ (opposite to Eph 4v18) hence ‘genuine’.

“minds” Gk. singular, therefore Roth “mind”.

“way of remembrance” JerB “give you a reminder”. Peter draws on lessons from the past as he did before in 1v16,19,21; 2v1,5,6,7,15 which is to prepare them, by drawing on past lessons.

3v2 “may be mindful” TCNT “that you may recall” – same Jude v17 – both are calls to get back to the ways of the prophets and pioneers and preserve the Truth.

“which were spoken before by the prophets” Peter referred to them also before in 1v21. Similar OT warnings were Ez 11v1-2,13; Dan 7v8,25; 8v24-25; 11v36-38 etc..

“the commandments of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour” JerB “the commandments of the Lord and saviour which you were given by the apostles”. See false prophets in Mat 7v15; 24v5,11,24 but the commandment was Mat 24v36-51 and esp. to “watch” 24v42,43. (Also Acts 20v29, 2 Tim 3v1-5).

3v3 “knowing this first” Nestles “this first knowing” – same phrase 1v20 where TCNT “above all remember”.

“shall come” Still future to 2 Peter 2v1, but had come by Jude v4,8,10,12.

“in the last days” Refers to the last days of Judah's Commonwealth I Jhn 2v18, Jude v18, 1 Tim 4v1, 2 Tim 3v1, Heb 1v2. AD70 was only 3-5 years away.

“scoffers” Gk “empaigmoun empalkai” Nestles “mocking mockers” – repeated for emphasis. Vines ‘deluding’.

“walking after their own lusts” JerB “who always please themselves what they do’ as described in 2v10 and as done in Noah's (Gen 6). Camb. “self indulgence is the parent of cynical scoffers”.

3v4 “Where is the promise” Many by their restrained actions say this today interpreting God's longsuffering as His failure to act Isa 5v19, Ez 12v22,27, Amos 5v18 and misunderstood Ecc 8v11.

“of his coming” Gk. = “parousia” = royal ‘presence’. This was the end in Heb 9v26, 1 Pet 4v7 and the “coming” in John 2v22, Jam 5v7-8, Mat 24v27. This was not his visible coming that we expect – see warning 2 Thess 2v2, but by the Roman army which Christ providentially sent Mat 22v7, Deut 28v49, Dan 9v26, 8v12.

“fathers” ecclesial pioneers – the apostles and first generation bre. – like today's Bro Roberts and Thomas.

“fell asleep” dead in Christ 1 Thess 4v15, Dan 12v2, Jhn 11v11,14, 1 Cor 15v51, Acts 7v60 (“cemetery”=‘sleeping place’).

“all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation”. NIV “as it has been since the beginning of creation”. 40 years had passed and it seemed like Christ's words were discredited.

The Scoffer's Ignorance 3v5-7.

3v5 "willingly are ignorant of" JerB "they are choosing to forget", RSV "willingly forget". **8.**

"by the word" God spake and the creation occurred Ps 33v6 and the angels acted Ps 103v19-21, 104v4-5 according to Isa 55v11.

"the heavens were of old and the earth standing out of the water" RV "there were heavens from of old and the earth compacted out of water". Gen 1 shows the earth covered with water then the land was raised Gen 1v9-10 by possibly volcanic activity – typical of the birth of the political heavens and earth Ps 102v25-26.

"in the water" = Gk. 'dia' = 'through' or 'by means of'. (Roth) "by means of water compacted by God's word".

3v6 "Whereby" Diag. "by means of which things" – since the Gk is plural it refers to the word, water, heavens etc..

"the world that then was" Gk 'kosmos' i.e. 'order of things' – the political/religious order before the flood, in the sense as in Heb 1v11-12, 12v26-28.

"overflowed" Gk 'katakluso' (here only) i.e. a cataclysm = (Bull) 'to dash down upon' hence 'overflow'. Nestles "inundate". Gen 7v11 "windows of heaven opened".

"perished" – used also 3v9. Camb.= "changed", "broken up".

3v7 "the heaven and the earth" – such remain forever Ecc1v4, Gen 8v21, 9v12 so these are symbolic of the Jewish order which would pass away in AD70.

"which are now" v5 old heavens that were pre Mosaic, v7 present heavens that are Mosaic (Heb 1v10-11, 12v26), v13 new heavens are those of the kingdom age.

"by the same word are kept in store" Gk "logos" 1v19 possibly an allusion to Deut 32v1, 21-22, showing the consequences to Jewry.

"reserved unto fire" as the Mosaic age began in fire Ex 19v18, Deut 5v4-5,22-24,26; Heb 12v18, so it is "reserved" or (Bull) 'preserved' until AD70 when it was destroyed in the fire of war.

"the day of judgment and perdition (or "destruction" 2v1) of ungodly men". This is AD70 when Jerusalem was to be destroyed in fire unintentionally by Titus, Acts 2v19-20,40.

The Scoffer's Judgment 3v8-10.

To the moral man, God's judgments seem to take ages, yet God is eternal and so they are slow to come, but certain !

3v8 "be not ignorant of this one thing" Camb. "let not this one thing be hidden from you", Moff "you must not be ignorant of this one fact".

"one day is with the Lord as a thousand years" Cited from Ps 90v4. A thousand years are like a day to God who lives forever Ps 90v3-10 and He has no beginning and end I Tim 6v15-16.

3v9 "the Lord is not slack concerning his promise" Yahweh appeared to delay His promise Ecc 8v11, but that is not so. He will act at the appointed time Hab 2v3. Note they were almost exactly a thousand years since Solomon's temple and now the condemnation was at work 2v3.

"slack --- slackness" Gk.= 'delay' or 'loiter' – from LXX Deut 7v9-10.

"longsuffering" Vine "the quality of self restraint in the face of provocation which doesn't hastily retaliate". Such was an opportunity given in love, to allow those to seek Him 2v9, Is 30v18.

"to us-ward" Implying that God wished the apostates to reform who were not yet fully entangled 2v20.

"not willing that any should perish" – JerB "wanting nobody to be lost" Ez 18v32.

3v10 "the day of the lord will come". Peter stated this in his first speech in Acts 2v19-20. It will come despite the mockers of 3v3-4 in AD70 – compare Heb 9v26.

"in the night" is not in the original manuscript.

"heavens pass away" – this is the Jewish order of v7, Heb 12v26.

"great noise" Roth "with a rushing noise". Gk "rhoizedon" – onomatopoeic for the sound of whizzing arrows as heard in a military attack.

“the elements” Bull “the first principles”, “the abc” as in Heb 5v12 and speaks of the political and religious foundations Col 2v8,20; Gal 4v3.

“melt with fervent heat” TCNT “destroyed in fierce heat”, Lit. ‘being scorched up’.

“the earth” Typical of the ordinary people in national organisation Is 1v2,10.

“the works” the philosophy of the flesh Gal 5v19, which is to be “tried by fire” 1 Cor 3v13.

The Hope Of Glory 3v11-16.

3v11 **“seeing then that all things should be dissolved”** i.e. the fabric of the Jewish order, TCNT “in the process of dissolution”. The Roman General Cestus Gallius would shortly invade the Land (AD 67).

“conversation” Bull ‘mode of life’, ‘conduct’, ‘deportment’. This is an exhort for us Jam 3v13.

“ought ye to be in holy conversation and godliness” Roth “in holy ways of behavior and acts of godliness”.

3v12 **“Looking for”** Gk “prosdokoo”= (“pros”=‘towards’, “dokeo”=‘think’) so Vines ‘to be in expectation’. This is a condition of mind not taken by surprise – see Tit 2v13, Lk 3v15 “in expectation”.

“having unto” Gk “speudo” = Stg. ‘to urge on’ hence ‘await eagerly’ RSV “earnestly desiring”.

“the coming” Gk “parousia” Nestles “presence”. Here it refers to Christ’s second coming.

“wherein” = ‘on account of which’ or “by reason of which”.

“being on fire” Present tense. So used in prospect. So the Jewish heavens must first be removed in fire in AD 70. RSV “because of which the heavens will be kindled and dissolved” – compare Mic 1v4.

“dissolved” Gk. “luo”=Vine ‘to loose,’demolish’, Bull ‘dissolve’. Same word v10,11,12.

“elements” Same as v10 which speaks of the ‘first principles’ of the Jewish order of things.

“shall melt” Different word to v10, but here Gk. “teko” = Bill ‘make liquid’.

“fervent heat” Gk “kausoomai” = ‘to be set on fire’, ‘burn’. Camb. “fierce heat” – same word v10.

3v13 **“Nevertheless we according to his promise”** JerB “what we are waiting for is what he promised” – is the waiting ecclesia.

“new heavens and a new earth” Cited from Isa 65v17-19 and referred to in Is 66v22, 16v5. This is the new order under Christ and the saints.

“dwelleth righteousness” see Is 65v25, 32v17, Ps 72v2-3.

3v14 **“seeing that ye look for such things”** Wey ‘since you have these expectations’,

“be diligent” Bull ‘make haste’ hence ‘do the utmost’. Exhort 1 Jhn 3v2-3,18.

“found of him” Lit ‘found by him’.

“in peace” Bull ‘end of strife’ (akin to Heb “shalom”) 1 Pet 1v19 compare 2 Pet 2v13.

“without spot and blameless” Same words 2v13, like Christ in 1 Pet 1v19. See also Tit 2v7-8.

3v15 **“account the long suffering of the Lord is salvation”** Same word v9. We have a little time which is nothing in God’s sight v8, but is an opportunity for us to repent and prepare.

“even our beloved brother Paul” – what a wonderful spirit. Paul had reproved him in Gal 2v11-13. Peter is an example of v14 “in peace”.

“according to the wisdom given unto him” JerB “with the wisdom which is his special gift”. This states that Paul was inspired and so one of the prophets of 1v20.

“hath written unto you” Paul wrote to this region of Asia Minor in Gal., Col., Eph., but warned all the Jewish brethren in the book of Hebrews which may have been sent to this region too, as well as to Judea.

3v16 **“in all his epistles speaking in them of these things”** Wey “that is what he says in all his letters when speaking in them of these things”. Paul’s epistles all exhort us to gain epignosis, resist error and prepare for Christ’s coming.

“are some things hard to understand” These require careful study (“rightly divide”

2 Tim 2v15) which produce sound actions 1 Tim 4v15-16.

“unlearned” Bull= ‘untaught’, ‘uninstructed’, RSV “uneducated”.

“unstable” Gk. “asteriktos” Vine combination of “a”=‘not’ and “teriktos”=‘fixed’. Roth “unstable” 1v12, 2v14.

“wrest” Bull. From ‘windlass’ or ‘instrument of torture’ hence to ‘torture by twisting and turning’.

“other scriptures” so Paul’s writings are inspired and certainly “scripture”.

Conclusion: Peter’s Caution and Exhort To Grow Spiritually 3v17-18.

3v17 “seeing you know these things before” Diag “being forewarned”. Peter’s aim was that they should gain epignosis (“full knowledge”) 1v8.

“beware” Middle voice – Vine “be on ones guard against”.

“being led away” RV “carried away”. Used of Barnabas when he was deceived Gal 2v13.

“fall for your own” RSV “lose your own stability”.

3v18 “grow in grace” Wey “be always growing”.

“knowledge in our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ” This is life eternal Jhn 17v3 requiring an intimate knowledge of Christ’s ways – 1v12-13 where Peter tradition says, caused the gospel of Mark to be written **for them**.

“glory” has the definite article so ‘the glory’. See Jhn 5v23.

“forever” Diag “the day of the age” referred to in 3v8,12 being the millennium.

Symbols used: Gk.=Greek, Bull=Bullinger, Vine=Vines, Stgs.=Strongs, Wey.=Weymouth, JerB.=Jerusalem Bible, Roth.=Rotherhams, Amp.B=Amplified Bible, Diag.=Diaglot, RSV=Revised Standard Version, RV=Revised Version, Moff.=Moffat, Camb.=Cambridge Bible Commentary.