



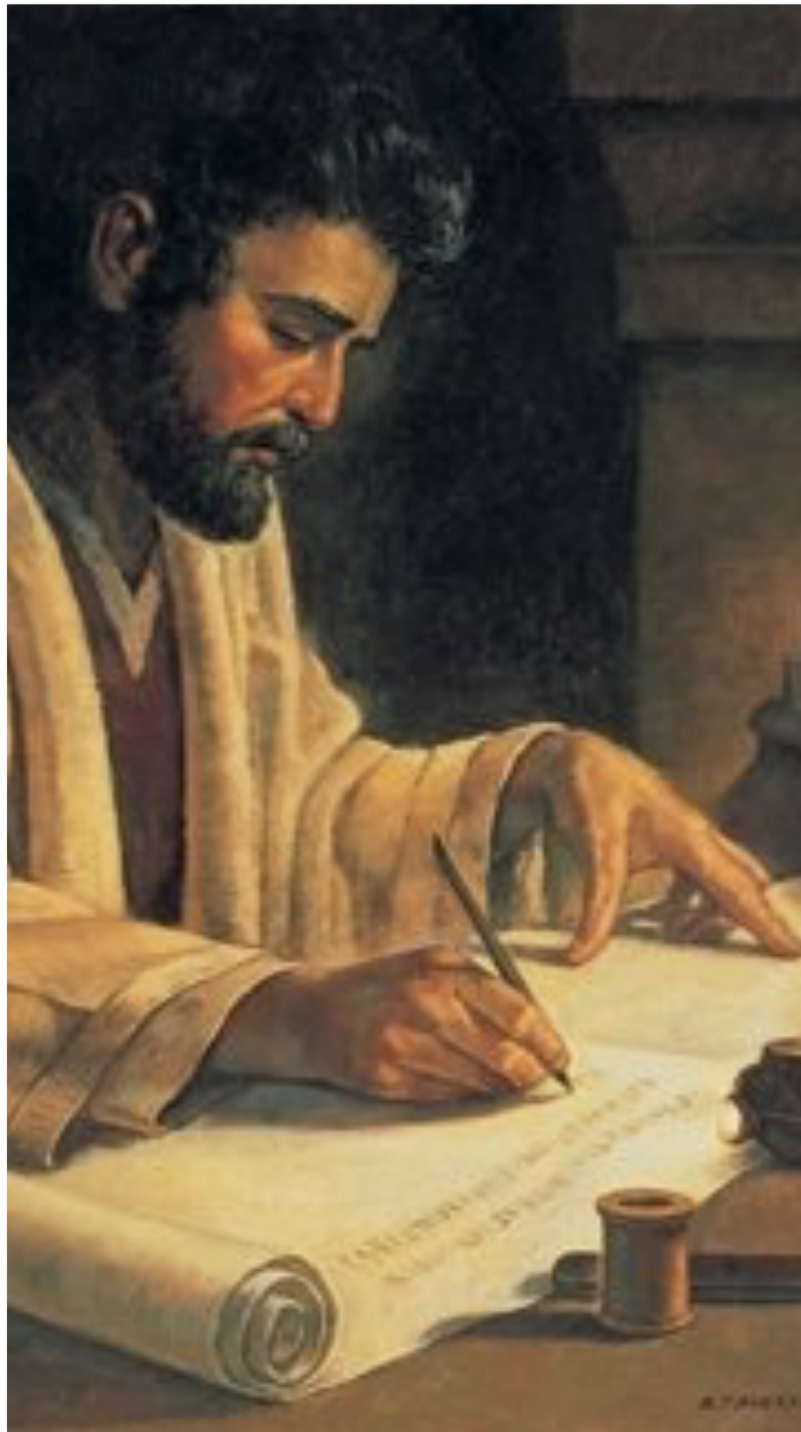
(2 PETER 1:1-4)

2 PETER

“WHY TRUE FAITH IS PRECIOUS”

“WHY TRUE FAITH IS PRECIOUS”

INTRODUCTION TO SECOND PETER



◆ Distinctions between the first and second epistles:

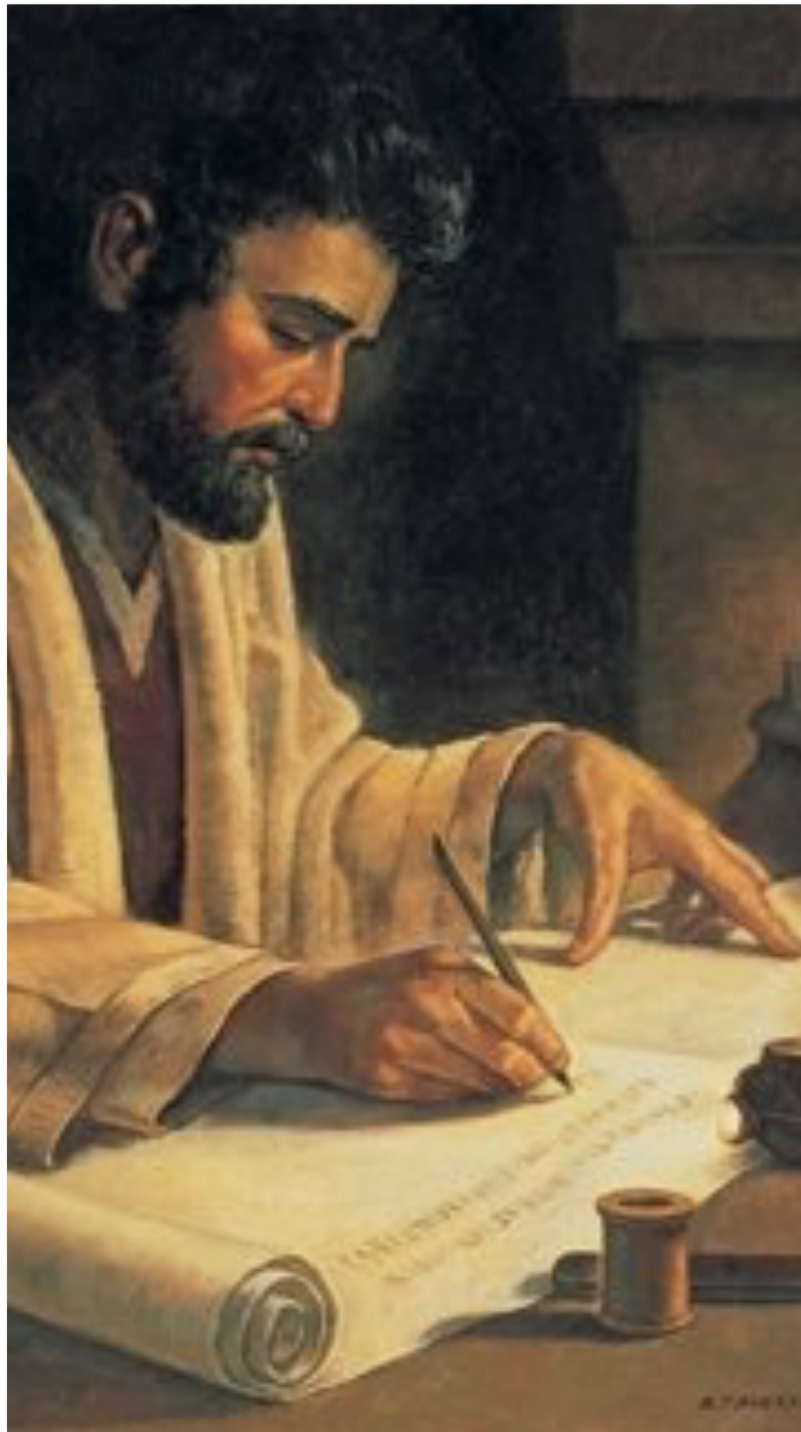
- The first epistle was written to encourage Christians to keep their faith while suffering.
- The second was written to encourage Christians to keep their faith in the face of increasing heresies & apostasy facing the church.

◆ The date of the book is near the end of Peter's life (1:12-15) App A.D. 67

◆ A General epistle, written to Christians wherever they are ...

“WHY TRUE FAITH IS PRECIOUS”

INTRODUCTION TO SECOND PETER



◆ THE PURPOSE OF THE BOOK:

- To encourage Christians to grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ
- To be on guard against false teachers and their destructive doctrines..

◆ A KEY concept emphasized in the book - DILIGENCE:

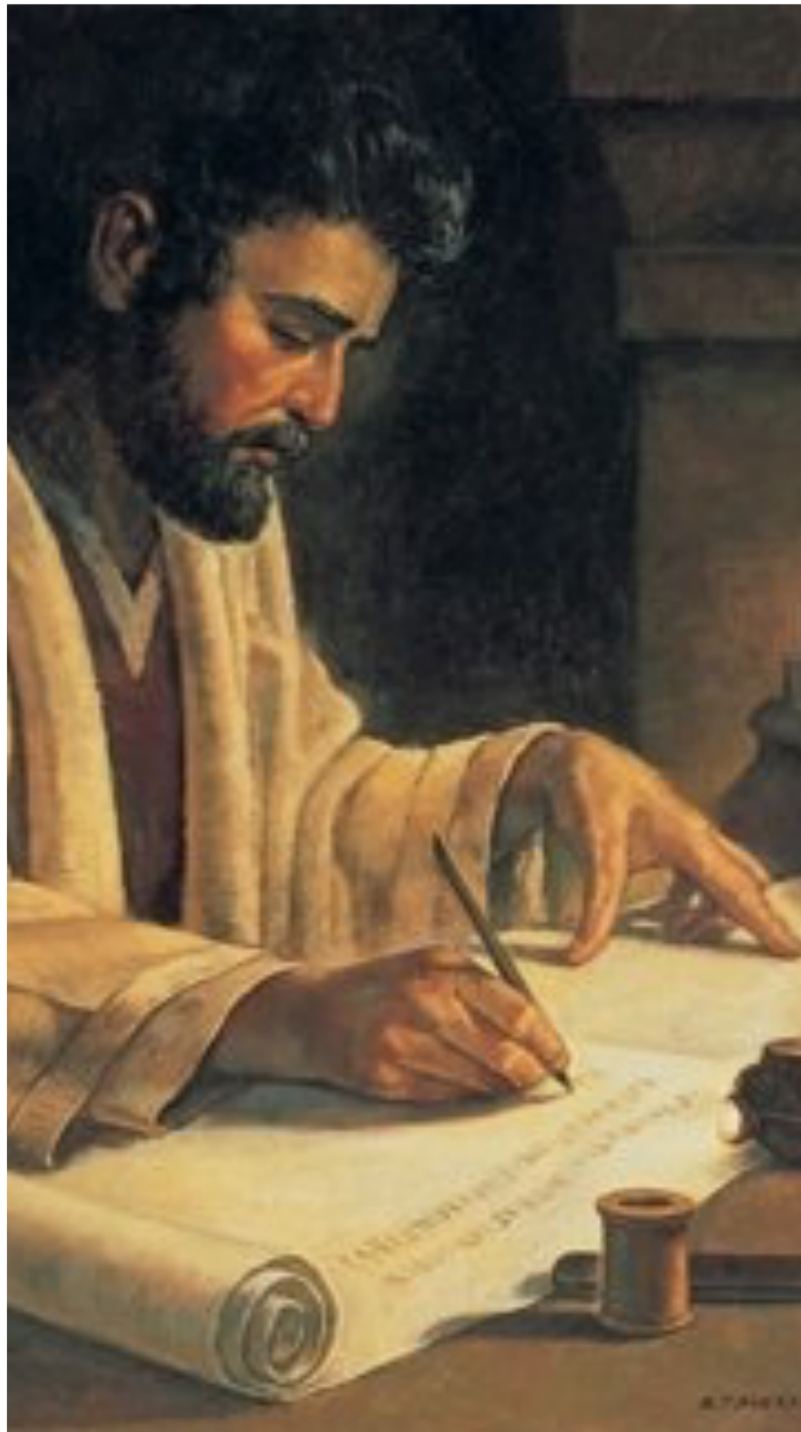
- To be DILIGENT and grow in faith (1:5-10)
- To be DILIGENT to be found by Him in peace (3:14)

◆ Peter twice stresses the importance of being reminded of the truth: 1:12-13; 3:1

“WHY TRUE FAITH IS PRECIOUS”

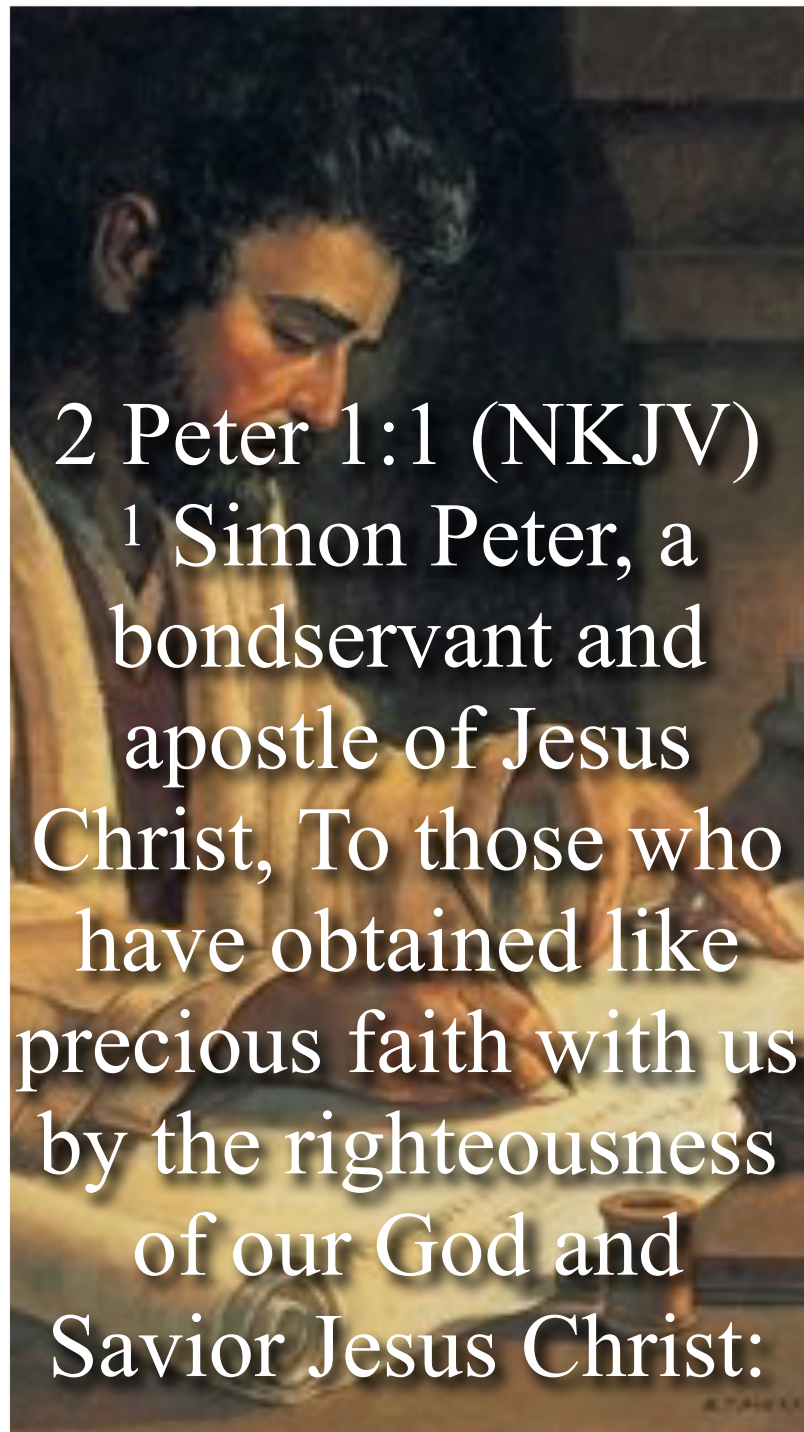
2 Peter 1:1–4 (NKJV)

¹ 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.



“WHY TRUE FAITH IS PRECIOUS”

AUTHOR & RECIPIENTS



2 Peter 1:1 (NKJV)

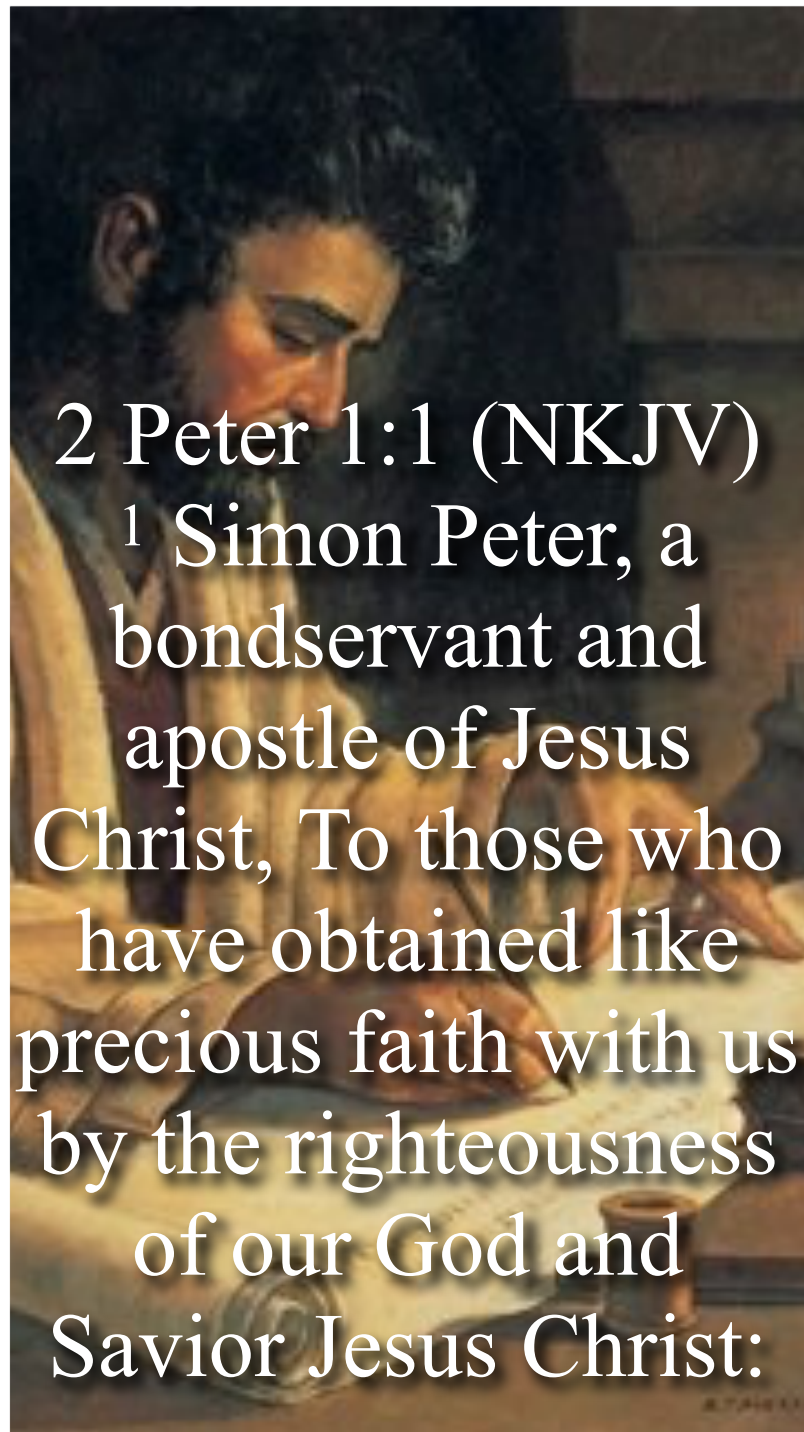
¹ Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have obtained like precious faith with us by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ:

✎ **AUTHOR: (1:1)**

- **“Simon Peter”** - Simon (Hebrew name) Peter (Greek name, corresponding to Cephas, Aramaic name) - The two names are often used together (Matt. 16:16; Luke 5:8; John 1:40; 6:8,68, etc...)
- **“a bondservant”** A common designation for Christians (Rom. 1:1; Col. 4:12; 2 Tim. 2:24; Jam. 1:1).
- **“and apostle of Jesus Christ”** ‘lit., one sent forth’ (Vine p. 63) / Ambassadors of Jesus (2 Cor. 5:20)

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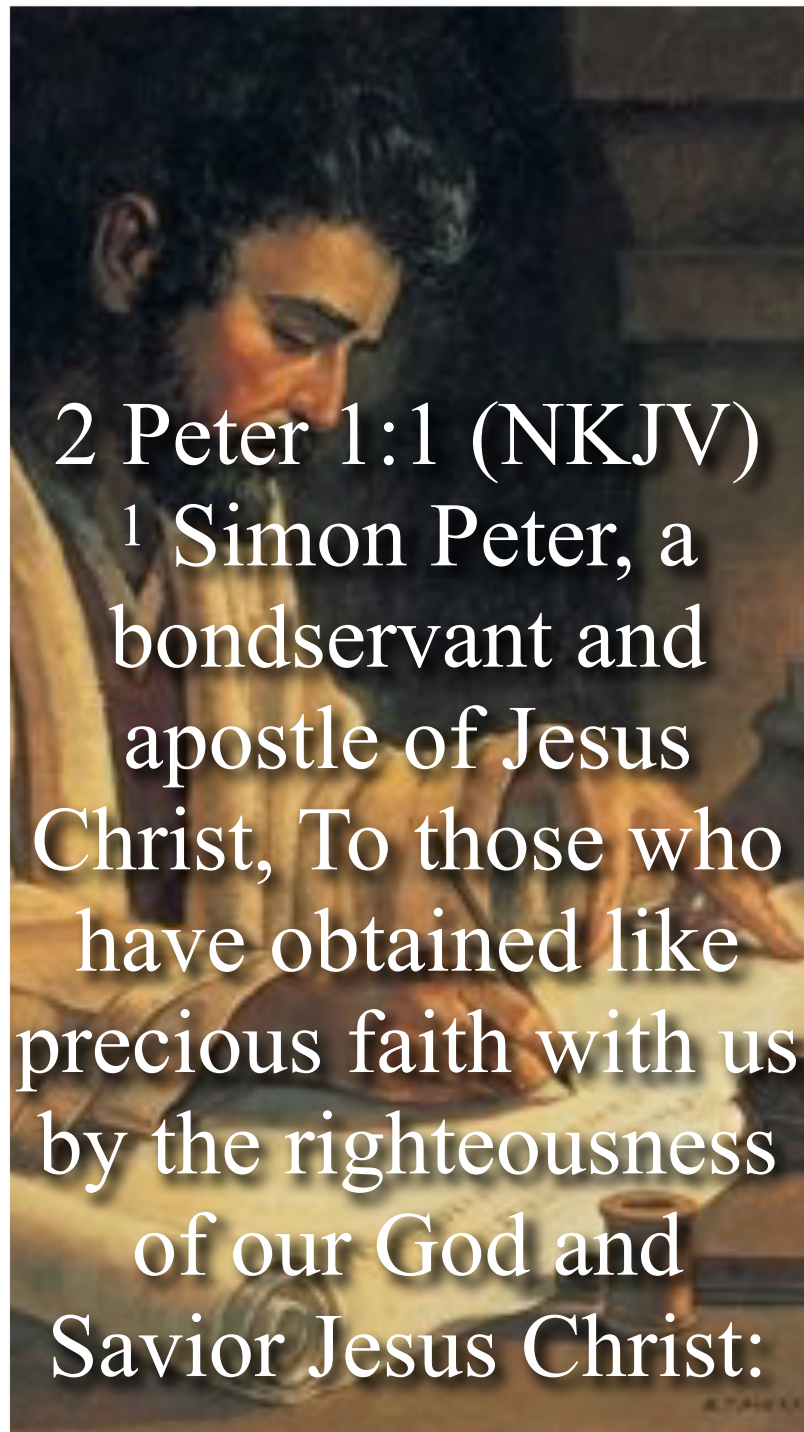


✦ **“To those who have obtained like precious faith with us” (1:1)**

- There is no distinction to be made between the faith of the apostles had and the faith of every other Christian - there is but ONE FAITH (Eph. 4:5)
- The faith, (objective, the gospel which is to be believed) produces unity in our faith (subjective, that which is believed) (Rom. 1:17; Eph. 4:11-14)
- Obtained: those who have received what God has given. (Rom. 1:17)

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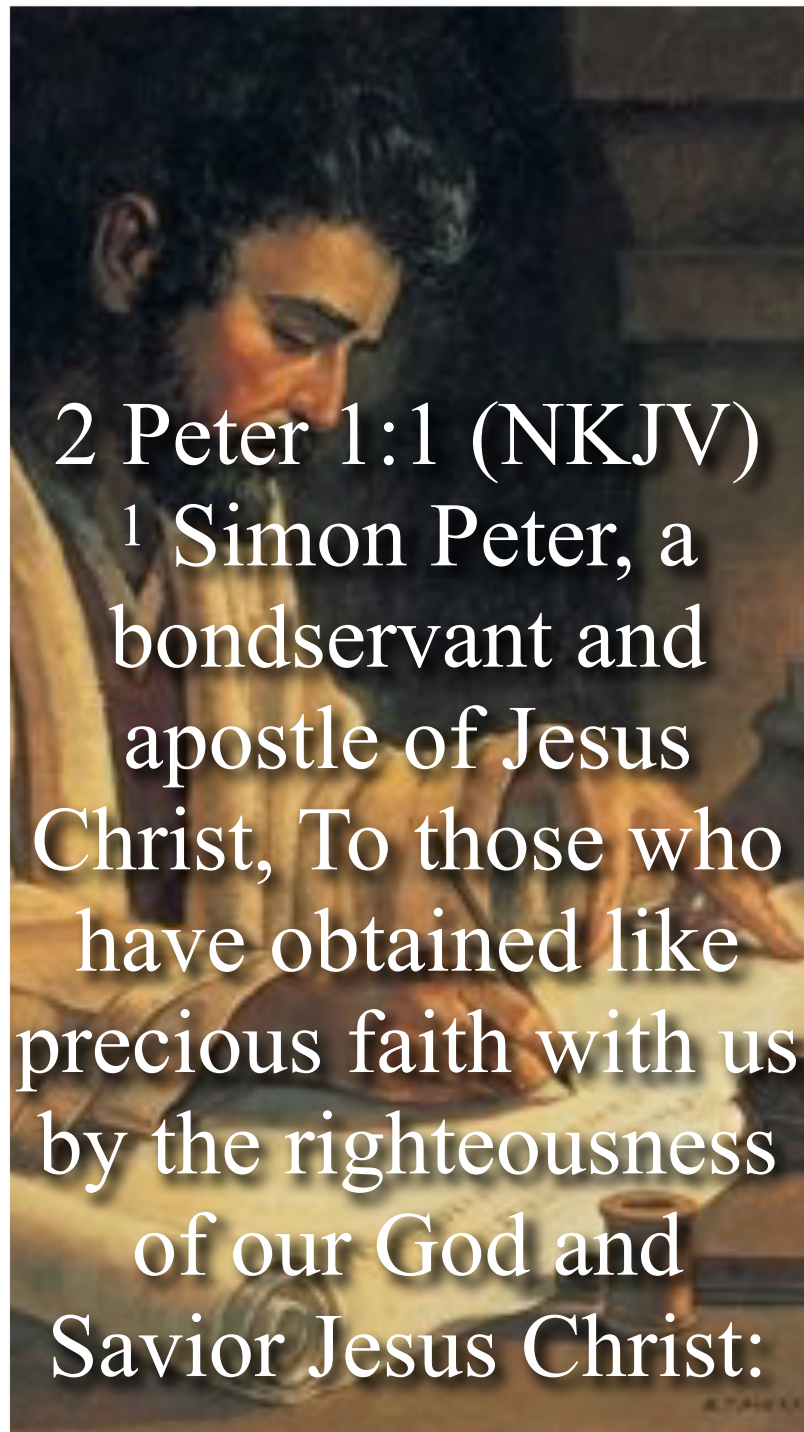


✦ “To those who have obtained like precious faith with us” (1:1)

- True faith is only produced by hearing the gospel (Romans 10:17)
- There is but one gospel, (Gal. 1:6-9), therefore, true faith is the acceptance of the one gospel proclaimed by the apostles (Acts 15:9, 11; Jude 3; 1 Jn 4:6)
- The faith produces the same character and conduct when it is received (Romans 1:5; 16:26; Gal. 5:6; 1 Thess. 1:3) (Hamilton pp. 5-6)

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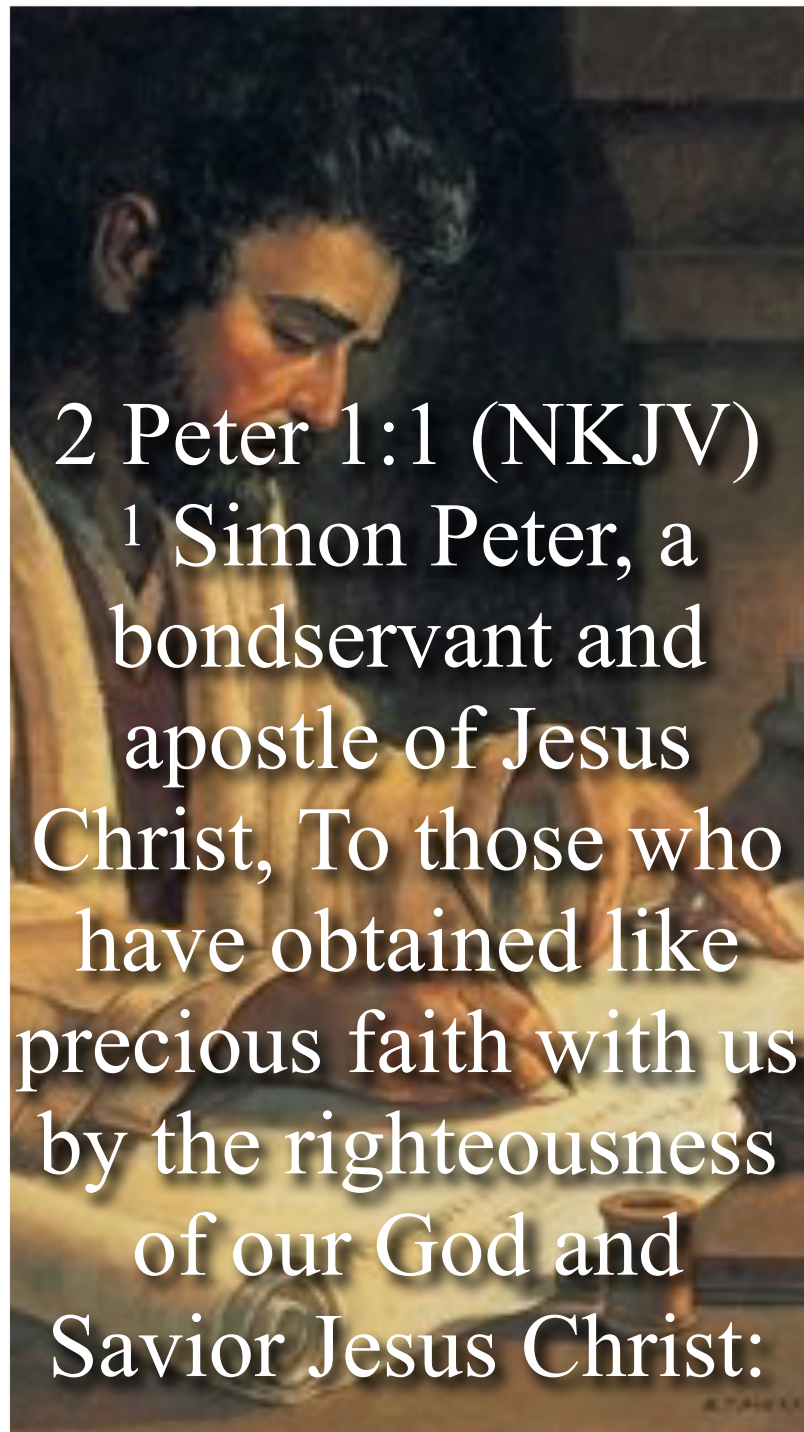


✦ **“by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ:” (1:1)**

- “Righteousness” (dikaiosynē, “justice” or “uprightness”) - certainly himself God is “righteous,” which made the sacrifice of Christ necessary.
- The gospel is God’s means of making men righteous (Rom. 1:16,17)
- The gospel proclaims salvation is available to any and all who will believe in Christ (Rom. 1:16,17; 3:22)

“WHY TRUE FAITH IS PRECIOUS”

AUTHOR & RECIPIENTS



✦ **“by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ:” (1:1)**

- The grammar here clearly indicates that “God and Savior” are one Person, not two (i.e., there is one Gr. article with two substantives). (B.K.C)
- ‘Grammar demands that one person be meant’ (Robertson p. 148)
- Jesus is called ‘God’ in several other passages (Jn 1:1; 20:28; Col. 2:9; Heb 1:8; Titus 2:13)

“WHY TRUE FAITH IS PRECIOUS”

THE BLESSING OF KNOWLEDGE (1:2-4)



✦ **“Grace and peace be multiplied to you ...” (1:2)**

- Grace and peace (charis ... kai eirēnē; cf. Pauline usage in Rom. 1:7; 1 Cor. 1:3; 2 Cor. 1:2; etc.) were the characteristic Greek and Hebrew greetings (eirēnē being the Gr. trans. of the Heb. šālôm).
- These virtues come through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

“WHY TRUE FAITH IS PRECIOUS”

THE BLESSING OF KNOWLEDGE (1:2-4)



“in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord,” (1:2)

- ‘EPIGNOSIS’-denotes exact or full knowledge, discernment, expressing a fuller or a full knowledge, a greater participation by the knower in the object known, thus more power influencing him.’ (Vine p. 301)
- “Knowledge” (*epignōsei*, “full [*epi*, additional] knowledge”) implies an intimate and personal relationship, the means of receiving “grace & peace.”
- Peter used this term *epignōsis* again in 2 Peter 1:3, 8; and 2:20.

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THE BLESSING OF KNOWLEDGE (1:2-4)

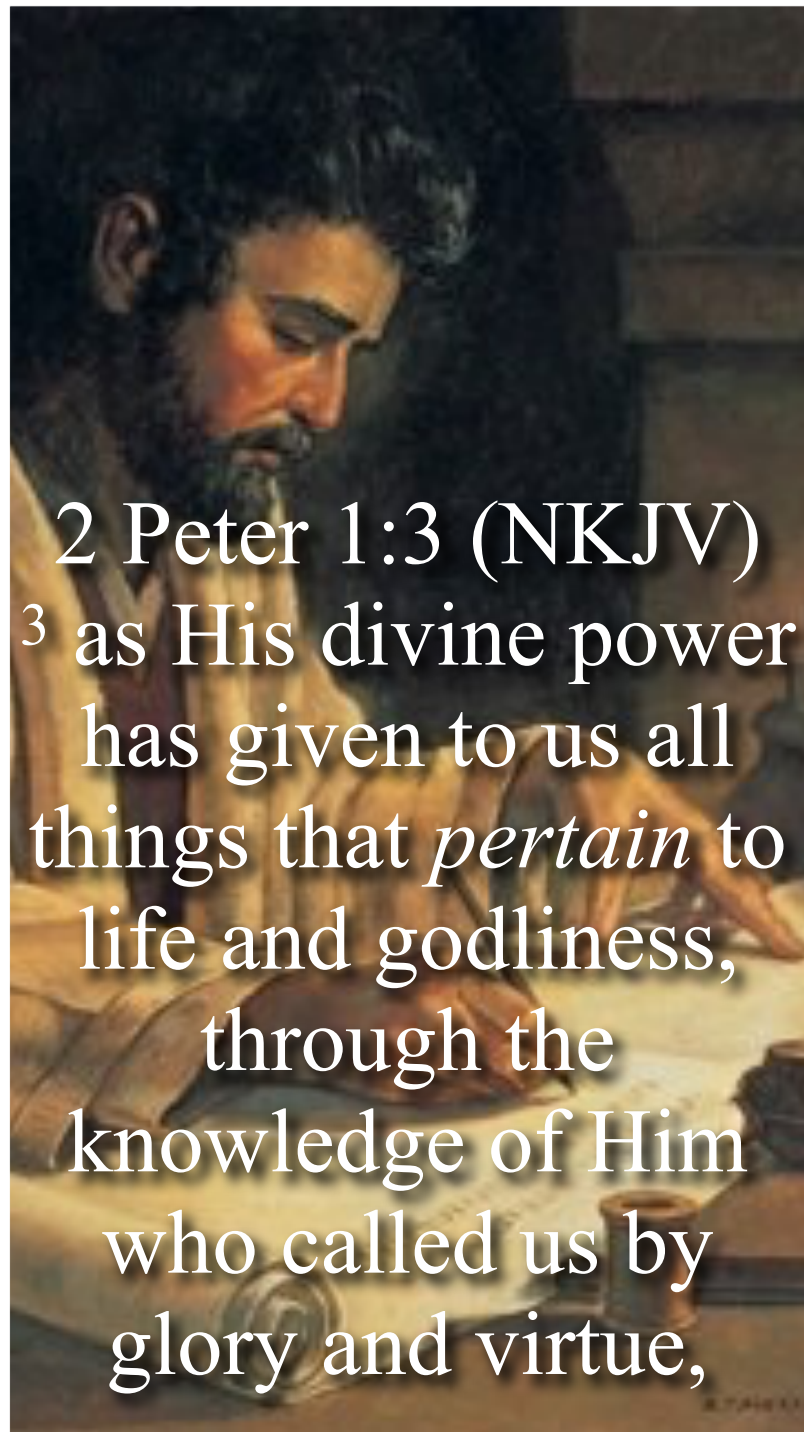


“in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord,” (1:2)

- **‘Jesus our Lord’**-‘Peter is also alert to the danger of taking shortcuts to heaven, and behaving as if God had magically so transformed us that the categories of “sin” and “obedience” have become irrelevant. He does not want us to forget that Christians talk of Jesus as their Lord as well as their Saviour.’ (Lucas/Green p. 43)
- Jesus is the Savior of all who submit to Him, and will judge all those who do not (Eph. 5:24; Acts 17:30,31; Luke 6:46)

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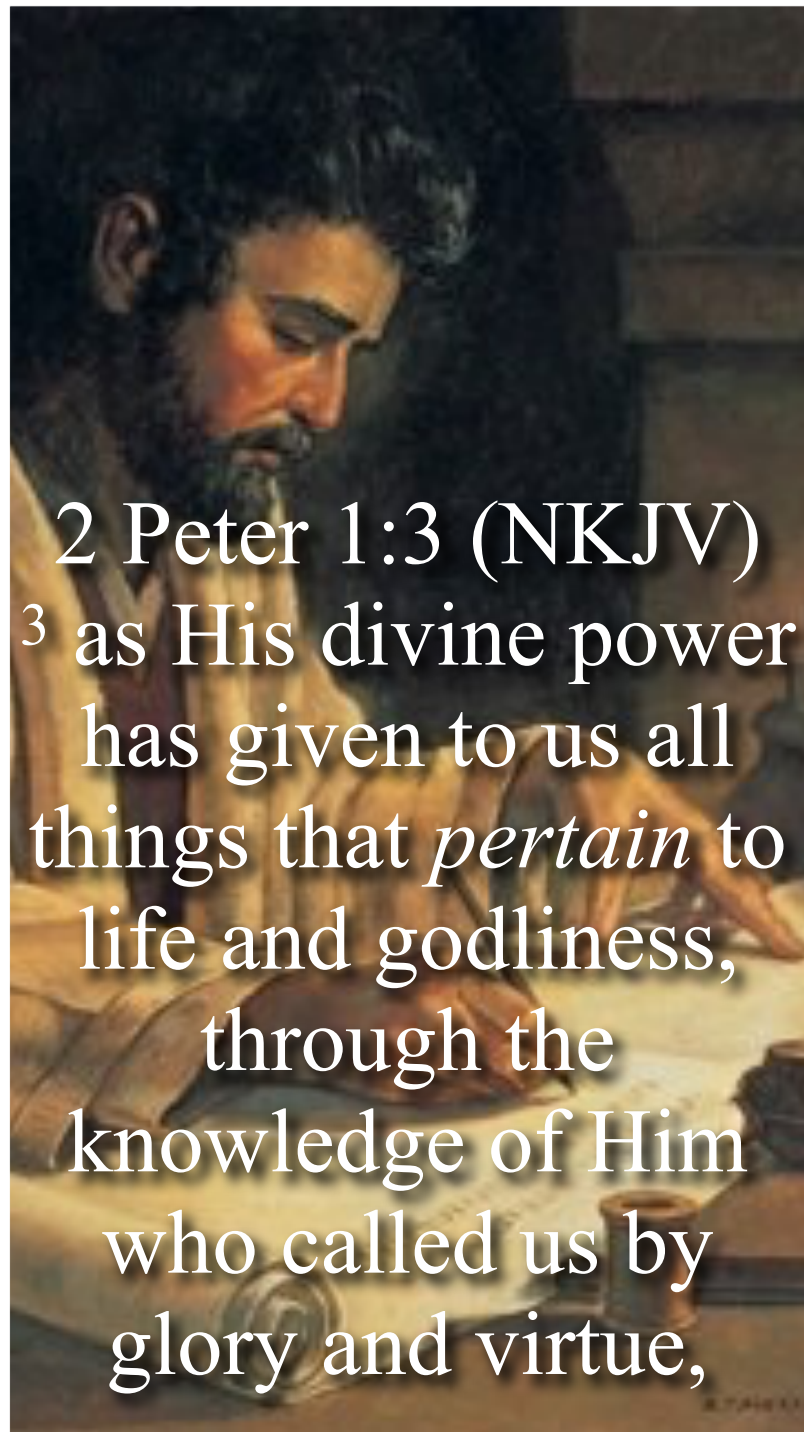


“as His divine power” (1:3)

- **‘His divine power’** - ‘Christ’s divine power has provided everything believers need for life and godliness - Jesus is BOTH gracious and powerful.
- All that believers need for spiritual vitality (life) and godly living (*eusebeian*, “godliness,” “piety”; cf. comments on 1:6; 3:11) is attainable **through our knowledge of Him** (Christ).
- A “full knowledge” (*epignōseōs*; cf. 1:2) of Christ is the source of spiritual power & growth (cf. Phil. 1:9; Col. 1:9–10; 2:2).

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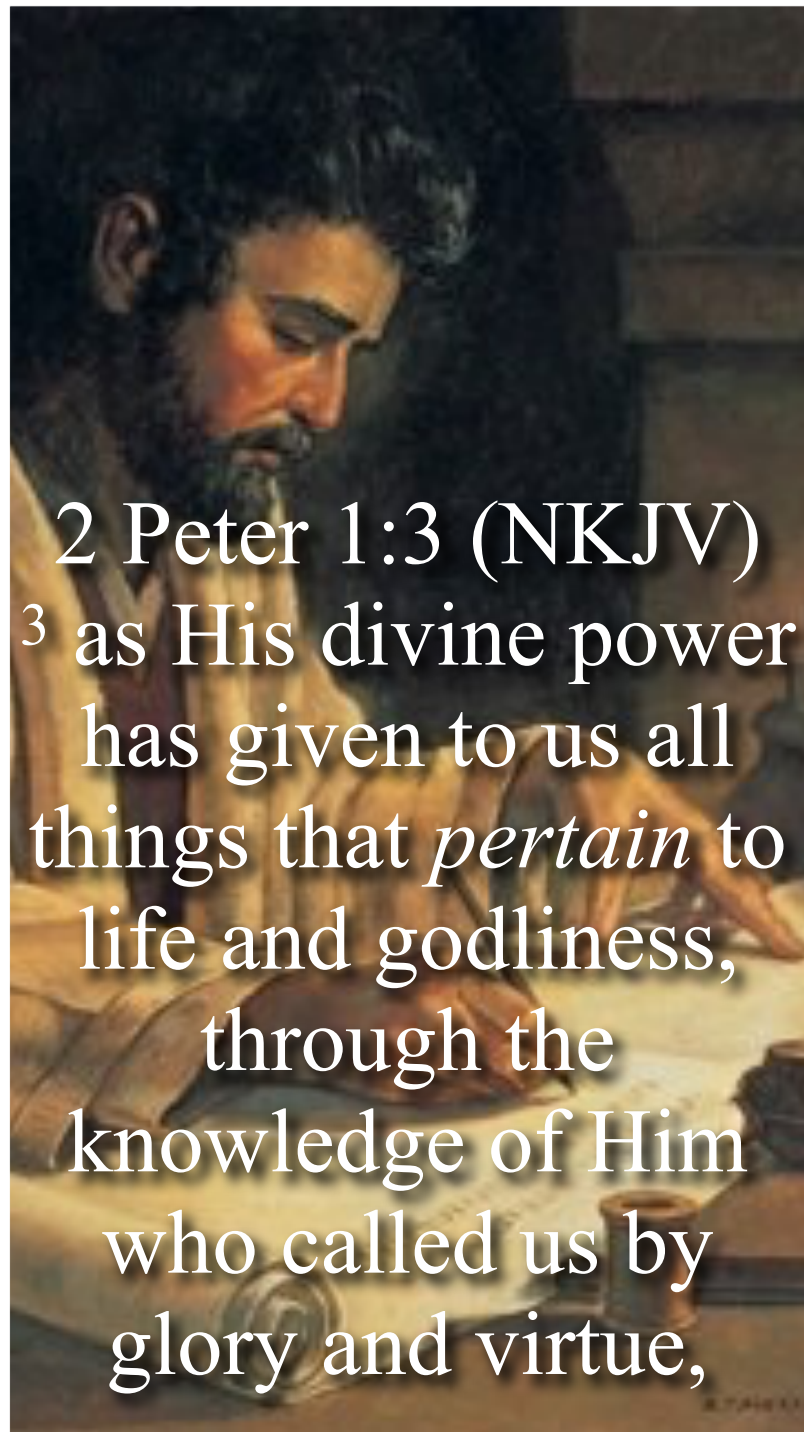


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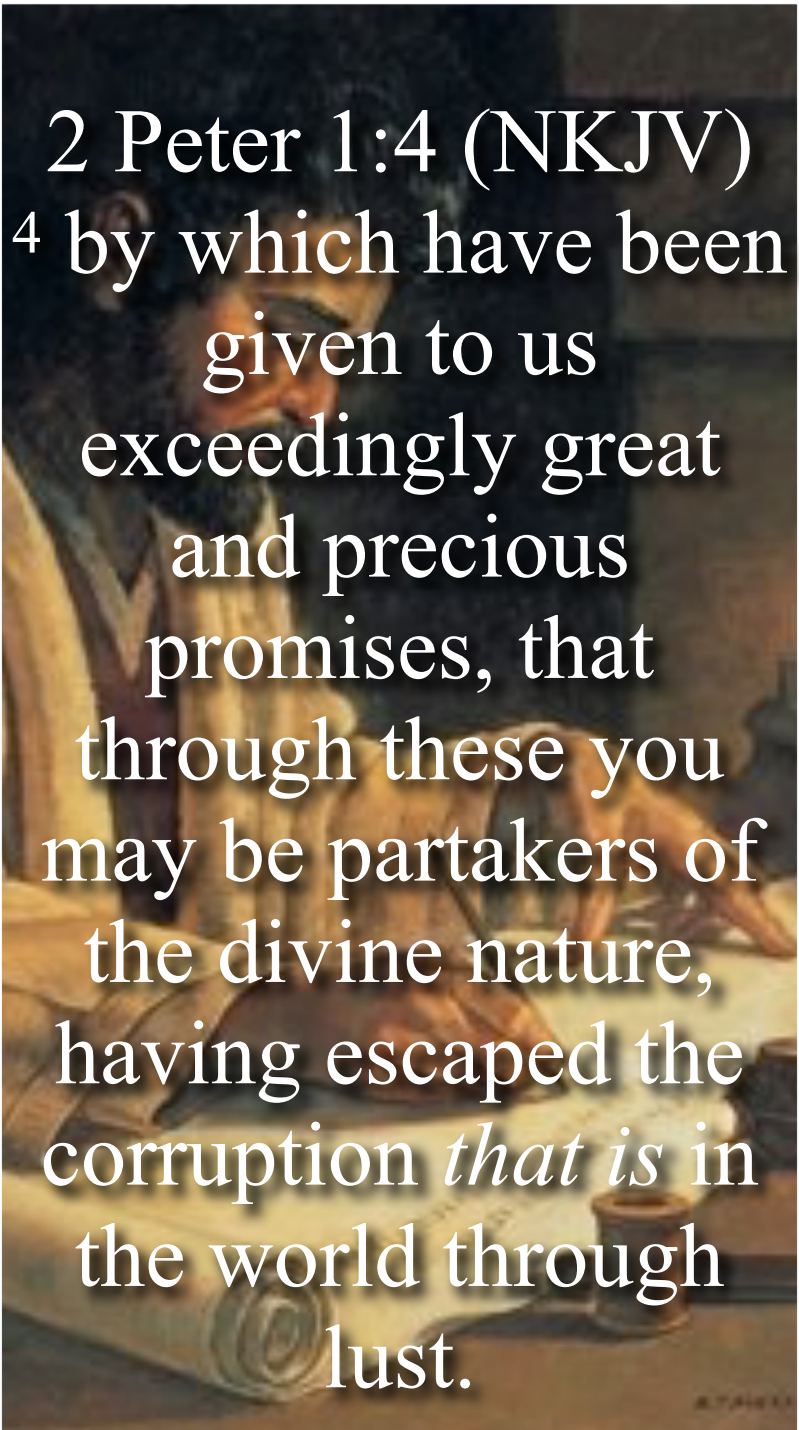


“as His divine power” (1:3)

- **‘who called us’**-Through the gospel message (2 Thess. 2:14).
- Every Christian has within their reach the resources to live a life which is pleasing to God.
- There is nothing extra to find out or gain access to what we have already obtained...The gospel is sufficient for us to meet God’s requirements.

“WHY TRUE FAITH IS PRECIOUS”

THE BLESSING OF KNOWLEDGE (1:2-4)



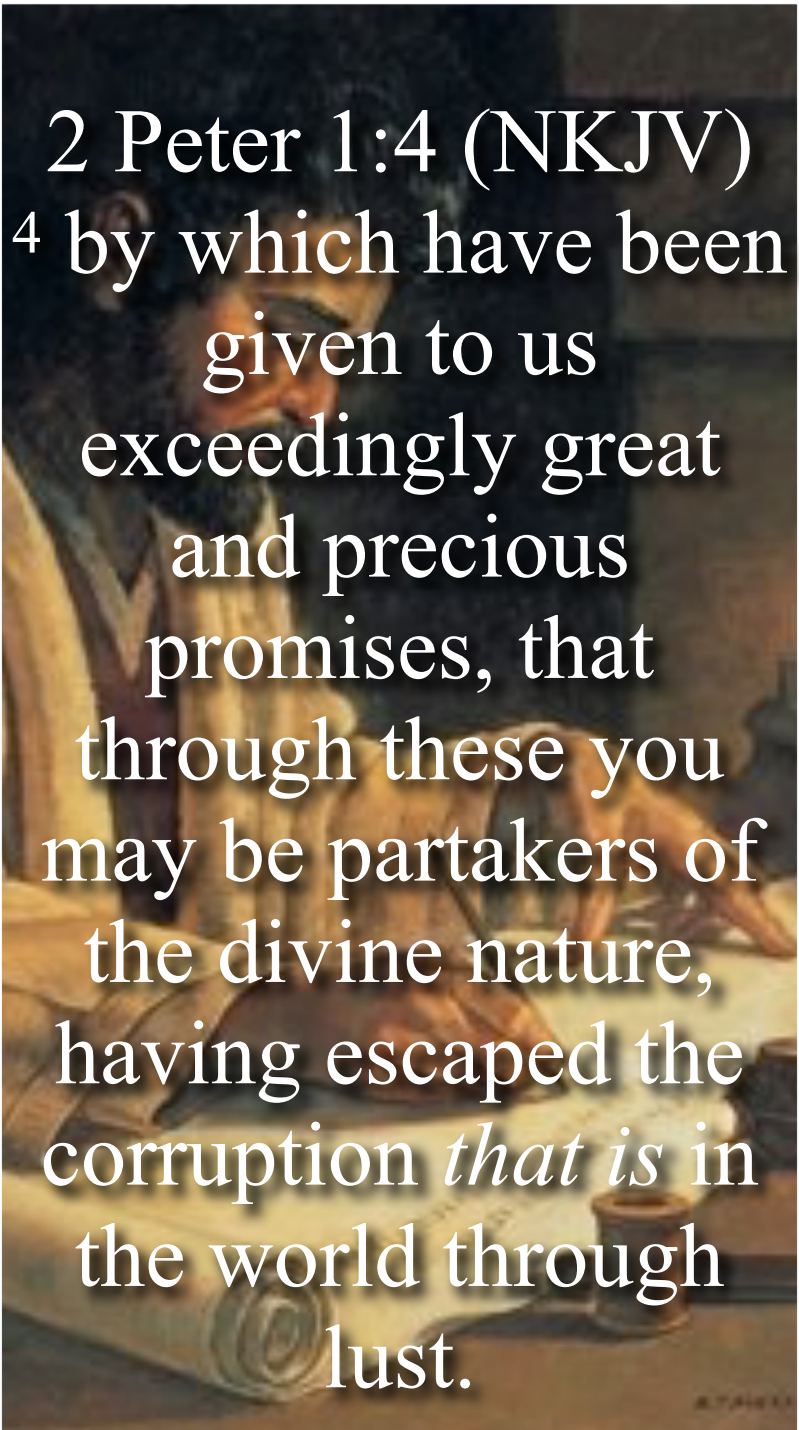
2 Peter 1:4 (NKJV)
4 by which have been
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“by which have been given to us
exceedingly great and precious
promises” (1:3)

- **‘by which’**-i.e. through His glory and virtue, (i.e., by His positional authority and His moral excellence, goodness)
- Peter used “very great and precious” to describe Christ’s promises - a believer’s inheritance (1 Peter 1:3–5) and the return of Christ (1 Peter 1:9, 13).
- Peter uses similar language to describe a Christian’s faith (1 Peter 2:7; 2 Peter 1:1), Christ’s blood (1 Peter 1:19),

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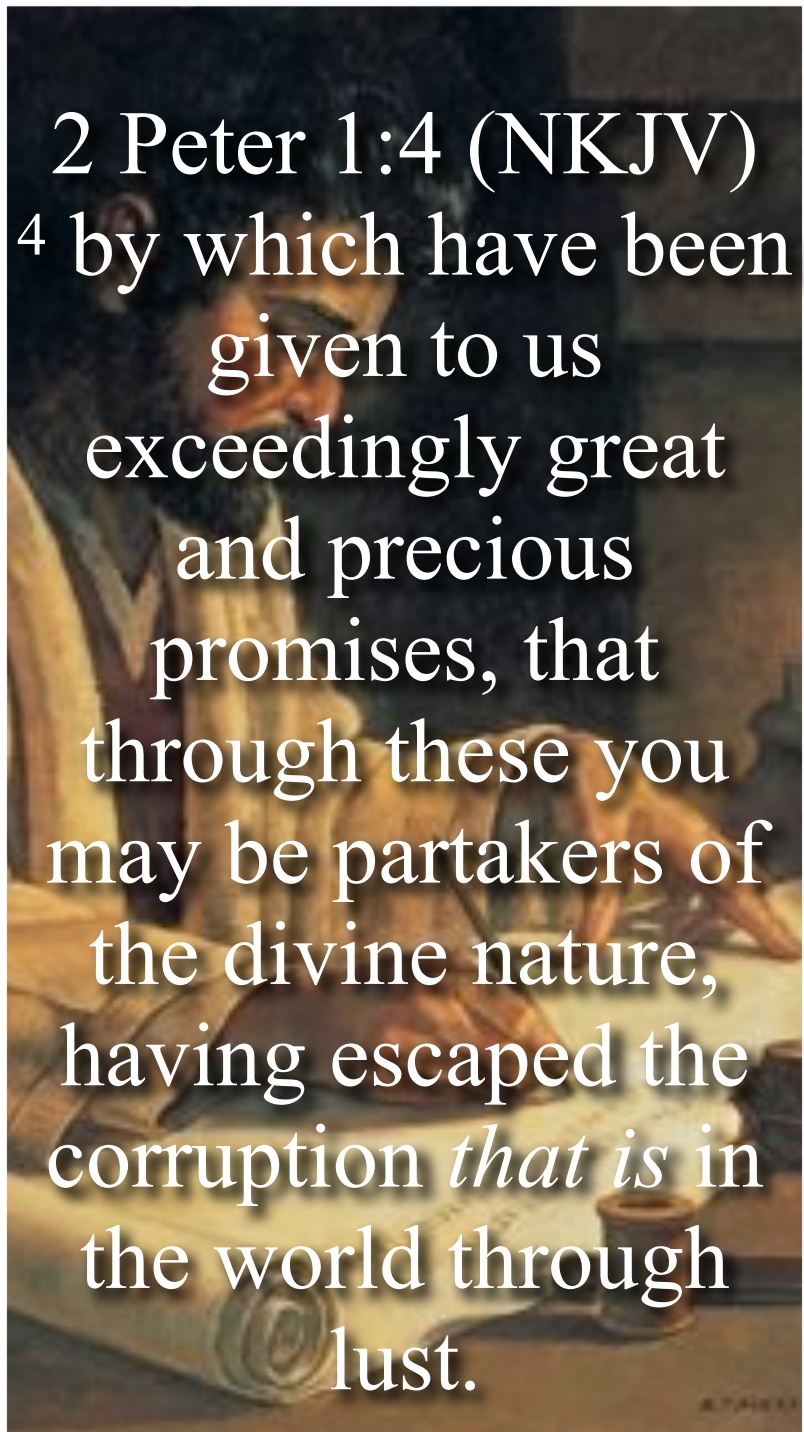
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“that through these you may be” (1:4)

- **‘partakers’**-‘sharer’ (Thayer p. 352);
‘one who takes part in something,
companion’ (Arndt p. 439)
- **‘of the divine nature’**-‘participate in
the divine nature’ (TCNT). The word
‘nature’ includes the idea of ‘disposition’.
- All the qualities listed in the following
verses (1:5-8), compose the divine
nature. Christians are to assume, is a
disposition patterned after God. (Luke
6:36; Matt. 5:48; Jn 13:14,34; 17:21; Eph.
4:33; 5:25; Col 3:13; 1 Pet 1:15; 2:21).

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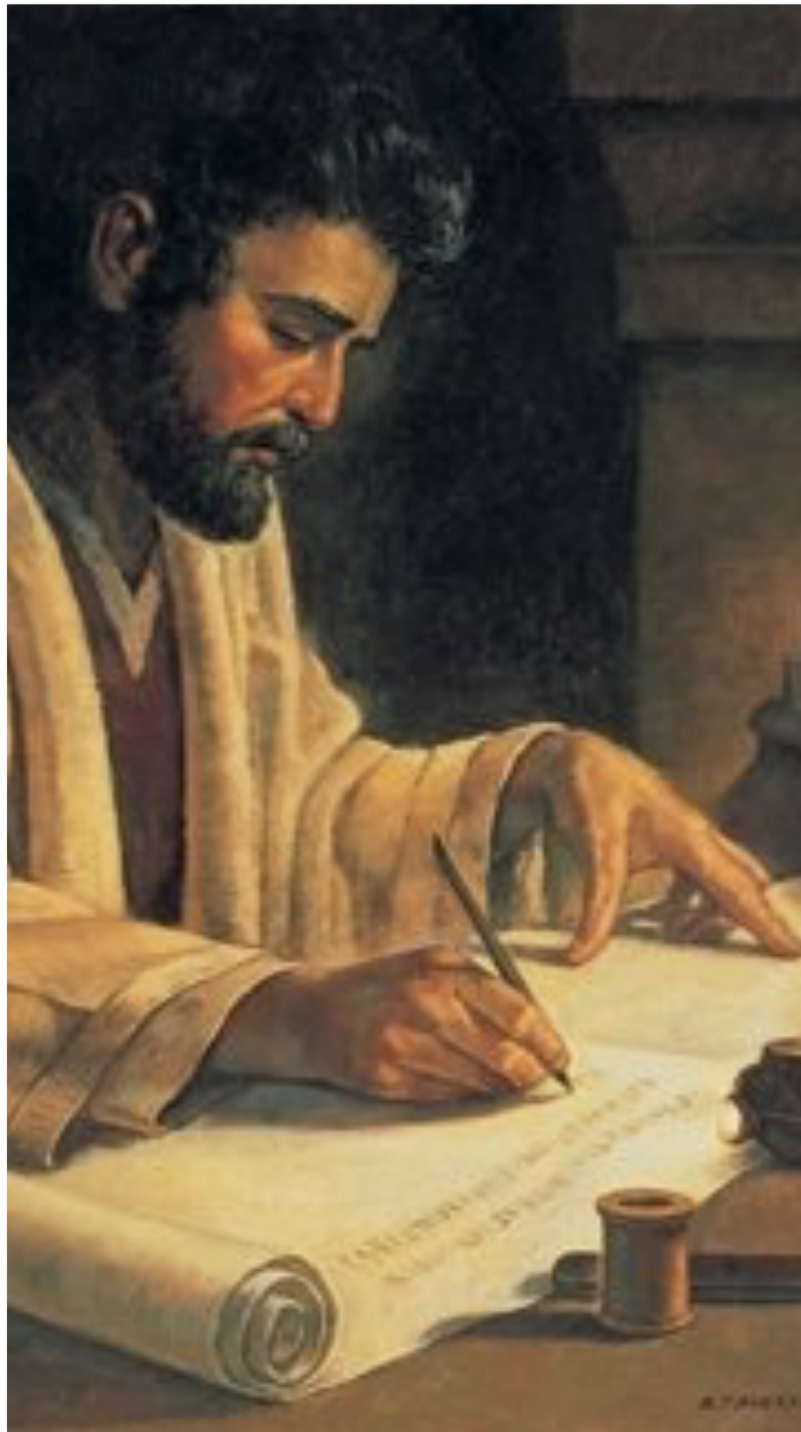
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“having escaped the corruption” (1:4)

- They had escaped the corruption (phthoras, “moral decay”) in the world (cf. 2 Peter 2:20; 1 John 2:15–17) caused by evil desires (epithymia, lit., “lust”).
- They had been saved and in Christ by their obedience to the truth, (1 Pet. 1:22,23).
- Peter will instruct these same Christians to make their calling and election sure by growing spiritually (vs. 5-11)
- The danger of returning to the world through the influence of false teachers was and is real (chapter 2)

“WHY TRUE FAITH IS PRECIOUS”

INTRODUCTION TO SECOND PETER



- ❖ Have you obtained the “like precious faith these brethren received?”
- ❖ Have you believed and obeyed the truth?
- ❖ Have you escaped the corruption that is in the world?



(2 PETER 1:1-4)

2 PETER

“WHY TRUE FAITH IS PRECIOUS”

Colossians 2:4–10 (NKJV)

⁴ Now this I say lest anyone should deceive you with persuasive words. ⁵ For though I am absent in the flesh, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your *good* order and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ. ⁶ As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, ⁷ rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving.

Colossians 2:4–10 (NKJV)

⁸ Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ. ⁹ For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; ¹⁰ and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.