

IS FAITH THE GIFT OF GOD? Pt. 1 & 2 (2 Peter 1:1)

A. The EMPHASIS of PETER'S MINISTRY. (2 Peter 1:12-15)

B. The EXPLANATION of Several KEY SCRIPTURAL TRUTHS to Remember.

1. God wants you to remember the _____ you've trusted. (1:1)

a. The *human writer* of this epistle is _____.

b. The *specific recipients* of this epistle were _____ (1:1),
and specifically the same groups of Christians that Peter wrote to in _____. (3:1)

- How are these people described in 2 Peter 1:1?

2 Peter 1:1 Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ,

To those who have _____ by the
righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ:

- What does "have obtained ... mean?"

How Does A Person "Obtain" Faith in Jesus Christ?

(1) Calvinism teaches that "faith" is a "gift from God". But what saith the Scriptures?

(a) _____ in the Scriptures is the faith involved in salvation described as a
"gift" of God, including Ephesians 2:8.

- What is the gift of God?

(b) The word for "faith" or "believe" is *pistis/pisteuo* which means _____,
as there is no special word for "saving faith".

(c) Many Calvinists _____ into the word "believe" [due to their theology] a
number of concepts that are not intrinsic to the word such as repentance from sin and
surrender or submission to Christ's Lordship, etc.

(d) The word "believe" is a transitive verb requiring a _____ and an _____,
and is almost always in the _____ voice, meaning that the sinner must
_____ to believe in Jesus Christ; it is not something given to him or he
receives. (Acts 10:43; 16:30-31)

(e) The Bible describes a person's faith as _____,
not as a gift from God. (Rom.1:8; 1 Cor.2:5; 1 Thess.1:8 -10)

(f) The value of one's faith is not found in the _____ or _____ of the faith he/she has, but in the _____ of faith. Thus, "saving faith" is not a _____ kind of faith, but faith in a _____ object. (Jn 3:16, 5:24)

(g) Faith is non-meritorious, thus it is consistent with God's _____, while not bringing _____ to man, but to God. (Romans 4:4-5, 16)

(h) Unbelievers, who are spiritually dead, are _____ to exercise faith in Jesus Christ if they choose to, and are held responsible before God for their _____. (Mark 9:23; John 5:39-40; John 3:18; 2 Thess.2:10-12)

(2) The Bible teaches that a person obtains faith in Jesus Christ because ...

(a) "faith _____ by _____, and hearing by the _____." (Rom. 10:17)

* How does this transpire? (Romans 10:14-17)

(b) the Father _____ them (John 6:44-45), Jesus Christ _____ for them (1 Tim.2:4-6), and the Holy Spirit _____ them (John 16:7-10).

- Who is being drawn today? (John 12:32-33) Why? (2 Peter 3:9)
- How is God drawing them? (Rom.1:14-20)
- Can a person resist the drawing / convicting of God?

- What must you note about the phrase "have obtained" in 2 Peter 1:1? What did this specifically involve?
- What did they receive when they believed the Gospel?
- Who was their object of faith?
- What does "like precious" mean?"
- What do we know about these believers from 1 & 2 Peter?

c. The *approximate date* of this epistle was _____.