

2 Peter 1:1-4

Cut Loose: Escaping Worldly Corruption Of Sin

The Main Idea of 2 Peter 1:1-4

By God's Powerful Grace through Faith in Christ Christians know God and receive the promises of eternal life, and become a participant in His holy character in order to lead a godly life and escape this world.

The Man of Faith: Peter (v 1a)

1. Controversy over the Writer: The Apostle Peter (See 3:1, 1:14, 16-18) – In prison in Rome (64-68 AD)
2. Audience: Same individuals in 1 Peter
3. Intent: False Teachers infiltrating the church (2:1); Motivate believers to grow in Christian faith and knowledge of God & the divine Scriptures (See 1:5-21)
4. Solution to Contend Against the False Teachers: Knowing True Doctrine (knowledge mentioned 16x)
5. Apostle of Jesus Christ: Eyewitness – (Acts 1:22, v 16)
6. Servant/Slave of Jesus Christ – Humility (See 5:1)
7. Characteristics of a Servant Leader to Jesus Christ
 - a. Bondservant: Voluntary Selling of Self to Serve
 - b. Apostolic Authority which recognizes Jesus' Lordship
8. Peter's Subject in this Opening of the Letter: Faith!

The Origin Or Source Of A Received, Saving Faith (1b)

1. An Obtained (Received NASB, NIV) Faith
 - a. Word used four times; idea of gaining something by casting lots (Luke 1:8-9, 19:23-24)
 - b. To obtain Faith in this way means:
 - i. You cannot earn or merit it, work for it
 - ii. You were not smarter or wiser to gain it
 - iii. No Room to Boast (1 Cor 1:26-29)
 - iv. Faith is a Gift (Eph 2:8-10)
2. An Equalizing, Precious Faith
 - a. No Various Grades or Ranks of Faith
 - b. The Apostles and You have the same Faith
 - c. Peter's Faith and Our Faith come from the Holy Spirit and the Righteousness of Christ
3. The Source of Faith: The Righteousness of Christ

4. The Object & Focus of Faith: Jesus Christ
 - a. Jesus is Our God (*The Granville Sharp Rule*, 1798)
 - i. Article+Noun+Conjunction+Noun = NOUN
 - ii. Our God And Savior = Jesus Christ
 - iii. This whole phrase MODIFIES One Noun!
 - b. Jesus is Our Savior
 - i. Without Christ, we are Lost and Without Hope

An Abundant Grace and Peace Filled Faith (v 2)

1. The Greeting is Not Empty Words (1:2 // 3:18a)
 - a. The Greeting and the Closing Parallel Each Other
 - b. The Point: Grow and Mature in Your Christian Faith
2. The Root and Fruit of Faith
 - a. Root of Faith: The Powerful Grace of God
 - b. Fruit of Faith: Peace with God
 - c. Prayer of Faith: May it be Multiplied to You
3. HOW? Your Knowledge of God and of Christ
 - a. False Teachers: False promises based on a special, mysterious knowledge and following them
 - b. Peter knew they were Wrong! False Knowledge
 - c. Orthodox Belief does not Save – the Devil is more Orthodox than We are! Yet, he is Damned!
 - d. The Pharisees were Orthodox in their Religion, yet called Children of Satan
 - e. Knowing God and Christ = Eternal Life (John 17:3)
 - f. A different Gospel = Cursed (Gal 1)
 - g. **Belief and Relational Knowledge of God and Christ are Eternally Important**

God's Power Supplies Saving Faith (v 3)

1. God's Power Called Us to His Glory and Excellence
2. God's Power Works Through Revelation – Knowledge
3. God's Power Gave Us Everything for Eternal Life
4. God's Power Gave Us Everything for Godly Life

God's Promises Linked To Saving Faith (v 4)

1. God Gave Precious and Very Great Promises
2. Through God's Promises We Partake of God's Nature
3. We Escape the Corruption of the World and Sinful Desire by God's Power in the Promises