

Amazing Grace

II Peter 1:1-3

January 10, 2010

Summary: The apostle Peter had a shepherd's heart that he wrote with. How did it show? In First Peter he wrote warning God's people regarding dangers from *outside* the church; in Second Peter he gives warning about dangerous heresies from *inside* the church. He begins his letter with humility, not pulling rank. While introducing the righteousness of our faith, he does so in the context "of our GOD and Savior Jesus Christ." He is the *only* Savior, because He alone is God, and we must boldly proclaim Him and represent Him accordingly.

1. A. Remember when we studied First Peter? How would you characterize the general flavor of the book?

I Peter 1:13-19, 1:22, 2:1-3, 2:18-25, 3:14-18, 4:1-2, 4:12-16, 5:1-3, 5:6-10

- B. How would the flavor of Second Peter be different and yet still related?

II Peter 1:2-4, 1:13-16, 2:1, 3:1-2, 3:17-18

- C. Can you see the caring, shepherding heart of Peter here? He was intentional in giving **the Gospel** of Christ, not just to the unsaved, but **to Christians**. In First Peter, Christians are instructed about love and holiness and suffering unjustly. In Second Peter, believers are taught regarding purity of doctrine as well as purity of life. In both cases, what is the remedy?

I Corinthians 15:1-5, I Peter 2:1-2, II Peter 3:17-18

2. A. How does Peter introduce himself in II Peter 1:1?

- B. Why does he call himself first "*a bond servant?*"

Isaiah 57:15, Mathew 20:25-28, John 13:12-17, I Peter 5:5-6

- C. No matter what our position in life might be, how can we follow Peter's example of humility? Psalms 103:10-11, John 13:34-35, Galatians 2:20, Philippians 2:3-8

3. A. In what fashion does Peter identify Jesus in II Peter 1:1?
- B. What would Peter mean by "*our **God** and Savior Jesus Christ,*" and why is this so important? Isaiah 43:10-13, 45:21-24, Mark 14:60-64, John 8:57-58, 14:6, Acts 4:10-12, II Peter 2:1
- C. It is one thing for false teachers to deny the deity of the Lord Jesus, and to spread such heresy around. But what about those in the church, who waver about the exclusiveness of Jesus being the only way to God? Since Jesus is the only savior because He alone is God, is not such compromise just as bad as the cults who are steeped in heresies? How might we address this effectively?
Acts 4:13, 17:30-31, Romans 12:1-3, II Corinthians 5:9, 5:15, Ephesians 3:16-19, Colossians 3:16, II Timothy 2:1-3