

Bible Outlines by [John T Polk II](#)  
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*All Scriptures and comments are based on the New King James Version, unless otherwise noted.*

## Outline of the Bible Book of 2 Peter

2 Peter = Knowledge

[God Is Perspicacious]  
Blueprint for Redemption

### I. Knowledge of the Pertinent Past **1:1 - 21**

#### A. *For Those 'In the Know'* **1:1**

1. From an apostle who first preached it **1:1a**
2. To those who have received it **1:1b**

#### B. *Freedom of Information Act* **1:2-4**

1. **Divine knowledge** of Christ brings "grace and peace" **1:2**
2. His "**divine power** has given to us all things" that save **1:3**
3. **Divine nature** frees from world's corruption by lust **1:4**

#### C. *God's Gifts Require the Response of "Diligence"* (Greek *speudow* - exert one's self, endeavor **3:14** (**Ephesians 4:3**; **2 Timothy 2:15**; **Hebrews 4:11**))

1. add to "faith" **1:5-7**
2. "virtue" (Greek *aretēn*) - moral goodness, **1:3**; **5**; **Philippians 4:8**
3. "knowledge" (Greek *gnōwsin*) - understanding, **3:18**; **1 Peter 3:7**
4. "self-control" (Greek *egkraitēs*) - **Acts 24:25**; **Galatians 5:22-23**
5. "perseverance" (Greek *hupomōnē*) - steadfastness, **James 1:3-4**;  
**James 5:11**

6. "godliness" (Greek **eusebeian**) - reverence, piety towards God, **1:3; 3:11**
  7. "brotherly kindness" (Greek **philadelphian**) - **Hebrews 13:1; 1 Peter 1:22**)
  8. "love" (Greek **agape**) - **Matthew 5:43; 6:24; 22:37; John 10:17; Romans 8:28; 13:8; Galatians 2:20; Ephesians 5:2, 25, 28; James 1:12; 1 Peter 1:22; 1 John 4:11, 19-20**
- D. *If These Are Your Responses, Then You Will... 1:8-11***
1. not be barren nor unfruitful in Christ's knowledge **1:8**
  2. not become short-sighted nor forgetful of salvation **1:9**
  3. not stumble **1:10**
  4. not miss "everlasting kingdom" of Christ **1:11**
- E. *Urgency to Establish "Present Truth" Because:***
1. Bible writer would otherwise "be negligent" **1:12**
  2. Bible writer(s) would soon be dying and unable to write **1:13-14**
  3. Bible would depend upon writing, NOT continuous revelation! **1:15**
- F. *Certainty of Inspired Word 1:16-21***
1. Faith in Christ's earthly life based on fact, NOT fables **1:16**
  2. God twice spoke endorsement of Christ:
    - a) at Jesus' baptism **1:17 (Matthew 3:16-17)**
    - b) on mount of transfiguration **1:18 (Matthew 17:1-9)**
  3. Prophetic word is "more sure" since fulfilled in Christ **1:19**  
**Cf Luke 24:27, 44-48; Acts 3:24**
  4. Prophecies could never have been explained by the prophets, themselves, because they wrote by complete control of the Holy Spirit **1:20-21**

- a) prophets were passively inspired, i.e. they had no control over their words as the Holy Spirit selected from their vocabulary and guided their pen (Peter said the gospel was “to all who are afar off” **Acts 2:38-39**, but it required a miraculous vision to get him to go to Gentiles **Acts 10; 11**, and Paul rebuked him for refusing to be seen with Gentile Christians **Galatians 2:11-16 Cf 1 Peter 1:10-12; 1 Corinthians 2:6-13; Luke 1:70; Acts 3:18; 2 Timothy 3:16**). Therefore, they did not originate either the ideas, words, or interpretation of their prophecies, but only God did! Since Scripture prophecies did not originate with men, neither could their “loosing” or interpretation **Cf Mark 4:34**.
- b) prophets were, however, in control of their own actions, for an orderly presentation in assemblies (**1 Corinthians 14:31-32**).
- c) false prophets present their own material and give their own interpretations for their own glory.

## II. Knowledge of the Present Prevarications **2:1-22**

### A. *False Prophets and False Teachers Do Exist [Doctrinal “Profiling”]* **2:1-3**

1. “among you” **2:1a**
2. secretly present heresies **2:1b Cf 2 Corinthians 4:2-5**
3. destroy themselves and others **2:1c**
4. many follow them and the way of truth is blasphemed **2:2 Cf John 5:43-47; Matthew 7:13-23**
5. motivated by “covetousness” **2:3 Cf 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8; Matthew 10:8; John 10:12-13**

### B. *They Will Be Damned [Doctrinal “Prognosis”]* **2:4-17**

1. in the world to come **2:4-11**
  - a) “angels who sinned” were cast into Tartarus till judgment **2:4**

b) God spared Noah **Cf Genesis 6-9**

(1) one of only 8 saved in the ark **2:5 Cf 1 Peter 3:20**

(2) righteousness preached before flood (they had their chance)

(3) a world full of ungodly people were not spared **Cf Mark 16:16**

c) God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, but saved Lot **2:6-8**

(1) an example for the ungodly **2:6 Cf Genesis 18:16-19:29**

(2) deliverance for Lot **2:7**

(a) righteous though living among the wicked

(b) suffered daily torments, witnessing lawlessness **2:8**

d) **Conclusion:** God knows how to draw the line between the godly and the unjust both in life and "the day of judgment" **2:9-10a**

e) false prophets show arrogance not even angels have **2:10b-11 Cf Jude 9; Psalm 103:20**

2. in the present world **2:12-17**

a) similar to "brute beasts made to be caught and destroyed" **2:12a**

(1) speak evil of things they do not understand **2:12b**

(2) will be paid their deserved wages **2:12c-13a**

(3) whose conscience allows carousing in the daytime! **2:13b-17**

(a) they are blotches, not "beauty" marks **2:13b**

(b) they are conditioned to covetousness **2:14**

(c) they stray like Balaam **2:15-16 Cf Numbers 22:21-35**

(d) they give false signs of truth **2:17**

**C. They Are Devoid of Any Truth [Doctrinal "Perfidy"] 2:18-22**

1. their pompous words promise "freedom" but they lie **2:18**

a) "swelling" (Greek *huperogka* - extravagant, **2:18a; Jude 16**)

- b) "allure" (Greek **dealeadzow**- catch by bait, **2:14, 18b**;  
**James 1:14**)
- c) capturing Christians with their doctrine **2:18c**
- 2. **RULE: slavery is for the defeated... 2:19**
  - a) by false promises of liberty **2:19a**
  - b) by corruption (Greek **phthora** - perishable, **1:4; 2:12**;  
**Romans 8:21; 1 Corinthians 15:42, 50; Galatians 6:8**)
  - c) by being "overcome" (Greek **hettaow** - to be made inferior,  
**2:19-20; 2 Corinthians 12:13**)
- 3. worst case scenario:
  - a) re-trapping the escaped is worse **2:20**
  - b) better to be ignorant than learn the truth, than to learn the truth  
and reject it! **2:21**
  - c) true proverbs [Greek **paroimia** - clever or figurative saying,  
**John 10:6; 16:25, 29**] for apostate Christians
    - (1)a dog eats his own vomit **2:22a Cf Proverbs 26:11**
    - (2)a washed sow wallows in the mire again **2:22b**

### III. Knowledge of the Prospective Prophecy **3:1-18**

#### A. **Scoffers Ignorant of God's Past Word 3:1-9**

- 1. Peter's "2nd epistle" will "stir up" "pure minds" **3:1-4**
  - a) **of the Old Testament** ("holy prophets") **and the New Testament** ("commandment of us, the apostles of the Lord and Savior") **record of God's miracles 3:1-2**
  - b) **of denial of God's miracles 3:3-4**
    - (1)by "mockers" not serious students of facts **3:3**

(2) by admitting God's rule of life (everything reproduces "after its kind" **Genesis 1:11-12, 20-22, 24-25, 26-28**) while ignoring God's exceptions to the rule (miraculous interventions by the Creator)

2. no remedy for those who "willfully forget" **3:5-9**

a) God's Word created, contained, and crushed by universal flooding with water "the world that then existed" **3:5-6**

(1) the Bible account in Noah's day **Genesis 6-9**

(2) all geological evidence (extra-biblical) of universal flood

b) God's Word reserves the same world for

(1) a universal, fiery obliteration in the future **3:7a**

(2) a universal judgment against "ungodly men" **3:7b**

c) God's Word is ageless **3:8-9**

(1) God is not confined to our calendar **3:8 (Psalm 90:4)**

(2) God is not "slack" but "longsuffering" **3:9**

#### **B. Scoffers Ignore God's Future Word 3:10-13**

1. "the day of the Lord will come" **3:10-11**

a) "as a thief in the night" (unexpectedly) **3:10a**

b) "with a great noise" (conspicuously) **3:10b**

c) "with fervent heat" (destructively) **3:10c, 12**

d) earth and works "will be dissolved" (Greek *luow* - loosen, break up) **3:11a**

2. Christian living will be rewarded with permanence **3:11b-13**

a) "holy conduct and godliness" **3:11b Cf 1 John 2:15-17**

b) anticipating "the day of God" **3:12 Cf Hebrews 9:27-28**

- c) "new heavens and a new earth" NOT remade physical world, but the church which survives forever **3:13 Cf Matthew 16:18; 1 Corinthians 15:42-58**

**C. Scoffers' Ignominy with God's Present Word 3:14-18**

1. "be diligent" in being a Christian **3:14**
2. be thankful for God's longsuffering **3:15-16**
  - a) Peter and Paul taught of God's longsuffering **3:15**
  - b) there were Paul's epistles known by Christians **3:16a**
  - c) there were accepted "the rest of the Scriptures" **3:16b**
  - d) "untaught and unstable" contort Scriptural meanings of "hard to understand" passages **3:16b**
3. be steadfastly holding to what Christian knowledge we have **3:17-18**

## Second Peter's Poignancy:

- \* Parts of this epistle read almost exactly like **Jude**, which shows that:
  1. both writers wrote at the same time and were familiar with the other letter;
  2. both were dictated by the Holy Spirit through each man, which would account for the variations between the two; or
  3. that one letter was the pattern for the other.Whatever the case, the Holy Spirit controlled the wording of both letters.

<b>2 Peter 2:4-17 =</b>	<b>Jude 6-11</b>
<b>2:18 =</b>	<b>Jude 16</b>
<b>3:1-5 =</b>	<b>Jude 16-19</b>
<b>3:17-18 =</b>	<b>Jude 20-21</b>

- \* Christians are blessed to have "precise knowledge" (Greek *epignowsai*, **1:2, 8; 2:20**) of Jesus Christ, but must add to this individual, Christian development (**1:5-8**) in order to "grow" (**3:18** – Greek *auxanow*, **Ephesians 2:21; 4:15; Colossians 2:19**).
- \* "The last days" **2 Peter 3:3** cannot refer to modern times just prior to Christ's 2nd coming, for the following reasons:
  1. **No signs** indicate when His 2nd coming will be **Matthew 24:35-36**
  2. The expression is used to indicate God's final dealings with the earthly Jews/ Israel as His chosen people **Cf Matthew 3:1-3; 4:17; Matthew 21:33-46. Their days were numbered when Jesus Christ was born Cf Galatians 3:13-4:5**
  3. **If "the last days" have not occurred until modern times, then:**
    1. Jacob's prophecy choosing his sons' tribes has never occurred, a *denial of the entire Old Testament* showing Israelites as God's chosen people until Christ was born **Genesis 49:1-28**;
    2. there has been no baptism of the Holy Spirit given and consequently *no inspired New Testament* **Acts 2:16-21 (Joel 2:28-32)**;
    3. there have been no "perilous times" nor sins listed in **2 Timothy 3:1-5**;
    4. God has not "spoken to us by His Son," which would be an *anti-Christ denial* **Hebrews 1:1-3**;
    5. there have been no "scoffers" who deny the possibility of miracles because of the mechanical uniformity of life on earth **2 Peter 3:1-7!**