

First Peter

Peter an Apostle of Jesus Christ to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus Galatia Cappadocia Asia and Bithynia Elect according to the Foreknowledge of God the Father through Sanctification of the Spirit unto Obedience and Sprinkling of the Blood of Jesus Christ Grace unto you and Peace be multiplied Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ which according to his abundant Mercy hath begotten us again unto a Lively Hope by the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead To an Inheritance Incorruptible and Undefined and that Fadeth Not Away reserved in HEAVEN for you Who are kept by the Power of God through Faith unto Salvation ready to be revealed in the Last Time Wherein ye greatly Rejoice though now for a season if need be ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations That the trial of your Faith being much more precious than of gold that perisheth though it be tried with fire might be found unto Praise and Honour and Glory at the Appearing of Jesus Christ Whom having not seen ye Love in whom though now ye see Him not yet Believing ye Rejoice with Joy unspeakable and Full of Glory Receiving the End of your Faith even the Salvation of Your Souls Of which Salvation the Prophets have inquired and searched diligently who prophesied of the Grace that should come unto you Searching what or what manner of Time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify when it Testified beforehand the Sufferings of Christ and the Glory that should follow Unto whom it was revealed that not unto themselves but unto us they did Minister the Things which are now Reported unto you by Them that have Preached the Gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from Heaven which things the Angels desire to look into Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind be sober and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ As obedient children not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance But as he which hath called you is holy so be ye holy in all manner of conversation Because it is written Be ye holy for I am holy And if ye call on the Father who without respect of persons judgeth according to every mans work pass the time of your sojourning here in fear Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things as silver and gold from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers But with the precious Blood of Christ as of a lamb without blemish and without spot Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world but was manifest in these last times for you Who by him do believe in God that raised him up from the dead and gave him glory that your faith and hope might be in God Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently Being born again not of corruptible seed but of incorruptible by the Word of God which liveth and abideth for ever For all flesh is as grass and all the glory of man as the flower of grass The grass withereth and the flower thereof falleth away But the Word of the Lord endureth for ever And this is the word which by the Gospel is preached unto you WHEREFORE laying aside all malice and all guile and hypocrisies and envies and all evil speakings As newborn babes desire the sincere milk of the word that ye may grow thereby If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious To whom coming as unto a living stone disallowed indeed of men but chosen of God and precious Ye also as Lively Stones are built up a Spiritual House an Holy Priesthood to offer up Spiritual Sacrifices acceptable to God by Jesus Christ Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture Behold I lay in Sion a chief corner stone elect precious and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded Unto you therefore which believe he is precious but unto them which be disobedient the stone which the builders disallowed the same is made the head of the corner And a stone of stumbling and a rock of offence even to them which stumble at the word being disobedient whereunto also they were appointed But ye are a chosen generation a royal priesthood an holy nation a peculiar people that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light Which in time past were not a people but are now the people

of God which had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy Dearly beloved I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles that whereas they speak against you as evildoers they may by your good works which they shall behold glorify God in the day of visitation Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lords sake whether it be to the king as supreme Or unto governors as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of them that do well For so is the Will of God that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men As free and not using your liberty for a cloke of maliciousness but as the servants of God Honour all men Love the brotherhood Fear God Honour the king Servants be subject to your masters with all fear not only to the good and gentle but also to the froward For this is thankworthy if a man for conscience toward God endure grief suffering wrongfully For what glory is it if when ye be buffeted for your faults ye shall take it patiently but if when ye do well and suffer for it ye take it patiently this is acceptable with God For even hereunto were ye called because Christ also suffered for us leaving us an example that ye should follow his steps Who did no sin neither was guile found in his mouth Who when he was reviled reviled not again when he suffered he threatened not but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree that we being dead to sins should live unto righteousness by whose stripes ye were healed For ye were as sheep going astray but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls LIKEWISE ye wives be in subjection to your own husbands that if any obey not the word they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair and of wearing of gold or of putting on of apparel But let it be the hidden man of the heart in that which is not corruptible even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit which is in the sight of God of great price For after this manner in the old time the holy women also who trusted in God adorned themselves being in subjection unto their own husbands Even as Sara obeyed Abraham calling him lord whose daughters ye are as long as ye do well and are not afraid with any amazement Likewise ye husbands dwell with them according to knowledge giving honour unto the wife as unto the weaker vessel and as being heirs together of the grace of life that your prayers be not hindered Finally be ye all of one mind having compassion one of another love as brethren be pitiful be courteous Not rendering evil for evil or railing for railing but contrariwise blessing knowing that ye are thereunto called that ye should inherit a blessing For he that will love life and see good days let him refrain his tongue from evil and his lips that they speak no guile Let him eschew evil and do good let him seek peace and ensue it For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous and his ears are open unto their prayers but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil And who is he that will harm you if ye be followers of that which is good But and if ye suffer for righteousness sake happy are ye and be not afraid of their terror neither be troubled But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear Having a good conscience that whereas they speak evil of you as of evildoers they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ For it is better if the Will of God be so that ye suffer for well doing than for evil doing For Christ also hath once suffered for sins the just for the unjust that he might bring us to God being put to death in the flesh but quickened by the Spirit By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison Which sometime were disobedient when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah while the ark was a preparing wherein few that is eight souls were saved by water The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us not the putting away of the filth of the flesh but the answer of a good conscience toward God by the resurrection of Jesus Christ Who is gone into heaven and is on the right hand of God angels

and authorities and powers being made subject unto him FORASMUCH then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh arm yourselves likewise with the same mind for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin That he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh to the lusts of men but to the Will of God For the time past of our life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles when we walked in lasciviousness lusts excess of wine revellings banquetings and abominable idolatries Wherein they think it strange that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot speaking evil of you Who shall give account to him that is ready to judge the quick and the dead For for this cause was the Gospel preached also to them that are dead that they might be judged according to men in the flesh but live according to God in the spirit But the end of all things is at hand be ye therefore sober and watch unto prayer And above all things have fervent love among yourselves for love shall cover the multitude of sins Use hospitality one to another without grudging As every man hath received the gift even so minister the same one to another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God If any man speak let him speak as the oracles of God if any man minister let him do it as of the ability which God giveth that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ to whom be praise and Dominion for ever and ever Amen Beloved think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you as though some strange thing happened unto you But rejoice inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christs sufferings that when his glory shall be revealed ye may be glad also with exceeding joy If ye be reproached for the name of Christ happy are ye for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you on their part he is evil spoken of but on your part he is glorified But let none of you suffer as a murderer or as a thief or as an evildoer or as a busybody in other mens matters Yet if any man suffer as a Christian let him not be ashamed but let him glorify God on this behalf For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God and if it first begin at us what shall the end be of them that obey not the Gospel of God And if the righteous scarcely be saved where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear Wherefore let them that suffer according to the Will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing as unto a faithful Creator THE elders which are among you I exhort who am also an elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed Feed the flock of God which is among you taking the oversight thereof not by constraint but willingly not for filthy lucre but of a ready mind Neither as being lords over Gods heritage but being ensamples to the flock And when the chief Shepherd shall appear ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away Likewise ye younger submit yourselves unto the elder Yea all of you be subject one to another and be clothed with humility for God resisteth the proud and giveth grace to the humble Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God that he may exalt you in due time Casting all your care upon him for he careth for you Be sober be vigilant because your adversary the devil as a roaring lion walketh about seeking whom he may devour Whom resist stedfast in the faith knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world But the God of all grace who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus after that ye have suffered a while make you perfect stablish strengthen settle you To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever Amen By Silvanus a faithful brother unto you as I suppose I have written briefly exhorting and testifying that this is the true grace of God wherein ye stand The congregation that is at Babylon elected together with you saluteth you and so doth Marcus my son Greet ye one another with a kiss of love Peace be with you all that are in Christ Jesus Amen

Second Peter

Simon Peter a Servant and an Apostle of Jesus Christ to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord According as his Divine Power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust And beside this giving all diligence add to your faith virtue and to virtue knowledge And to knowledge temperance and to temperance patience and to patience godliness And to godliness brotherly kindness and to brotherly kindness love For if these things be in you and abound they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ But he that lacketh these things is blind and cannot see afar off and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins Wherefore the rather brethren give diligence to make your calling and election sure for if ye do these things ye shall never fall For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting Kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things though ye know them and be established in the present truth Yea I think it meet as long as I am in this tabernacle to stir you up by putting you in remembrance Knowing that shortly I must put off this my tabernacle even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shewed me Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able after my decease to have these things always in remembrance 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 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 And this voice which came from heaven we heard when we were with him in the holy mount 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 Knowing this first that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation 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 BUT there were false prophets also among the people even as there shall be false teachers among you who privily shall bring in damnable heresies even denying the Lord that bought them and bring upon themselves swift destruction And many shall follow their pernicious ways by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not and their damnation slumbereth not For if God spared not the angels that sinned but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness to be reserved unto judgment And spared not the old world but saved Noah the eighth person a preacher of righteousness bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned them with an overthrow making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly And delivered just Lot vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked For that righteous man dwelling among them in seeing and hearing vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and despise government Presumptuous are they selfwilled they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities Whereas angels which are greater in power and might bring not railing accusation against them before the Lord But these as natural brute beasts made to be taken and destroyed speak evil of the things that they understand not and shall utterly perish in their own corruption And shall receive the reward of unrighteousness as they that count it pleasure to riot in the day time Spots

they are and blemishes sporting themselves with their own deceivings while they feast with you Having eyes full of adultery and that cannot cease from sin beguiling unstable souls an heart they have exercised with covetous practices cursed children Which have forsaken the right way and are gone astray following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor who loved the wages of unrighteousness But was rebuked for his iniquity the dumb ass speaking with mans voice forbad the madness of the prophet These are wells without water clouds that are carried with a tempest to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever For when they speak great swelling words of vanity they allure through the lusts of the flesh through much wantonness those that were clean escaped from them who live in error While they promise them liberty they themselves are the servants of corruption for of whom a man is overcome of the same is he brought in bondage For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ they are again entangled therein and overcome the latter end is worse with them than the beginning For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness than after they have known it to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb The dog is turned to his own vomit again and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire THIS second epistle beloved I now write unto you in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour Knowing this first that there shall come in the last days scoffers walking after their own lusts And saying Where is the promise of his coming for since the fathers fell asleep all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation For this they willingly are ignorant of that by the Word of God the heavens were of old and the earth standing out of the water and in the water Whereby the world that then was being overflowed with water perished But the heavens and the earth which are now by the same word are kept in store reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men But beloved be not ignorant of this one thing that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years and a thousand years as one day The Lord is not slack concerning his promise as some men count slackness but is longsuffering to usward not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance But the Day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise and the elements shall melt with fervent heat the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved and the elements shall melt with fervent heat Nevertheless we according to his promise look for new heavens and a new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness Wherefore beloved seeing that ye look for such things be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace without spot and blameless And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you As also in all his epistles speaking in them of these things in which are some things hard to be understood which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest as they do also the other scriptures unto their own destruction Ye therefore beloved seeing ye know these things before beware lest ye also being led away with the error of the wicked fall from your own stedfastness But grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ To him be glory both now and for ever Amen