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# The Tradition of Peter (2)

## Chapter One

Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ, to those who've received a trust as precious as ours by the justice of our Godde and Life-Giver Jesus Christ: <sup>2</sup>Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of Godde and of Jesus our Lord.

<sup>3</sup>Her divine power has given us everything necessary for life and piety through the knowledge of the one who called us by her own glory and virtue. <sup>4</sup>Through these things she has given us her precious and very great promises, so that through them you may escape from the desires of the world's corruption and share the divine nature. <sup>5</sup>For this very reason, make every effort to build up your trust with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, <sup>6</sup>and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with perseverance, and perseverance with piety, <sup>7</sup>and piety with mutual affection, and mutual affection with love; <sup>8</sup>because if these things are overflowing among you, they'll keep you from being useless or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>Whoever lacks these things is blind and myopic, having forgotten the cleansing of past wrongdoings. <sup>10</sup>Consequently, sisters and brothers, be more eager to confirm your calling and election, because if you do these things, you will never stumble. <sup>11</sup>In this way you'll be richly welcomed into the eternal reign of our Lord and Life-Giver, Jesus Christ.

<sup>12</sup>So I'll always intend to remind you of these things, even though you already know them and have been established in the truth you have. <sup>13</sup>As long as I'm in this body, I think it's right to stir you up by reminding you, <sup>14</sup>since I know that I'll put aside my body soon, as our Lord Jesus Christ made clear to me. <sup>15</sup>I eagerly want you to be able to remember these things always, even after my departure.

<sup>16</sup>We didn't follow cleverly devised fables when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. <sup>17</sup>When the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, he received honor and glory from Godde the Mother:

"This is my beloved Son,  
in whom I am well pleased."

<sup>18</sup>We heard this voice come from heaven when we were with him on the holy mountain, <sup>19</sup>so we've confirmed the message of the prophets. You do well to pay attention to it as to a lamp shining in a dark place until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. <sup>20</sup>Above all else, understand that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation <sup>21</sup>because no prophecy was ever made by human will; rather, people being carried along by the Holy Spirit spoke from Godde.

## Chapter Two

But there were also false prophets among the people, just as false teachers will be among you too. They'll secretly introduce destructive schisms, denying even the Master who bought them – bringing sudden destruction on themselves. <sup>2</sup>Many will follow their lewdness, and because of them the way of truth will be slandered. <sup>3</sup>In their greed they'll exploit you with deceptive words. Their judgment from long ago isn't idle, and their destruction hasn't been sleeping.

<sup>4</sup>If Godde didn't spare angels who did wrong, but sent them to Tartarus, putting them in chains of darkness to be kept for judgment; <sup>5</sup>and didn't spare the ancient world but protected eight people – including Noah, a herald of justice – when she brought a flood on the world of those who were corrupt; <sup>6</sup>and reduced to ashes the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, condemning them to destruction and making

them an example of what's coming to those who are corrupt; <sup>7</sup>and rescued Lot, a just man being worn down by the lewd conduct of those who are unscrupulous <sup>8</sup>(because that just man living among them was tormented in his just soul day after day by the crimes that he saw and heard), <sup>9</sup>then the Lady knows how to rescue those who are pious from trials and how to keep those who are unjust for punishment in the coming judgment, <sup>10</sup>especially those who pursue the filthy desires of their flesh and who despise authority.

Daring and willful, they're not afraid to slander celestial beings, <sup>11</sup>whereas angels, even though they're stronger and more powerful, don't bring a slanderous judgment against them from the Lady. <sup>12</sup>But like wild animals living by instinct, born to be caught and killed, they slander what they don't know. They'll be destroyed in their own destruction, <sup>13</sup>suffering the consequences of their injustice. They like to revel in broad daylight. They're stains and blemishes, reveling in their deceit while they feast with you. <sup>14</sup>They're just looking to get laid, and their appetite for wrongdoing is insatiable. They entice unstable souls; their hearts are trained in greed. They're condemned! <sup>15</sup>They've abandoned the right way and gone astray, following the way of Balaam son of Bosor, who loved the wages of injustice. <sup>16</sup>But he was rebuked for his own wrongdoing by a speechless donkey who spoke with a human voice and stopped the prophet's madness.

<sup>17</sup>They're springs without water, clouds driven by a storm; the deepest night has been reserved for them. <sup>18</sup>They're inane big talkers who appeal to the lewd desires of the flesh to entice those who are just escaping from those who live in error. <sup>19</sup>They promise them freedom, but they themselves are bondservants of corruption, because "anyone is a bondservant to whatever overcomes them." <sup>20</sup>If they've escaped the filthy world through the knowledge of our Lord and Life-Giver Jesus Christ and are again caught up in it and overcome, they're worse off at the end than they were at first. <sup>21</sup>It would've been better for them not to have known the way of justice, than to have known it and then to turn back from the holy precept that was entrusted to them. <sup>22</sup>They prove the proverbs: "A dog returns to its vomit" and "a clean pig rolls in the mud."

### Chapter Three

Beloved, this is now the second letter that I've written to you. Both letters are meant to stir up your sincere minds by reminding you <sup>2</sup>to remember the words which were previously spoken by the holy prophets and the precept of the Lord and Life-Giver through your apostles. <sup>3</sup>First of all, know that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own desires. <sup>4</sup>"Where's the promise of his coming?" they'll ask. "Because since the time our ancestors fell asleep, everything continues as it has from the beginning of creation." <sup>5</sup>They intentionally forget that by Godde's word the heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and by water, <sup>6</sup>and that the world at that time perished when it was flooded by water. <sup>7</sup>But by the same word the present heavens and earth have been reserved for fire, being kept for the coming judgment and destruction of those who are corrupt.

<sup>8</sup>But don't forget this one thing, beloved: With the Lady one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. <sup>9</sup>The Lady isn't slow in keeping her promise (as some think of slowness) but is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish but wanting everyone to change. <sup>10</sup>But the Lady's day will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar and the elements will be burned up, and the earth and its deeds will be revealed. <sup>11</sup>Since everything will be destroyed like this, what kind of people should you be? You should be holy in conduct and piety, <sup>12</sup>looking for and accelerating the coming of Godde's day when the heavens will burn and be destroyed, when the elements will burn up and melt. <sup>13</sup>But we wait for what she's promised: a new heavens and a new earth where justice dwells.

<sup>14</sup>So then, beloved, since you wait for these things, be eager to be found in peace with her, without blemish or blame. <sup>15</sup>Think of our Lady's patience as life, just as our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you with the wisdom that was given to him. <sup>16</sup>He speaks of these things in all of his letters, which do contain some things that are hard to understand. Those who are ignorant and unstable twist them to

their own destruction, as they do the other scriptures. <sup>17</sup>So you, beloved, since you're forewarned, be on your guard so you won't be carried away by the error of those who are unscrupulous and fall from your own stability. <sup>18</sup>But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Life-Giver Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and forever! Amen.