

2 Peter Chapter 3

1. Beloved, I now write to you this second epistle (in *both of* which I stir up your pure minds by way of reminder),

A. Beloved- Gr. *agapetos*

1. This is a term of endearment used especially when exhortation is given.

B. I now write to you this second epistle

1. write- Gr. *grapho*

2. second- Gr. *deuteros*

- a. The first of course was 1 Peter.

3. epistle- Gr. *epistole*- *letter*

C. in both of which I stir up your pure minds by way of reminder

1. stir up- Gr. *diegeiro*- *to thoroughly rouse or waken*

- a. We are to stir up ourselves and the gift of God in us. [2Pe 1:13-15](#), [2Ti 1:6](#) Remembrance is a key way we do this for both.

2. pure- Gr. *eilikrines*- *judged by the light*

- a. In the ancient world pottery shops abounded. Often unscrupulous owners would seal cracks in the pots with wax and paint over them. The shops were often dark and an unwary customer would often buy a cracked pot. A smart customer would take the pot out and put it up in the sunlight and the cracks would be exposed by the light. We are to have our minds purified by the light. Many Christians have cracks in their thinking. They see themselves as impure and therefore live so. We need to have our minds renewed to our new identity in Christ. We are pure in Him. We need to develop a pure mind by receiving the light of God's Word by the Holy Spirit.

3. minds- Gr. *dianoia*- *understanding, imagination, deep thought*

- a. Sometimes we can have our mind asleep. It needs to be awakened by remembering.

4. reminder- Gr. *hupomnesis*- *to be put under remembrance*

- a. This is the fourth time in this letter that Peter speaks about remembering. He did not want them to forget! We need to remember to remember!

2. that you may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us, the apostles of the Lord and

Savior,

A. that you may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets,

1. **mindful-** Gr. **mnaomai**

2. **words-** Gr. **rhema-** *spoken words*

3. **spoken-** Gr. **proereo-** *to speak before or in advance*

a. We need to stay mindful of the words of God. This is done by daily study of the Word.

4. **holy-** Gr. **hagios**

5. **prophets-** Gr. **prophetes**

a. These were the OT prophets that prophesied about the coming of Christ.

B. and of the commandment of us,

1. **commandment-** Gr. **entole**

a. This is the command to repent and believe the gospel. [Mark 1:15](#), [1 John 3:23](#)

C. the apostles of the Lord and Savior

1. **apostles-** Gr. **apostolos**

a. These are the apostles of the Lamb- the twelve disciples.

b. I don't believe God was behind Peter holding a lottery to pick the replacement for Judas. I believe the Apostle Paul was God's choice. He was one born out of due time. [1 Cor. 15:8](#)

c. The church is built upon the foundation of the OT prophets and NT apostles. [Eph. 2:20](#)

2. **Lord-** Gr. **kurios-** *Master, owner*

3. **Savior-** Gr. **soter-** *one who saves or delivers*

3. knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts,

A. knowing this first,

1. **knowing-** Gr. **ginosko-** *to know by experience or personal involvement*

2. **first-** Gr. **proton**

a. This phrase means that it is of utmost importance to know.

B. that scoffers will come in the last days,

1. **scoffers-** Gr. **empaiktes-** *a mocker, derider, scoffer*

a. These reject the divine origin of the Word of God, thus they reject what is written therein.

b. A scorner will seek wisdom and not be able to find it. [Prov. 14:6](#)
Wisdom begins with the fear of the Lord and a reverence for the Word of God.

c. How does a scorner become wise. It is by heeding the Word of God. [Is. 28:14](#)

2. **come-** Gr. **erchomai**

3. **last-** Gr. **eschatos**

4. **days-** Gr. **hemera**

a. The last days began on the day of Pentecost and will end at the Second Advent of the Lord Jesus. [Acts 2:17](#), [1Ti 4:1-2](#); [2Ti 3:1](#); [Heb. 1:2](#), [1Jo 2:18](#)

b. I believe we are in the last of the last days! There have been scoffers arise throughout church history mocking the return of the Lord, but it will become more pronounced as the time appears for his second coming.

c. Look at all the movies that have come out about the destruction of the earth and the end of all things. Hollywood wants to make the realities of the book of Revelation look like fiction. It is something to laugh about to them.

d. Jude prophesied the same thing. [Jude 1:18](#)

C. **walking according to their own lusts**

1. **walking-** Gr. **peripateo**

2. **lusts-** Gr. **epithumia**

a. Spiritual things seem foolishness to the carnal man. [1 Cor. 2:14](#)

b. If you walk in the Spirit you will not fulfill the lusts of the flesh. [Gal. 5:16](#) This can only be done by someone that is born again by faith.

4. **and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as *they were* from the beginning of creation."**

A. **and saying,**

1. **saying-** Gr. **lego**

B. **Where is the promise of His coming?**

1. **promise-** Gr. **epaggelia**

2. **coming-** Gr. **parousia**

a. This mocking is straight from Satan. He loves to hiss out accusing questions that ministers doubt and unbelief. He did that from the very beginning. Hath God said?

C. For since the fathers fell asleep,

1. fathers- Gr. **pater**

- a. This word gives us a clue about the false teachers Peter has been talking about. The “fathers’ here speak of the Jewish fathers- *Adam, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob.*
- b. These were Jewish false teachers.

2. fell asleep- Gr. **kaimao**

- a. Believers are seen as asleep to be awakened at the resurrection. As those who sleep are alive and will rise again in the morning, so believers who have died are still alive with God and their bodies will rise again in the morning of the resurrection.

D. all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation

1. continue- Gr. **diameno-** *to remain throughout*

2. beginning- Gr. **arche**

3. creation- Gr. **ktisis**

5. For this they willfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water,

A. For this they willfully forget,

1. willfully- Gr. **thelo-** *to be resolved or determined, to purpose*

2. forget- Gr. **lanthano-** *to be hidden, to be hidden from one, secretly, unawares, without knowing*

- a. God willfully does not remember our sins anymore because of Christ's sacrifice. [Heb. 8:12](#)
- b. You can forget things unintentionally, but it is really bad when you choose to forget the truth in order to hold on to a lie!
- c. Those that choose not to retain the knowledge of God are turned over to a reprobate mind. [Rom. 1:28](#)
- d. Those who are damned are those who did not believe the truth, and those who do not believe the truth because they did not love the truth. [2 Thess. 2:10-12](#) The truth is God's Word. [John 17:17](#)

B. that by the word of God the heaven were of old,

1. word- Gr. **logos**

- a. Heaven and earth were created by God's Word. [John 1:3](#) All of creation is held together by the power of God's Word. [Heb. 11:3](#), [Col. 1:17](#)

2. heaven- Gr. **ouranos**

3. **old**- Gr. **ekpalai**

- a. This was the pre-flood heaven that was a vapor canopy that broke during the flood.

C. **and the earth standing out of the water and in the water.**

1. **earth**- Gr. **ge**

2. **standing**- Gr. **sunistao**

3. **out of the water**- Gr. **ek hudor**- *out of water*

4. **in the water**- Gr. **dia hudor**- *through water*

- a. In the very beginning the earth was completely covered with water and darkness. After the third day the water had gathered into seas and the land was under the water [sea floor] and above the water [continents]. [Gen. 1:6, 9](#)

- b. The scoffers willful forgot that God did intervene in the past and brought judgment on all the wickedness of man by the universal flood. God did it once, and He will do it again, but this time the earth will be destroyed by fire.

6. **by which the world *that* then existed perished, being flooded with water.**

A. **by which the world that then existed perished,**

1. **world**- Gr. **kosmos**

- a. The world before the flood.

2. **existed**- Gr. *not in Greek*

3. **perished**- Gr. **apollumi**- *to be destroyed*

B. **being flooded with water**

1. **flooded**- Gr. **katakluzo**- *to surge down, deluge*

- a. We get our word cataclysm from this word.

2. **water**- Gr. **hudor**

7. **But the heavens and the earth *which* are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.**

A. **But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word,**

1. **heavens**- Gr. **ouranos**

2. **earth**- Gr. **ge**

- a. The present earth we live in.

3. **preserved**- Gr. **thesaurizo**- *treasure up, kept in store*

4. **word**- Gr. **logos**

B. are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

1. **reserved-** Gr. **tereo-** *to keep, guard*
2. **fire-** Gr. **pur**
3. **day of judgment-** Gr. **hemera krisis**
4. **perdition-** Gr. **apoleia-** *destruction*
5. **ungodly-** Gr. **asebes-** *irreverent*
6. **men-** Gr. **anthropos**

8. But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day *is* as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

A. But beloved,

1. **beloved-** Gr. **agapetos**

- a. This term is used much before giving an exhortation. All of God's exhortations come out of His heart of love for us.

B. do not forget this one thing,

1. **forget-**Gr. **lanthano me**

- a. It is important not to forget that our timing is not the Lord's timing. He is much more patient than us! We need to keep the Lord off our time clock!

C. that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years,

1. **Lord-** Gr. **kurios**

2. **one day-** Gr. **mia hemera**

3. **thousand years-** Gr. **chilioi etos**

- a. [Ps. 90:4](#)

D. and a thousand years as one day

1. God created the earth and all that is in it in seven days.
2. The unfolding of human history follows this pattern. From Adam to Christ was 4,000 years. We have been in the church age for 2,000 years. Jesus is about to return and set up His 1,000 years' reign called the Millennium. Taking that a thousand years is one day with the Lord that is 7 days! We are at the end of the sixth day. The final 1,000 is the Millennial rest of the Messiah as God rested the seventh day of creation!
3. It was prophesied in Hosea that Israel would be without sacrifice and King for two days and then they would be restored. [Hos. 6:2](#) It has been two thousand years since Israel was scattered and without sacrifice and

King, which is two days to the Lord. This prophecy is about to come to pass! Israel will rebuild the temple, start sacrificing again, and their King Jesus is about to appear!

9. The Lord is not slack concerning *His* promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

A. The Lord is not slack concerning His promise,

1. **slack-** Gr. **braduno-** *to be slow, to delay*

2. **promise-** Gr. **epaggelia**

a. The promise of His return to the earth.

B. as some count slackness,

1. **count-** Gr. **hegeomai**

a. Men have a different framework of time than God does.

2. **slackness-** Gr. **bradutes-** *delay*

C. but is longsuffering toward us,

1. **longsuffering-** Gr. **makrothumeo**

D. not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance

1. **willing-** Gr. **boulomai**

a. This verse debunks Calvinism which teaches that everything is God's will and God's will cannot not be thwarted or resisted. Here we see that God is not willing that people perish but people are perishing! [1 Cor. 1:18](#) God does not always get what He wants. If God doesn't, then don't expect you will! God has given man a free will to decide. People are not puppets on strings pulled by the Great Puppet Master in the sky.

b. This verse debunks Universalism. This teaching is Calvinism on steroids! Regular Calvinism teaches that it is only God's will to save some people and makes them become saved. Universalism teaches that God wants all to be saved and makes all be saved. Any doctrine that removes the free will of man to choose is a false doctrine!

2. **perish-**Gr. **apollumi**

a. God so loved the world that He sent His only begotten Son that **whoever shall believe upon Him shall not perish** but have everlasting life! [John 3:16](#)

3. **come-**Gr. **choreo-** *to have room or space*

- a. God is giving people room, space, and time to repent.
- b. At some point God will have to cut things off and return. New babies are being born every day. There will not ever be a time where people will not need to receive salvation. It is almost as if God just can't bring himself to stop the conveyor belt of humanity and bring judgment on the earth. However, He will do this one day.

4. **repentance-** Gr. **metanoia-** *to change the mind which results in a change in actions.*

- a. Repentance does not deal with the emotions but with the mind. Repentance is a change of thinking that will often affect the emotions and will, but it does not start with them. Just because someone cries does not mean they have changed their mind [repented]. Just because someone did not cry does not mean they did not change their mind [repent]. We must be careful of appearances. The Lord knows the heart.

10. **But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.**

A. **But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night,**

1. **day of the Lord-** Gr. **hemera kurios**

- a. The day of the Lord refers to any period when God acts in judgment upon unbelievers. It was used in the OT to describe any time when God punished evildoers and triumphed over His foes ([Isa 2:12](#); [Isa 13:6](#), [Isa 13:9](#); [Eze 13:5](#); [Eze 30:3](#); [Joe 1:15](#); [Joe 2:1](#), [Joe 2:11](#), [Joe 2:31](#); [Joe 3:14](#); [Amo 5:18](#), [Amo 5:20](#); [Oba 1:15](#); [Zep 1:7](#), [Zep 1:14](#); [Zec 14:1](#); [Mal 4:5](#)). In the NT it is a period of time with various stages:

1a. It refers to the Tribulation, a seven-year period when God will judge unbelieving Israel ([1Th 5:2](#); [2Th 2:2](#), NU Text).

2a. It includes His return to earth when He will inflict vengeance on those who do not know God and who do not obey the gospel of the Lord Jesus ([2Th 1:7-10](#)).

- b. The rapture of the church is called the **Day of Jesus Christ or of Christ-** which means *the day of salvation or the Savior.* [Phil. 1:6](#), [2](#)

[Thess 2:2](#) The Second Advent is called the **Day of the Lord or Day of God.** [vs. 12](#) He will come back and judge the world as the rightful Lord and God over the earth. However, Jesus comes in the Rapture in the love of a Savior! Don't confuse the **Day of the Lord** and the **Day of Jesus Christ!** They are not the same!

2. **come-** Gr. **heko-** *to arrive*

3. **thief-** Gr. **kleptes**

- a. The unbelievers at the end of the Tribulation will be surprised by the coming of Christ because they do not believe upon Him nor will they be looking for him to come.
- b. Believers will not be surprised by the rapture because we believe upon Christ and look for His appearing. [1 Thess. 5:4](#), [Titus 2:13](#)
- c. Unbelievers will view Jesus' return as an interruption and violation of their life much like one views a thief breaking into their house.

4. **night-** Gr. **nux**

- a. From the time Jesus, the Light of the World, left and when He returns is called the night. Jesus will usher in a new day when he returns.

B. in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise,

1. **heavens-** Gr. **ouranos**

- a. The heaven of the first earth was destroyed in the flood. The canopy over the earth broke and flooded the earth. The heaven of the second earth will be destroyed by fire at the end of the Tribulation. This verse speaks of this. It will be destroyed by fire. A new heaven will be made during the Millennium. The curse will be removed off the earth and people will live a long time again like they did before the flood. [Is. 65:20](#) It appears that the canopy over the earth will be restored that will block out the harmful rays of the sun that aid in aging. Animals and man will live together peacefully. [Is. 11:6](#), [Is. 65:25](#) At the end of the Millennium Satan will be released and will go out and defile the earth and the nations. The heavens will again be destroyed and a new heaven and earth will be made and will usher in the eternity of eternities. [Rev. 21:1](#) In total the heavens will be made new three times. Three is the number of redemption!

2. **pass away-** Gr. **parerchomai**

- a. The heavens will be rolled up like a garment and changed. [Heb. 1:10-12](#)

3. **great noise-** Gr. **rhoizedon-** *a whir, whistling or whizzing, rushing motion*

C. and the elements will melt with fervent heat,

1. **elements-** Gr. **stoicheion-** *the elements from which all things have come, the material causes of the universe, the building blocks of creation.*

2. **melt-** Gr. **luo-** *to dissolve*

3. **fervent heat-** Gr. **kausoo-** *to set on fire, conflagration*

D. both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.

1. **earth-** Gr. **ge**

2. **works-** Gr. **ergon**

a. All construction made by man will be burned and dissolved. All monuments will be burned and dissolved. Anything man has touched will be burned.

b. All the hall of fames of man with their glistening busts will be burned and melted. No memory of them or their accomplishments will make it through to the next world- the Millennium! The world says the greats are "immortalized" in a hall of fame, but it is all a lie. They will not be remembered if they were not saved. Their prowess on the field will not be remembered or celebrated in the world to come. [Is. 65:17](#)

3. **burned up-** Gr. **katakaio-** *to be totally consumed*

11. Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness,

A. Therefore,

B. since all these things will be dissolved,

1. **dissolved-** Gr. **luo-** *to loosen, dissolve*

C. what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness

1. **persons-** Gr. *not in Greek*

2. **holy-** Gr. **hagios-** *set apart*

3. **conduct-** Gr. **anastrophe**

4. **godliness-** Gr. **eusebeia-** *reverence*

a. Not that we are in danger of being burnt up, but this means that our holy and godly lives will be a witness to those who perish. Our lives are to be billboards for the gospel, whether for good or bad. This holy life is only lived out by the grace of God within us. [2 Cor. 1:12](#)

12. looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which

the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat?

A. looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God,

1. **looking for-** Gr. **prosdakao-** *to expect (whether in thought, in hope, or in fear)*

a. Again believers will not be surprised by the coming of Jesus. They are looking for it!

2. **hastening-** Gr. **speudo-** *to speed up*

3. **coming-** Gr. **parousia-** *appearance*

4. **day of God-** Gr. **hemera theos**

a. This is the Second Advent where the world will meet God, their Creator. This is after the Tribulation. The Rapture is before the Tribulation where the church meets her loving Savior!

b. God does not have a set time table. The church as a say in how soon Jesus comes back to rapture his church and then seven years later to come to the earth in judgment.

c. We saw a few verses earlier that God is waiting for people to repent and believe the gospel. It is up to us to preach that gospel to ever creature. The sooner we do this the sooner He will return.

B. because of which the heavens will be dissolved,

1. **heavens-** Gr. **ouranos**

2. **dissolved-** Gr. **luo**

a. This is after the Tribulation.

C. being on fire,

1. **fire-** Gr. **puroo**

D. and the elements will melt with fervent heat?

1. **elements-** Gr. **stoicheion**

2. **melt-** Gr. **teko**

3. **fervent heat-** Gr. **kausoo**

a. This is repeated again from the last verse as emphasis. This will happen. It is not in the realm of possibility but certainty.

13. Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

A. Nevertheless we,

1. We believers

B. according to His promise,

1. **promise-** Gr. **de**

C. look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells

1. **look for-** Gr. **prosdakao**

2. **new-** Gr. **kainos-** *new in quality*

a. The Greek word **kainos** means new in quality. The Greek word **neos** means new in time.

3. **heavens-** Gr. **ouranos**

4. **new-** Gr. **kainos-** *new in quality*

5. **earth-** Gr. **ge**

a. The revelation of Scripture ends at this point. We do not know what will happen past this point, but we have an eternity that will unfold to us, which hold untold glories for us!

b. On the third reformation of the earth after the Millennium there will be no seas. This will greatly increase the capacity for population to live on the earth. [Rev. 21:1](#)

6. **righteousness-** Gr. **dikaiousune**

7. **dwells-** Gr. **katoikeo**

a. We believers are looking for this because we are righteous and this new earth will be our possession and dwelling place. The earth is our inheritance! [Matt. 5:5](#)

b. After the Millennium God will make a new heavens and a new earth and the New Jerusalem will come out of heaven and rest over the earth. [Rev. 21:2, 10, 24](#). Believers will be able to go back and forth from the new earth into the New Jerusalem. We will have a dwelling place in both places! We inherit heaven and earth!

c. No unbelievers will present in this new earth or in the New Jerusalem. [Rev. 21:27](#)

14. Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless;

A. **Therefore,**

B. **beloved-** Gr. **apapetos**

1. A common term of affection used with exhortation.

C. **looking forward to these things,**

1. **looking forward-** Gr. **prosdokao**

D. be diligent to be found by Him in peace,

1. diligent- Gr. **spoudazo**

- a. We must be diligent to stand in the truth of God's grace and resist all forms of legalism that would pull us away from our faith in Christ as our righteousness to our own righteousness.

2. found- Gr. **heurisko**

- a. This is the same thing as Paul mentions in Philippians about being found in Him [Christ] not having his own righteousness but the righteousness which is of Christ. [Phil. 3:9](#)

3. peace- Gr. **eirene**

- a. This is the same as being found in grace. Peace always comes from grace. Sixteen NT letters begin with Grace and Peace...

E. without spot and blameless

1. without spot- Gr. **aspilos-** *free from censure, irreproachable*

- a. Only in Christ we are free from censure and irreproachable. [Eph. 5:27](#)

2. blameless- Gr. **amometos-** *that cannot be censured, blameless*

- a. Only in Christ we are without blame. [1 Cor. 1:8](#), [Eph. 1:4](#)
- b. We are not without spot or blameless in our performance, words, or actions. We are without spot and blameless in our identity in Christ. Our reborn spirit is without spot or blame.
- c. How can we be censured by God on the day of Judgment for sins that He does not remember any more? [Heb. 10:17](#)

15. and consider *that* the longsuffering of our Lord *is* salvation—as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you,

A. and consider that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation

1. consider- Gr. **hegeomai-** *to deem or consider*

2. longsuffering- Gr. **makrothumia**

3. salvation- Gr. **soteria-** *deliverance, preservation, salvation*

- a. Some unstable souls will say that this verse teaches that God's patience with humanity ensures all of humanity will be saved. Universalists love to cherry pick the Bible. They love certain verses they take out of context to support the lie of universalism and leave out the multitude of other verses that teach against it.
- b. This verse is amplifying on verse 9 which states that God is patient

so he is giving space and time for people to repent. In the phrase "the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation", the word "is" is in italics. It is not found in the Greek. We must supply the missing words to convey the thought of the verse and context it is found in. It would better be translated according to the context- "the longsuffering of our Lord *is for the purpose of* salvation." The meaning is that the Lord is waiting to come back to give people time to repent and believe the gospel and be saved.

B. as also our beloved brother Paul,

1. beloved- Gr. **agapetos**

- a. In many things Paul had a greater revelation of the New Covenant truths than Peter. Peter even alludes to this. [vs. 16](#) However, he did not get jealous of Paul. He held Paul in high esteem and in love.
- b. This is more remarkable when you remember that Paul rebuked Peter at Antioch in front of the whole church. [Gal. 2](#) Peter took that rebuke humbly and did not hold an offence towards Paul.

2. brother- Gr. **adelphos**- *one who shares the same womb*

3. Paul- Gr. **Paulos**- *means little*

C. according to the wisdom given to him,

1. wisdom- Gr. **sophia**

- a. Paul's prayers centered around asking for wisdom, knowledge, and understanding. He received these in abundance!
- b. Paul prayed in tongues more than all the Corinthians. It is no wonder he had wisdom into the mysteries of God. When you speak in tongues you speak mysteries! [1 Cor. 14:2](#)

2. given- Gr. **didomi**

- a. Wisdom is a gift from God, but you need to ask Him in faith for it. [James 1:5](#)

D. has written to you

1. written- Gr. **grapho**

- a. Peter ministered in the region of Galatia. He might be referring here to the book of Galatians or other of Paul's epistles that had made it around to the churches.

16. as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable *people* twist

to their own destruction, as *they do* also the rest of the Scriptures.

A. as also in all his epistles,

1. **epistles**- Gr. **epistole**

a. This means letters, not the apostles' wives!

B. **speaking in them of these things,**

1. **speaking**- Gr. **laleo**

C. **in which are some things hard to understand,**

1. **hard to understand**- Gr. **dusnoetos**- *hard to perceive or understand*

a. These truths are hard to understand to the natural mind. They must become spiritual revelation to the heart!

D. **which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction,**

1. **untaught**- Gr. **amathes**- *to be undisciplined, undisciplined, unlearned*

a. These false teachers had never become disciples of Jesus. They were not born again, nor did they seek out his character, disciplines, or ways.

b. Part of being a disciple is to put the Word of God into practice and display the nature and character of Jesus.

2. **unstable**- Gr. **asteriktos**

3. **twist**- Gr. **stebloo**- *to torture, put to the rack, metaphorically to pervert, of one who wrests or tortures language in a false sense*

a. There are some who torture Scripture! How do they do that? It is by taking verses out of context to make them say what they want them to say.

b. Those who are properly taught the Word of God will be tortured when they hear Scripture taken out of context!

4. **destruction**- Gr. **apoleia**- *ruin*

E. **as they do also the rest of the Scriptures**

1. **rest**- Gr. **loipoi**

a. This word shows that Paul's letters were esteemed in the early church as Scripture.

2. **Scriptures**- Gr. **graphe**- *the writings*

17. **You therefore, beloved, since you know *this* beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked;**

A. **You therefore,**

B. **beloved,**

1. Once again the term of endearment used before exhortations or corrections.

C. since you know this beforehand,

1. **know this beforehand**- Gr. **proginosko**

D. beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness,

1. **beware**- Gr. **phulasso**- *to be on military guard*

2. **fall**- Gr. **ekpipto**- *to fall out of*

3. **steadfastness**- Gr. **sterigmos**- *firm condition, steadfastness:*

a. We have our steadfastness through our faith in Christ as our righteousness.

b. We can fall from our steadfastness by rejecting faith in Christ.

E. being led away with the error of the wicked

1. **led away**- Gr. **sunapago**- *to be carried off with as a prisoner of war*

2. **error**- Gr. **plane**

3. **wicked**- Gr. **athesmos**- *one who breaks through the restraint of law and gratifies his lusts*

a. The false teachers that Peter is talking about here is the same Jude spoke of. He said that these turn the grace of God into lasciviousness and even denied the Lord Jesus. Hebrews teaches that we can surrender to sin so much that it hardens our heart to the point we depart from the living God. [Heb. 3:12](#)

b. It is possible to renounce your faith in Christ, but it is very rare.

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.

A. but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

1. **grow**- Gr. **auxano**- *enlarge*

a. We can grow in our receiving of God's grace. God has given us all grace, but we must receive grace by faith. Our faith can grow. [2 Thess. 1:3](#) Since our faith can grow then our receiving of God's grace can grow as well.

2. **grace**- Gr. **charis**

a. There is a cross side to grace. This is grace that came to us because of the cross. This is positional in nature. We are forgiven of our sins and justified. There is also a resurrection side of grace. This is grace that came to us through the new birth. This grace brings power and the fruit of the Spirit to our lives.

b. We are to grow in our understanding of cross grace and grow in the drawing upon and application of resurrection grace.

3. **knowledge**- Gr. **epignosis**- *higher knowledge, revelation knowledge*

a. How are we to be diligent not to fall from our steadfastness? It is by daily growing in the grace of God! It is by daily growing in revelation knowledge of God! This is done by the daily intake of the Word of God depending on the Spirit to give us wisdom, revelation knowledge, and understanding of God and His Word.

B. To Him be the glory both now and forever.

1. **glory**- Gr. **doxa**

2. **now**- Gr. **nun**

a. In the church age

3. **forever**- Gr. **aionios**

a. In the ages after the church age

C. Amen- Gr. **amen**- *so be it, it is so!*