

“Taking God at His Word”

Class Notes Week 3 (07-19-15)

Memory Verse: Eph. 4:29

## SOMETHING MORE SURE

Text: 2 Peter 1:16-21

God still speaks to us and His Word is truly “something more sure,” and can be proven in our text.

- Some context and background of Peter’s 2<sup>nd</sup> epistle.  
Peter is exhorting believers to develop “godliness.”  
“Godliness” is a lifestyle that fears God, promotes righteousness, and opposes evil. It’s the character trait that identifies true religion, and the virtue which is lived out daily in the home, church and workplace.” (Jim Berg)  
“To be godly is to live reverently, loyally, and obediently toward God.” (John MacArthur)

Godliness is acquired:

- (1) By God’s POWER through knowledge of Him & God’s precious promises vv.3-4;
  - (2) By the PATTERN for godliness added to our saving faith; vv.5-7
  - (3) By the PREMISE for godliness in our calling. vv. 8-11
- vv. 12-15 Peter repeats his desire for believers by reminding them of the virtue of godliness before he dies - to ignore false teachers and pursue holiness.  
Why? The coming of the Lord, King Jesus! vv. 3:11-12

- Peter supports the context of his epistle by:  
Two “Elements of Evidence:”
  - 1 - Eyewitness Testimony vv. 16-18
    - Peter, James, John all SAW the Son’s majesty and HEARD the Father’s Words on the Holy Mountain. Jesus was transfigured into glory.
  - 2 - Authoritative Documents - It is written vv. 19-21
    - The prophetic word was documented BEFORE Peter’s own eyewitness account & what he, James and John witnessed on the holy mountain only confirmed what was written.  
“We have also a more sure word of prophecy...” v. 19
- vv. 19-21 teach 3 truths about the nature of scripture:
  - (1) Scripture IS the Word of God & referred to as:  
The Prophetic Word (v. 19)  
Prophecy of Scripture (v. 20)

### Prophecy (v. 21)

The Greek word for Scripture in v. 20 refers to something written down - thus a written text.

(2) The Word of God is Divine though given by human authors.

“Men spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost...” (v. 21) as God used the intellect, skills, and personality of fallible men to record what is divine and infallible.

(3) The Bible is without error.

V. 20 - Scripture doesn't come from human interpretation;

V. 21 - No prophecy came from the will of man.

- J.I. Packer writes, “One cannot doubt the Bible without far-reaching loss, both of fullness of truth and of fullness of life. If therefore we have at heart spiritual renewal for society, for churches and for our lives, we shall make of the entire trustworthiness - that is, the inerrancy - of Holy Scripture as the inspired and liberating Word of God.”
- The Bible records only what God has said, and we will not find anything more sure.