

“Is Your Faith Grounded?”

2 Peter 1:12-21

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I. Introduction

- A. Jesus concluded His Sermon on the Mount with a parable of two builders—one wise and one foolish.
 - 1. Peter wants us to be "standing."
 - a) Is your faith real?
 - b) Is your faith growing?
 - c) Today- Is your faith grounded?
 - 2. A real faith, a growing faith, must be grounded on the solid rock of Scripture.
 - 3. Peter doesn't want us to be swept away by false teaching (Chapter 2)
 - a) Christians who are "grounded" and "growing" in the Word of God will not be led astray
 - b) Peter makes it clear in our text that the only sure foundation for a strong and stable Christian life is the sure Word of God
 - c) Peter makes three affirmations about God's Word

II. Men Die, but God's Word Lives (2 Peter 1:12-15)

- A. Peter knew that soon he would die
 - 1. Jesus told him (John 21)
 - 2. Exodus (v. 15)
- B. Peter wanted them to remember the truth (v.12)
 - 1. Remember (v.12, v.13, v.14)
- C. Peter left them God's living Word
 - 1. Jesus said, "Feed my sheep" (John 21)
 - 2. Illustration- Gospel of Mark (1 & 2 Peter)
 - 3. “Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever. For all flesh is grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower therefore falleth away; But the word of the Lord endureth forever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you." (1 Peter 1:23-25)
- D. God's Word lives and abides forever.

III. God's Word is Sure and Steadfast (2 Peter 1:16-19a)

- A. Peter talks about the transfiguration (Matthew 17; Mark 9; Luke 9)
 - 1. What was it?
 - 2. When did it happen?
 - 3. What was Peter's point?

- a) “God’s Word in Scripture is more sure or reliable than experience (v.19)
- b) Truth is found in God’s objective, steadfast Word
- c) You should never judge the Scriptures by your experience but rather judge your experience by the Scriptures.
- d) Illustration- Christian’s dreams, visions, prophecy

IV. Scripture Comes from God (2 Peter 1:19-21)

A. Scripture is a shining light (v.19)

- 1. The world is getting darker, but God’s Word shines brighter
- 2. "The Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." (Psalm 119:105)

B. Scripture is Spirit given (vv.20-21)

- 1. “Knowing this first” or “This is of the utmost importance” (v.20)
 - a) This text is one of the two most important in the New Testament on the doctrine of Scripture
- 2. The Bible is a revelation of and from God (v. 20 & v.21a)
- 3. The Bible is given by the inspiration of God (v.21)
- 4. What is meant by “inspiration?” It is not:
 - a) Natural inspiration
 - b) Dictation or mechanical inspiration
 - c) Conceptual inspiration
 - d) “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.” (2 Timothy 3:16)
 - e) *“Inspiration is God’s superintendence of the human authors so that using their own individual personalities they composed and recorded without error His revelation to man in the words of the original autographs.” – C. Ryrie.*
- 5. I believe in the verbal (words) and plenary (all of them) view of inspiration.

C. The Bible is inerrant

- 1. Inerrancy means "without error."
- 2. The Bible is the Word of God
- 3. God cannot lie

4. Therefore, the Bible is without error
5. The Bible is reliable
6. The Bible is sufficient (2 Timothy 3:16)
 - a) For doctrine (what is right)
 - b) For reproof (what is wrong)
 - c) For correction (how to get right)
 - d) For instruction in righteousness (how to stay right)

V. Conclusion

- A. Are you a wise or foolish builder?
 1. Rock of Scripture?
 2. Shifting sand?
- B. It is the only place to "stand."
 1. For the believer
 2. For the pastor
 3. For our church
- C. To give the Bible its rightful place is to bring:
 1. Health to the church
 2. Light to the world
 3. Glory to God