

# THE SECONDE EPI

## stle general of Peter.

### THE ARGUMENT.

**T**He effect of the Apostle here is to exhorthe the which haue once professed the true faith of Christ, to stande to the same euen to the last breath: also that God by his effectual grace towards me moueth them to holines of life, in punishing the hypocrites which abuse his Name, & in increasing his gifts in the godlie: wherefore by godlie life he being now almost at deaths dore, exhorteth the to approue their vocation, not setting their affections on worldlie things (as he had oft writ vnto them) but lifting their eyes owarde heauen, as they be taught by the Gospel, whereof he is a cleare witness, chiefly in that he heard with his owne eares that Christ was proclaimed from heauen to be the Sonne of God, as likewise the Prophetes testified. And lest they shoulde promise to them selues quietnes by professing the Gospel, he warneth the bothe of troubles which they shoulde susteine by the false teachers, and also by the mockers & contemners of religion, whose maners and trade he liuely setteth forth as in a table: aduertising the faithful not onely to waite diligently for Christ, but also to beholde presently the day of his comming, and to preserve them selues vnspotted against the same.

### CHAP. I.

4 Forasmuche as the power of God hath given them all things pertaining vnto life, he exhorteth them to flee the corruption of worldlie lusts. 10 To make their calling sure with good workes, and frutes of faith. 14 He maketh mention of his owne death. 17 Declaring the Lord Iesus to be the true Sonne of God, as he him self had sene vpon the mounte.

**I**MON Peter a seruant and an Apostle of IESVS CHRIST, to you which haue obtained like precious faith with vs by the righteousnes of our God and Sauour

Iesus Christ:

1 Grace and peace be multiplied to you, by the knowledge of God and of Iesus our Lord,

3 According as his godlie power hath giuen vnto vs all things that pertaine vnto life and godlines, through the knowledge of him that hath called vs vnto glorie and vertue.

4 Whereby moste great, and precious promises are giuen vnto vs, that by them ye shoulde be partakers of the godlie nature, in that ye flee the corruption, which is in the worlde through lust.

5 Therefore giue euen all diligence thereunto: ioyne moreouer vertue with your faith: and with vertue, knowledge:

6 And with knowledge, temperance: and with temperance, patience: and with patience, godlines:

7 And with godlines, brotherlie kindenes: and with brotherlie kindenes, loue.

8 For if these things be among you, and abunde, they wil make you that ye neither shalbe ydle, nor vnfruitful in knowledge of our Lord Iesus Christ.

9 For he that hath not these things, is blinde, & scan not se farre of, & hath forgotte that he was purged from his olde sinnes.

10 Wherefore, brethren, giue rather diligence to make your calling & election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shal neuer fall.

11 For by this means an entering shalbe ministred vnto you abundantly into the euermoldest kingdome of our Lord & Sauour Iesus Christ.

12 Wherefore, I wil not be negligent to put you alwaies in remembrance of these things, thogh that ye haue knowledge, and be established in the present trueth.

13 For I thinke it mete as I am in this tabernacle, to stirre you vp by putting you in remembrance.

14 Seing I knowe that the time is at hand that I must lay downe this my tabernacle, euen as our Lord Iesus Christ hath shewed me.

15 I wil endeavour therefore alwaise, that ye also may be able to haue remembrance of these things after my departing.

16 For we folowed not deceiueable fables when we opened vnto you the power, and comming of our Lord Iesus Christ, but with our eyes we saw his maiestie:

17 For he receiued of God the Father honour and glorie, when there came suche a voyce to him from the excellent glorie, \*This is my beloued Sonne, in whome I am wel pleased.

18 And this voyce we heard when it came from heauen, being with him in the holie mounte.

19 We haue also a moste sure worde of the Prophetes, to which ye do well that ye take hede, as vnto a light that shineth in a darke place, vntill the day dawne, and the daye starre arise in your hearts.

20 \*So that ye first know this, that no prophecie in the Scripture is of priuate motion.

21 For the Prophecie came not in olde time by the wil of man: but holie men of God spake

h Albeit it be sure in it self forasmuche as God can not change: yet we must confirme it in our selues, by the frutes of the Spirit, knowing the purpose of God electeth, calleth, sanctifieth, and iustificeth vs. i For God wil euer vpholde you. k In this bodie, 2. Cor. 5.1.

Ioh. 21. 19.

1. Cor. 1. 17. & 2. 1.

Or, spiritual and craftie.

Mat. 17. 5. i For by Christs presence it was for the time holie.

m That is, the doctrine of the Prophetes.

n A perfit knowledge then vnder the Law.

2. Tim. 3. 16.

o Meaning, Christ the sunne of iustice, by his Gospel.

p Cometh not of men.

Or, as scripture is.

a In that he declared him self iuste and faithful in accomplishing his promises by Christ.

b He speaketh of Christ as he is God and Sauour.

c That is, saluation.

d The summe of our saluation is to be led by Christ to the Father, who calleth vs in the Sonne.

e Or, through his glorie.

f We are made partakers of the diuine nature, in which we flee corruption of the worlde: or as Paul writeth, are dead to sinne. & are not in the flesh of godlie maners.

g The Greeke worde signifieth him, that naturally can not se, except he holdeth nere his eyes. So Peter calleth suche as can not se heauellie things which are farre of, pure blinde or sandblinde.

# The Angels not spared. Chap.II.III. Of deceiuers. III

spake as they were moued by the holie Gost.

## CHAP. II.

*He prophesieth of false teachers, and sheweth their punishment.*

**B**etwixt\* there were false prophetes also among the people, euē as there shal be false teachers among you: which priuely shal bring in damnable heresies, euen denying the Lord, that hathe boght them, & bring vpon them selues swift dānation.

And manie shal followe their damnable wayes, by whome the way of trueth shal be euil spoken of,

And through couetousnes shal they with fained wordes make marchandise of you, whose iudgement long agoe is not farre of, and their damnation slepeth not.

For if God spared not the Angels, that had sinned, but caste them downe into hell and deliuered them into chaines of darkenes, to be kept vnto damnation:

Nether hathe spared the olde worlde, but fained Noe the eight persone a preacher of righteousness, and broght in the flood vpo the worlde of the vngodlie,

And turned the cities of Sodome and Gomorrhe into ashes, and condemned them and ouerthrewe them, and made them an ensample vnto them that after shulde liue vngodlie,

\* And deliuered iuste Loth vexed with the vnclenlie conuersation of the wicked, (For he being righteous, and dwelling among them, in seing and hearing, vexed his righteous soule from day to day with their vnlawful dedes.)

The Lord knoweth to deliuer the godlie out of tentation, and to reserue the vniust vnto the day of iudgement to be punished:

And chiefly them that walke after the flesh, in the lust of vnclennes, and despise the gouernement, which are presumptuous, and stand in their owne conceite, and feare not to speake euil of the that are in dignitie.

Where as the Angels which are greater bothe in power and might, giue not railing iudgement against them before the Lord.

But these as brute beaſts, led with sensualitye and made to be taken, and destroyed, speake euil of those things which they knowe not, and shal perish through their owne corruption.

And shal receiue the wages of vnrighteousnes, as they which counte it pleasure to liue deliciously for a season. Sportes they are and blottes, & deliuiting them selues in their deceiuings, in feasting with you,

as they which are appointed to this iudgement, so thei fall into the snares of Satan in their deuidio. For in your holie feast they sit as members of Church where as in deue they be but spottes, & so deceiue you, read Iude 12.

Hauiing eyes ful of adulterie, and that can not cease to sinne, beguiling vnstable foules: they haue hearts exercised with couetousnes, cursed children,

Which forsaking the right waye, haue gone astraye, following the way of Baalam, the sonne of Bosor, which loued the wages of vnrighteousnes.

But he was rebuked for his iniquitie: for the domme asse speaking with mans voyce, forbade the foolishnes of the Prophet.

\* These are welles without water, and cloudes caryed about with a tempest, to whome the blacke darkenes is reserued for euer.

For in speaking swelling wordes of vanitie, they beguile with want ones through the lustes of the flesh them that were cleane escaped from them which are wrapped in errour,

Promising vnto them libertie, and are them selues the seruants of corruption: for of whome soeuer a man is ouercome, euen vnto the same is he in bondage.

\* For if they, after they haue escaped fro the filthines of the worlde, through the knowledge of the Lord, & of the Sauour Iesus Christ, are yet taged againe therein, and ouercome, the latter end is worse with them then the beginning.

For it had bene better for them, not to haue known the way of righteousness, the after they haue known it, to turne fro the holie commandement giuen vnto them.

But it is come vnto them, according to the true prouerbe, \* The dogge is returned to his owne vomit: and, The sowe that was washed, to the wallowing in the myer.

## CHAP. III.

*He sheweth the impittie of them which mocke at Gods promises. 7 After what sorte the end of the worlde shalbe. 8 That they prepare them selues thereunto. 16 Who they are which abuse the writings of S. Paul, and the rest of the Scriptures. 18 Concluding with eternal thanks to Christ Iesus.*

**T**his seconde Epistle I now write vnto you, beloued, wherewith I stirre vp, and warne your pure mindes,

To call to remembrance the wordes, which were tolde before of the holie Prophetes, and also the commandement of vs the Apostles of the Lord and Sauour.

\* This first vnderstand, that there shal come in the last dayes, mockers, which wil walke after their lustes,

As I say, Where is the promes of his coming? for since the fathers dyed, all things continue a like from the beginning of the creation.

For this they willingly knowe not, that the heauens were of olde, and the earth

*Nomb. 22. 23. Iude 11.*

*Iude 12. e Thei haue some appearence outwards, but within they are drie and barren, or at moſte they cause but a tempest.*

*Iohn 8. 12. rom. 6. 20.*

*Mat. 12. 41. ebr 6. 4. 10. 26. f Which cometh by hearing the Gospel preached.*

*Or, doctrine.*

*Prou. 29. 12.*

*a For we fall quickly asleepe and forget that which we are taught.*

*1 Tim. 4. 2. 2 Tim. 3. 5. Iude 18.*

*b He meaneth the which had once professed Christian religion, but became afterwards contemners & mockers, as Epicurians & atheists.*

that was of the water and by the water, by the worde of God.

6 Wherefore the world that then was, perished, ouerflowed with the water.

7 But the heauens & earth, which are now, are kept by the same worde in store, and reserued vnto fyre against the day of iudgement; and of the destruction of vngodlie men.

8 Derely beloued, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord, \* as a thousand yerres, & a thousand yere, as one day.

9 The Lord is not slacke concerning his promes (as some men count slackenes) but is pacient towarde vs, and \* wolde haue no man to perish, but wolde all men to come to repentance.

10 \* But the day of the Lord wil come as a thief in the night, in the which the heauens shal passe away with a noyce, and the elements shal melt with heate, and the earth with the workes, that are therein, shal be burnt vp.

11 Seing therefore that all these things must be dissolued, what maner persones ought ye to be in holie conuersation and godlines,

12 Loking for, and hastning vnto the com-

ming of the day of God, by the which the heauens being on fyre, shal be dissolued, & the elements shal melt with heate.

13 But we loke for \* new heauens, and a new earth, according to his promes, wherein dwelleth righteousnes.

14 Wherefore, beloued, seing that ye loke for suche things, be diligent that ye may be founde of him in peace, without spotte and blameles.

15 \* And suppose that the long suffering of our Lord is saluation, euen as our beloued brother Paul according to the wisdome giuen vnto him wrote to you,

16 As one, that in all his Epistles speaketh of these things: amog the which some things are hard to be vnderstand, which they that are vnlearned and vnstable, peruert, as they do also other Scriptures vnto their owne destruction.

17 Ye therefore beloued, seing ye knowe these things before, beware, lest ye be also plucked away with the error of the wicked, and fall from your owne steadfastnes.

18 But growe in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Sauour Iesus Christ: to him be glorie bothe now and for euer more. Amen.

e In quiet conscience.

Rom. 2. 4.

f Albech his epistles were writ to peculiar Churches, yet they containe a general doctrine appertaining to all men. As no man condemneth the brightness of the sunne because his eye is not able to susteine the clearenes thereof: so the hardenes we can not sometime compass or perfectly vnderstande in the Scriptures, ought not to take away from vs the vse of Scriptures.

e As touching the beautie thereof, & things which were therein, except them w were in the arke.

Psal. 90. 4.

Ex. 33. 32.

1 Tim. 2. 4.

d He speaketh not here of the secret & eternal counsell of God, whereby he cleareth whome it pleaseth him, but of the preaching of the Gospel whereby all are called and bidden to the banquet.

Mat. 24. 44.

1. thes. 5. 2.

reuel. 3. 3.

& 16. 15.

# THE FIRST EPI- stle general of Iohn.

## THE ARGUMENT.

After that S. Iohn had sufficiently declared, how that our whole saluation doeth consist onely in Christ, lest that any man shoulde thereby take a boldenes to sinne, he sheweth that no man can beleue in Christ, vnles he doeth endeuour him self to kepe his commandements, which thing being done, he exhorteth them to beware of false prophetes, whome he calleth Antichrists, and to trye the spirits. Laste of all he doeth earnestly exhorthe them vnto brotherlie loue, and to beware of deceiiners.

Iohn 8. 12.

f The frutes of our faith must declare whether we be ioyned in God or no: for God being y verie puritie & light will not haue fellowship with them who lie in sinne and darkenes.

g In an euil conscience, & without the feare of God. That is, Christ with vs and we with our selues.

Ebr. 9. 14.

1. pet. 1. 19.

reuel. 1. 6.

1. King. 8. 48.

2. chro. 6. 36.

pro. 20. 9.

eccl. 7. 10.

i If we be not ashamed, earnestly & openly to acknowledge our fel-  
lowe before God to be sinners.

## CHAP. I.

2 True witnes of the euerlasting worde of God. 7 The blood of Christ is the purgation of sinne. 10 No man is without sinne.

a That is, Christ God eternal.

b That is, Christ being man.

c Which giueth life and had in him self, Ioh. 14.

d Before all be-  
ginning.

e The effect of the Gospel is, y we all being ioyned together in Christ by faith, shal be the sonnes of God.



That which was a from the beginning, which we haue b heard, which we haue sene with our eyes, which we haue looked vpon, and our hands haue hadled of y Worde c of life, (For the life appeared, and we haue sene it, and beare witness, and shewe vnto you the eternal life, which was d with the Father, and appeared vnto vs) That, I say, which we haue sene & heard, declare we vnto you, that ye may also e haue fellowship with vs, and that our fellow-

ship also may be with the Father and with his Sonne Iesus Christ.

4 And these things write we vnto you, that your ioye may be ful.

5 This then is the message which we haue heard of him, and declare vnto you, that God \* is f light, & in him is no darkenes.

6 If we say y we haue fellowship with him, and walke in s darkenes, we lye, & do not truely.

7 But if we walke in the light as he is in the light, we haue fellowship h one with another, and the \* blood of Iesus Christ his Sonne cleanse vs from all sinne.

8 \* If we say that we haue no sinne, we deceiue our selues, and trueth is not in vs.

9 If we i acknowledge our sinnes, he is faithful and iust, to forgie vs our sinnes, & to cleanse vs from all vnrighteousnes.