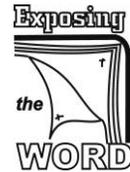


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## The Epistles of 1 & 2 Peter

BY DR. EDGAR PIERCE



### XIV- Remember that Prophecy is Sure: 2Pe 1:15-21

In the Gospel of John there are recorded seven miracles often referred to as the sign miracles that Jesus performed to validate that He was the Messiah to the world. One of the things that gave credence to the claim of Messiahship was the miracles that He performed. John only chose seven under the direction of the Holy Spirit but also said that the world could not contain all the books that could be written about what Jesus did and said.

In the section of Scripture before us in the session there are two other things we will see that give great weight to the arguments that Jesus was who He claimed, the Messiah long promised and now delivered.

The other two of the great verifiers is the eye witness accounts of the Lord while on earth and the prophecies that were fulfilled.

#### I- An Enduring Endeavor:

Remember that our overall theme for this study is *Reminders of Truth*. We see here again the heart of Peter to make a difference in his life by reminding those who lived in his day of the events that changed the world. He not only wanted them to remember during his life but after his passing as well. **2Pe 1:15** *Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able after my decease to have these things always in remembrance.*

We can say that by the Holy Spirit his endeavor has been a lasting endeavor. What one be the one thing that you would like to leave for generations that follow?

#### II- Eyewitness Account and Not Fable:

We live in a time when the Bible is portrayed as fable and at times only myth. Peter was one of the inner circle of the Lord Jesus and was an eyewitness of the things Christ did. Notice what he says in **2Pe 1:16** *For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.*

The NASB says “we did not follow cleverly contrived myths...” The NIV says “cleverly invented stories.”

This bring to my memory the clear defense of Paul concerning the origin of the gospel. **Galatians 1:11-12** *But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. 12 For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.*

Peter says that he was eyewitness to His glory. We find this event recorded for us in **Matthew 17:1-5** *And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart, 2 And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light. 3 And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him. 4 Then answered Peter, and said unto Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias. 5 While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.* (also see **Mark 9:2-8; Luke 9:28-36**)

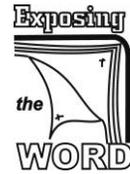
Peter was a spectator at this great event and was the power and glory of Christ.

**2Pe 1:17** *For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. 18 And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount.*

If we explore the eye witness account of the life as well as the resurrection of Christ they present a strong cases even if taken alone as to who He is. After the resurrection He was seen by many. Notice **1 Corinthians 15:4-7** *And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures: 5 And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: 6 After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep. 7 After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles.*

This eyewitness testimony of Peter as evidence of Christ’s transfiguration gives a sureness to the words

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of Peter. He experienced it first hand and could talk with the authority of one who had been there.

### III- Sure Word of Prophecy:

One of the unique things about the Bible is that it has the audacity to proclaim events in the future. We know this as prophecy. The Bible also puts a great weight of accuracy upon anyone who would claim to be a prophet, 100% accuracy or they are a false prophet.

What is the basis or foundation upon which these claims of total infallibility rest upon. Notice *Isaiah 46:9-10 Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, 10 Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:*

*2Pe 1:19 We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:*

The point of prophecy under discussion is the coming of the Lord Jesus, as evidenced in verse 16.

David Guzik says: When we consider the prophetic testimony to Jesus, we do well to heed it. There are at least 332 distinct Old Testament predictions regarding the Messiah that Jesus fulfilled perfectly. The combination of this evidence together, from a simple statistical perspective, is absolutely overwhelming.

Professor Peter Stoner has calculated that the probability of any one man fulfilling eight of these prophecies is one in 100,000,000,000,000,000 (10 to the 17<sup>th</sup> power). That number of silver dollars would cover the state of Texas two feet deep. Stoner says that if you consider 48 of the prophecies, the odds become one in 10 to the 157<sup>th</sup> power.

So with the foundations of the prophecies make sure in God let us look at a few of the Messianic prophecies. Lets look at some of the first coming prophecies. The list is too lengthy to exhaust so we will look at only a few.

One of the riches books in the Bible for prophecies concerning Messiah is the book of Psalms. Let me give the scripture in the psalms and then the fulfillment by Christ.

*Psa 22:1 My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? why art thou so far from helping me,*

*and from the words of my roaring? Mat 27:46 And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?*

*Psa 22:18 They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture. Mat 27:35 And they crucified him, and parted his garments, casting lots: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots.*

*Psa 69:21 They gave me also gall for my meat; and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink. Mat 27:48 And straightway one of them ran, and took a sponge, and filled it with vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave him to drink.*

*Psa 118:22 The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner. Mat 21:42 Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes? Act 4:11 This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner.*

We see three addition things concerning prophecy that make them sure in *2Pe 1:20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. 21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.*

**1- Prophecy is not for private interpretations:** The prophecies were not given to glorify man but Christ.

**2- Did not come from the will of men:** Just as the gospel did not come from men neither did the prophecies, nor indeed could they.

**3- Came from the Holy Spirit:** The Holy Spirit a directed men and the words of the prophecies are sure.

Let me leave us with one last word of prophecy yet to come. *1 Thessalonians 4:15-17 15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. 16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.*