



Assurance From The Past

Part Two: "The Savior Portrayed in the Gospel" 2 Peter 1:16-18

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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.

TODAY'S STUDY SECTION

STUDY VERSE SECTION - 2 Peter 1:16–18, NASB95 - ¹⁶ For we did not follow cleverly devised tales [Gk: *mythos*, lit., cunning fables] when we made known to you the power and coming [Gk: *parousia*; lit., (His) presence; rf., His Second Coming] of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we [rf., Peter, James and John] were eyewitnesses [there is objective confirmation of the truth of Christian teaching; this word is used only here in the NT in this plural form] of His majesty [lit., (His) preeminence]. ¹⁷ For when He received honor and glory from God the Father, such an utterance [a word used here and in Acts 2 rf. about what happened at Pentecost] as this was made to Him by the Majestic Glory, "This is My beloved Son with whom I am well-pleased"— ¹⁸ and we ourselves heard this utterance made from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain [An issue is 'where did this happen?': (1) Mt. Sinai: the "holy mountain" where Jerusalem sits—most holy mountain to the Jewish people (Maybe they were transported there); (2) Mt. Tabor; (3) Mt. Hermon, north of Galilee in the direction of Caesarea Philippi near where Christ would have been. Where? I don't know. Who was there? I do know! Peter, James, John and Jesus—for where He is, it is always holy.]

The Savior Portrayed in the Gospel

1. His Power – "...known to you the power...of our Lord Jesus Christ"
2. His Parousia – "...known to you the...coming of the Lord Jesus Christ"
3. His Praise – "...He received honor and glory from God the Father..."
4. His Preeminence – "...were eyewitnesses of His Majesty"
5. His Pleasure – "This is My beloved Son with whom I am well-pleased"

"God doesn't love us because of our worth, we are of worth because God loves us." -Martin Luther

LIFE APPLICATION SECTION

The Reliability of Holy Scripture

A. Two Important Statements from Pastor Joe:

1. "I believe in the verbal, plenary, inerrant inspiration of the Holy Scriptures."

The verbal (i.e., Holy God verbally dictated and selected every word) **plenary** (i.e., "full"—meaning each book, paragraph and verse—even the very spelling of the words) **inerrant** (i.e., no errors in the original manuscripts), **inspiration** (i.e., who provided the information—in this case, "holy" God) **of the Holy Scriptures.**
2. "I believe in the infallibility and sufficiency of the Holy Scriptures."

"**Infallibility**" indicates that the very Scriptures *we hold in our hands* are not able to fail in achieving its purpose and that no word is without God's power to fulfill His purpose; and furthermore, no word of truth or promise within God's Holy Word can be broken, violated, or disregarded by Him. The word "**sufficiency**" means it is *sufficient* for you in any situation, storm or time-frame and that no additional or special revelation from God is necessary.

B. "Why can we trust the Bible?"

1. Because of the fulfillment of biblical prophecy.

Did you know that some three hundred Old Testament predictions found their fulfillment in Jesus Christ alone? For example: The Birth at Bethlehem; prophesied: Micah 5:2, fulfilled: Matthew 2:1. Riding a Donkey; prophesied: Zechariah 9:9, fulfilled: Mark 11:1-10. Cleansing of the Temple; prophesied: Psalm 69:9, fulfilled: John 2:13ff. Pierced hands and feet; prophesied: Psalm 22:16, fulfilled: John 19:33.
2. Because of biblical archeological evidence.

Archeology confirms that the Bible is true. No other religious text passes the test of biblical archeology.
3. Because of paleographical evidence.

Paleography, the study of ancient writing systems and the deciphering and dating of historical manuscripts, confirms the reliability of Scripture.
4. Because of its denunciation of sin.

Only the Bible tells us about our true condition without God. MOST other religions convey man as "becoming better;" not so in Scripture.