



Assurance From The Past

Part One: "God's Unchanging Word"

2 Peter 1:12-15

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All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • Pew Bible Page Number is 1117.

In the STUDY VERSE SECTION, God's Word is printed in regular faced text with Pastor Joe's commentary in the smaller faced text. Biblical words, underlined with dots, are explained in the brackets. • Pastor Joe's email is Joe@southreno.com.

I am a spiritual being... After this body is dead, my spirit will soar.
I refuse to let what will rot rule the eternal. – Dr. Max Lucado



REVIEW FROM LAST WEEK

The Power for the Present

1. We have received Christ's gift of salvation—He lives in us.
 - A. The **START** of Christian Excellence—receiving God's Gift.
 - God's Sovereignty (in being saved).
 - Man's Responsibility (now that we are saved).
 - B. The **SUSTANANCE** of Christian Excellence—fruitfulness, discernment, assurance of salvation and the guarantee of never fail.???
 - C. The **STEPS** of Christian Excellence—we must add to our faith moral excellence, knowledge of God's Word, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, and sacrificial love.
2. We may need to *recalculate* and/or *redirect* our lives based on our **GPS—God's Positioning System—the Bible.**

POINT: God's Presence in us is our "Power for the Present"

TODAY'S STUDY SECTION

Assurance From The Past

Part One: "God's Unchanging Word"

2 Peter 1:12-15

You know these things, and you are very strong in the truth, but I will always help you remember them. ¹³ I think it is right for me to help you remember as long as I am in this body. ¹⁴ I know I must soon leave this body, as our Lord Jesus Christ has shown me. ¹⁵ I will try my best so that you may be able to remember these things even after I am gone.

- 2 Peter 1:12-15, NCV

1. God's Grace is Available.

2 Peter 1:12, GWT -¹² *Therefore, I will always remind you about these qualities, although you already know about them and are well-grounded in the truth that you now have.*

- We are listening to the apostle Peter.
- He is about to die ("A great man's dying words should be heard." - AM).
- Peter denied the Lord's three times, cut a guy's ear off, etc.
- Remember Acts 2—God gave Peter His power, Spirit and Message.
- Remember Acts 12—God rescued Peter for the Gospel.
- Remember Luke 9—God revealed to Peter His absolute Lordship.
- Remember John 21—God recommissions Peter.
- Remember Luke 22—God reminds Peter of His grace.

"The content of the Gospel is so important!"

2. Our Lives are Brief.

2 Peter 1:13-14, NLT -¹³ *And it is only right that I should keep on reminding you as long as I live. ¹⁴ For our Lord Jesus Christ has shown me that I must soon leave this earthly life...*

"I preach, as never sure to preach again, and as a dying man preaching to dying men." – Richard Baxter (English Puritan, theologian, hymn writer; circa 1600s)

"The urgency of the Gospel is so important!"

3. God's Word is True.

2 Peter 1:15, GNB -¹⁵ *I will do my best, then, to provide a way for you to remember these matters at all times after my death.*

"The significance of the Gospel is so important!"

LIFE APPLICATION SECTION

No matter where you are in the Lord, your time is short, His Grace is available, the Gospel needs to be spread, and we need the unflinching Word of God to keep us on track.