

II Peter – “...the day of the Lord will come...”

A. Author – “Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ...” [1:1a]

- “Most modern scholars do not think that the apostle Peter wrote this letter.” [Carson, NTI]
- The Gk is too complex for an ignorant Jewish fisherman, has a “late” feel, etc.
- But, others think “the burden of proof is on the skeptics” – for by the 4th c. when the cannon was solidified, the church universally accepted Peter as the author!

B. Date – just before 65 A.D. – and Peter’s martyrdom at the hands of Emperor Nero in Rome.

- Note 1:12-15 where Peter seems to anticipate his imminent death.

C. Destination – “...to those who have received like precious faith with us...” [1:1b]

- Could refer to a group of Gentile believers who believed in Jesus “like” the Jews...
- Could 3:1 refer to I Peter? If so, these believers were in north-central Asia Minor [I Peter 1:1]

D. Purpose – “to build up Gentile believers in Asia Minor, under attack from false teachers.”

- To call believers to diligent growth in our relationship with the Lord Jesus.
- To warn believers about false teachers who “deny” the Lord Jesus.
- To remind believers of the sure 2nd coming of the Lord Jesus, which is our hope!

E. Outline

1:1-4 Introduction: Grace and peace be multiplied to you.

1:5-15 Remember – make every effort to grow in the knowledge of the Lord Jesus!

1:16-21 He IS coming back – we know because we saw Him in His glory on the mountain!

2:1-22 In the meanwhile, BEWARE FALSE TEACHERS – those who deny our Lord.

3:1-13 Despite what the false teachers say, the Lord will keep His promise...and return!

3:14-18 Conclusion: Let your anticipation of the Lord’s return move you to diligence toward Him!

F. Text of the morning – II Peter 3:1-14

“In terms of the end of the world and the return of the Lord Jesus, our God isn’t thinking about clocks and deadlines...but about the people He loves so much.”