



Pursuing Godliness: 2 Peter Stirring up Godliness

Godly Remembrance

Peter's death is at hand and he wants to leave his readers with a lasting message that will motivate them to godly living.

I. Building a Legacy of Godliness 2 Peter 1:12-15

During our lifetimes we have the opportunity to build a legacy of godliness that can impact our families and friends and even the world for generations to come. Here's how Peter did it...

- a. **Build on truth:** "Established in truth" [1:12] Peter may have been the one responsible for establishing many of his readers in the truth. Jesus told him, "and when you have returned to Me, strengthen [establish] your brethren." *Luk 22:32* Peter is NOT writing to brand new believers. Godly living is living in the truth!
- b. **Stir up the mind to remember:** [1:13] What would you do if you knew you did not have long to live? Maybe like Peter, you would start reminding everyone you talk to about salvation in Christ, godliness and the coming of the Lord.

Heb 2:1 The reminder of a godly saint!

- c. **Leave a reminder:** [1:14-15] Peter knew from God that he would soon see Christ face to face. The book of 2nd Peter was Peter's last will and testament—a real living will.

Peter's life theme has not changed from what he said in *Acts 3:6* "Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk."

II. Why We Pursue Godliness 2 Peter 1:16-19

- a. **The coming of the Lord** [1:16] Some say the coming of the Lord is a 'myth' Peter calls it 'majestic.' Peter's message of godliness and truth is NOT based on myth but on the Word of God and Peter's eyewitness account of the 'majesty' of Christ.

Knowing the 'power' of His Second Coming should motivate us to godly living.

- b. **The Glory of the Second Coming** [1:17-18] Peter received great confidence from his eyewitness experience of seeing the bright light, the cloud, the glory of the Father on the Son and the voice of God speaking to His Son.

See *Matt 17:1-8; Mark 9:2-8; Luke 9:28-36*

The Transfiguration is a foreshadow of the Second Coming and gives us great confidence to pursue godliness.

- c. **The Promise of the Second Coming** [1:19] Peter says that the prophetic Word of the Old Testament (*Mal 4:2; Isa 60:1*) was confirmed by the eyewitness of the transfiguration. We are the only light living in a world of darkness. "He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love..." *Col 1:3*

The promise of the Bright and Morning Star arising in our sight and hearts motivates us to godly living.

[See sidebar *Rev 22:16; 2:27; 28*]

2 Peter 1:12-19 (NKJV)

:12 For this reason I will not be negligent to remind you always of these things, though you know and are established in the present truth.

:13 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.

:15 Moreover I will be careful to ensure that you always have a reminder of these things after my decease.

:16 For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty.

:17 For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: "**This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.**"

:18 And we heard this voice which came from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain.

:19 And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts;

Rev 22:16 "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star."

Rev 2:26; 28 And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end...I will give him the morning star. "