

**Class 5: Grow into Your Destiny (2 Peter 1-2)**  
**Kingdom Training: Aliens and Strangers, the Life and Letters of Peter**

**Review**

- **Introduction:** We are “**Aliens and Strangers**” fighting to maintain our distinctiveness
- **Identification** (1 Peter 1): “**Call Yourself an Alien**” – accept our calling and commission on The Narrow Road
- **Imitation** (1 Peter 2-3): We imitate Christ and become imitable by walking “**in his steps**”
- **Connection** (1 Peter 4-5): “**He cares**” – Christianity can be defined as being connected to God and people
- **Destiny** (2 Peter 1-2): Today’s Topic!

**1. Introduction to 2 Peter**

- The final words of Peter, written ~65 AD from Rome to a more general audience without the help of Silas as he waited for his crucifixion
- Facing death, what’s on Peter’s heart? *I must soon leave this earthly life (1:14)*
- **Warnings that Parallel Jude**
  - Keep Growing: Don’t stagnate (2 Peter 1:5-11 | Jude 3-4)
  - Guard the Gospel: Avoid false teachers (2 Peter 2:1, 3:3-4 | Jude 4-13)
  - Prepare for the Day of the Lord (2 Peter 3:1-10 | Jude 6)
  - Live a holy life (2 Peter 3:11-15 | Jude 20-23)
  - Be on your guard (2 Peter 3:17-18 | Jude 24-25)
- **Simon Peter, a slave** (*Gk: doulos*) and apostle of Jesus Christ
  - Doulos – someone who belongs to another; a bond-slave, without any ownership rights of their own.
- **Grace and peace be yours in abundance...**
  - Greek: Greetings = “*chairein*” | grace = “*charis*”
  - Hebrew: Peace = “*shalom*” | same as “*greetings*”
- **His divine power... participate in the divine nature... escape the corruption of the world**
  - What is God’s power to overcome the sinful nature? \_\_\_\_\_

**2. The Goodness of Growing**

- The foundation we build on must be our faith in Jesus
- *Without faith it is impossible to please God...* and it warps our character

Character	With Faith, we will see	Without Faith, we will be
Goodness	<i>Virtue in Action</i>	<i>Self-Righteous</i>
Knowledge	<i>Right Thinking</i>	<i>Puffed Up</i>
Self-control	<i>Spirit-led Temperance</i>	<i>Robotically Legalistic</i>
Perseverance	<i>Passionately Patient</i>	<i>Gutting it Out</i>
Godliness	<i>Worshipful Imitation</i>	<i>Burdened with Duty</i>
Brotherly Kindness	<i>Rich Relationships</i>	<i>Buddies not Brothers</i>
Love	<i>An Extension of God’s Love</i>	<i>Burned Out</i>

### 3. First Warning (2 Peter 1) – Hold to God’s Plan!

- *Never stop growing... or you will forget (v9-11)*
  - *Growth doesn’t have to be intimidating*
    - *Stay headed in the right direction*
  - *Growth helps us keep our perspective*
    - *Nearsighted – not problem-focused*
    - *Blind – can’t see God working*
  - *Growth helps you recover when you stumble*
    - *Keeps you focused on heaven*
- *Remember Jesus now... because we won’t be here forever (v12-15)*
- *Get your facts straight... this is an eyewitness account (v16-18)*
- *This is God’s voice... listen closely! (v19-21)*

### 4. Second Warning: Beware of False Teachers (2 Peter 2)

- *What are these false teachings?*
  - *Heresies (v1)*
    - *Doctrines that compromise obedience to the word of God*
  - *Depraved conduct (v2)*
    - *Tolerating sin instead of imitating Jesus; carousing (v14)*
  - *Greed (v3)*
    - *A health/wealth gospel that promises selfish gain*
  - *Fabricated stories (v3)*
    - *Hyping superstitions, “miracles,” “signs,” and “powers”*
- *Three Examples: Noah, Lot, and the Angels*
- *What is the outcome of heresy?*
  - **PRIDE:** *So bold and arrogant they slandered angels (10)*
  - **TRICKED:** *They promised freedom but become slaves (19)*
  - **LOST:** *They escaped corruption but were once again overcome (20)*
    - *They knew our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ*
    - *They became entangled in the world again*

### 5. Conclusion: Grow Into Your Destiny

- *God gives us His Divine Power and His Divine Nature through the Holy Spirit!*
- *God’s plan is to grow our faith into “**goodness, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love**”*
- *Our challenge: overcome the obstacles to growth*
  - *Never compromise your calling*
  - *Keep your eyes on your inheritance*
  - *Reject false teachers and false teaching*
  - *Prepare for your departure (next week’s class)*