

In Person and Inspiration

2 Peter 1:12-21

Pastor Tony Shen | Del Rey Church

1. Peter Reminds the Church (1:12-15)

Review of verses 1-11

God's Gifts and Promises (1:1-4)

God's Call for Our Response (1:5-7)

God's People, Useful and Fruitful (1:8-9)

God's Calling and Choosing, Confirmed through Our Practice (1:10-11)

What will we leave behind?

2. Peter Recalls His Confession (1:16-18)

Truth not tales

Transfiguration (Mt 17:1-8; Mk 9:2-8; Luke 9:28-36)

What is our witness?

3. Peter Reviews the Canon (1:19-21)

The Scriptures reveal both past and future truth

The doctrine of inspiration (cf. 2 Tim. 3:16-17)

How will we pay attention?

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

You † Your Family † Your Friends † Your Community Group

1. Peter knows that the "laying aside of [his] earthly dwelling is imminent" (he knows he's going to die soon), so he wants to be sure to leave behind important teachings to those he loves. What important truths do you want to leave behind for your loved ones? Of what eternal significance are they? What would Jesus think of what you've decided?
2. Why and how is it important that the Christian faith is not Aesop's fables or the basis of other religions that can't be verified? When you engage with people of different beliefs, do you emphasize these distinctions? Share your strategies with each other.
3. The New City Catechism, which we hope you are memorizing this year, asks question 34, "Since we are redeemed by grace alone, through Christ alone, must we still do good works and obey God's Word?" and answers in part, "Yes... so that by our godly behavior, others may be won to Christ." Our witness consists both in explicitly telling others the gospel of Christ, and in attractively exhibiting Christlikeness. How are you doing in your witness? (How would your spouse, kids, parents, fellow Del Rey Church brothers and sisters, friends, neighbors, co-workers say you're doing?)
4. To paraphrase Peter, we would "do well to pay attention" to the Scriptures from now until the end times come. You can read ahead through the end of the letter of 2 Peter for a preview. How does the promise of the future help us pursue increasing godliness and holiness today?