

Understand the Infallible Basis of Your Faith

2 Peter 1:16-21

October 21, 22, 2017 Sermon Notes

Introduction: Through the centuries the Christian faith has been mocked, criticized and the Bible relegated to the ash heap of civilization. The Bible has been banned, black listed, burned, banished, blasphemed, berated and blasted by a pathetic parade of political tyrants, atheistic dictators, humanistic philosophers, cultural icons and self-congratulating academics for centuries. But what if the Bible was not just a human book of clever stories concocted by Jesus' followers? What if the critics are wrong? On what basis does the Bible claim to be the Word of God. Peter gives us some powerful insights to quiet the critics and assure the saints.

Peter's Powerful Professions of Genuine Faith vs. 16-21

Your faith is not founded on myths and unsubstantiated facts. Vs. 16 *For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming (Parousia) of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Your faith is based on the testimony of personal and reliable eyewitnesses. Vs. 16b-18 *but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. 17For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," 18we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain.*

You faith is based on the empirically sound foundation of fulfilled prophesy. Vs. 19 *And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.*

Why is the Bible reliable and verifiable?

The Bible is not the product of man's unfounded opinions about God. Vs. 20 *Knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation.*

The Bible is not the product of man's impulsive and unreliable will. Vs. 21a *For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man.*

The Bible IS the inspired, inerrant and authoritative result of the Holy Spirit working through men. Vs. 21b *But men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.*

Conclusion: Always remember what Jesus said in Matthew 5:18-19 *For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. 19Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.*