

II Peter 1:16-21 & 2:1

16-18. For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were **EYEWITNESSES of His MAJESTY**. For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a **VOICE CAME to Him from the EXCELLENT GLORY: "This is My Beloved Son, in whom I AM WELL PLEASED."** And we heard this **VOICE which CAME FROM HEAVEN** when we were with Him on the holy mountain.

- **Mark 9:2-4 & 7** "Now after six days Jesus took _____, James and John, and led them up on a high _____ apart by themselves; and He was transfigured before them. His clothes became shining, exceedingly white, like snow, such as no launderer on earth can whiten them. And Elijah appeared to them with Moses and they were talking with Jesus." "And a _____ came and overshadowed them; and a _____ came out of the _____, saying, 'This is My _____ . Hear Him!'"

Definition: "We were EYEWITNESSES of His MAJESTY" - Peter states how he was an eye witness to Jesus and His miracles and teaching, and that he "did not follow cunningly devised fables" in telling them about Christ. "Cunningly devised fables" means made-up stories done in a way that will deceive people into thinking they are true. Peter says that he and the other disciples were personally on the scene when God the Father spoke from heaven ("the excellent glory"), saying, "**This is My Beloved Son, in whom I AM WELL PLEASED.**" God the Father spoke in an audible voice from heaven several times, such as at Jesus' baptism, but on the Mount of Transfiguration, Peter was one of the disciples who was there to actually hear the voice coming from heaven acknowledging Jesus as the Son of God.

- **I John 1:1-3** "That which was from the beginning, which _____ have _____, which _____ have _____ with our _____ which we have looked upon, and our _____ have _____ concerning the Word of life - the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us - that which _____ have _____ and _____ we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His _____ Jesus Christ."
- **Matthew 17:5** "While he was still speaking, behold, a bright _____ over-shouldered them; and suddenly a _____ came out of the _____, saying, 'This is My beloved _____, in whom I am well _____. Hear Him!'"
- **Luke 9:34-36** "While he was saying this, a _____ came and overshadowed them; and they were fearful as they entered the cloud. Then a _____ came out of the _____, saying, 'This is My _____. Hear Him!' And when the voice had ceased, Jesus was found alone. But they kept quiet, and told no one in those days any of the things _____ had _____."
- **Matthew 3:16-17** "Then Jesus, when He had been _____, came up immediately from the water; and behold, the _____ were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of _____ descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. And suddenly a _____ came from _____, saying, 'This is My _____ Son, in whom I am well _____.'"

19-21. We also have **the PROPHETIC WORD made MORE SURE**, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your

hearts: knowing this first, that **NO PROPHECY of SCRIPTURE is of any PRIVATE interpretation**, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but **HOLY MEN of God SPOKE as they were MOVED by the HOLY SPIRIT**.

- **II Samuel 23:2** "The _____ of the _____ spoke _____ me, and His _____ was on my tongue."
- **I Peter 1:11** "Searching what, or what manner of time, the _____ of _____ who was _____ them was _____ when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow."

Definition: "The PROPHETIC WORD made MORE SURE" - The King James Version translates it **"a MORE SURE word of prophecy."** You need to **BASE your FAITH on the written word of God, which is "MORE SURE" than anything else**, and where God promises that He will never leave you or fail you, and that His word holds true through every problem and storm of life. The Apostle Peter, in II Peter 1:19-21, after describing the vision of seeing Christ in His transfiguration and hearing the voice of God from heaven, says that **"We have a MORE SURE word of prophecy"**! You might ask, "What could be more sure than seeing a vision of Jesus in all His glory, and hearing the voice of God the Father coming down from heaven?" Well, **Peter goes on to say that what is "MORE SURE" than visions and voices is the WRITTEN word of God, the Scriptures!** God has given us His WRITTEN WORD ("Scripture" means the WRITTEN word of God), which was originally given to holy men of God by the Holy Spirit. We must judge and **test all so-called prophecies, visions, voices and emotional experiences against the WRITTEN truth of God's holy word!** Anything else will open us up to false teaching, false prophets, demonic deception and spiritual "shipwreck" and heartbreak. No, not losing your salvation, as that can't happen, but it could allow Satan to get you sidetracked and made ineffective for any real service to God.

- **I John 5:13** "These things have I _____ unto you that _____ on the name of the Son of God; that you may _____ that you have eternal life, and that you may believe on the name of the _____ of _____."

Definition: "NO PROPHECY of SCRIPTURE is of any PRIVATE interpretation" - This means that Holy Scripture, the Bible, did not come to us by man's invention or interpretation, but directly from God. Not everyone believes that, so why do we believe the Bible is truly the WORD of GOD? Why should we put our trust in the Bible rather than some other religious book? **The Bible itself tells us it is inspired by God.**

- **II Timothy 3:15-16** "And that from a child you have _____ the _____, which are able to make you _____ unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All _____ is _____ by _____ of _____, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness."

Definition: "HOLY MEN of God SPOKE as they were MOVED by the HOLY SPIRIT" - The Bible itself claims to be the written word of God. The Bible is actually 66 books written by many different human authors over several thousand years, and yet it is **ONE BOOK written by ONE AUTHOR, God**. In the Bible, God says 2,500 times, "God said...." or "The Lord has said...." or "Thus saith the Lord...." God has made it very clear that He is speaking through this Book. The Holy Spirit of God inspired or "moved" men to write the Scriptures. **The word "inspired" means God-breathed, so the very words of Scripture are ALIVE and POWERFUL and can change your life!** The Bible is God's word given to mankind, and from Genesis to

Revelation there is one common theme: God's love for mankind, and His plan to redeem His creation from sin.

- **Hebrews 4:12** "For the _____ of _____ is _____ and _____, and sharper than any two-edged _____, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the _____."

2:1 But there were also **FALSE PROPHETS among the people**, even as **there will be FALSE TEACHERS among you**, who will **secretly bring in DESTRUCTIVE HERESIES**, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction.

- **II Corinthians 11:13-15** "For such are _____ apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into (appearing to be) apostles of Christ. And no wonder! For _____ himself transforms himself into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if _____ ministers also _____ themselves into _____ of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works."

Definition: "FALSE PROPHETS among the people" - Peter is using the Old Testament as a warning to Christians. There were many false prophets in the days of the Old Testament, and there will be many false prophets and teachers who will try to worm their way into the churches.

- **Deuteronomy 13:1-3 & 5** "If there arises among you a _____ or a dreamer of dreams, and he gives you a _____ or a _____, and the sign or the wonder comes to pass, of which he spoke to you, saying, 'Let us go after _____ gods which you have not known, and let us serve them,' you shall _____ listen to the words of that _____ or that dreamer of dreams, for the Lord your God is testing you to know whether you _____ the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul." (Verse 5) "But that _____ or that dreamer of dreams shall be put to death, because he has spoken in order to turn you away from the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of bondage, to entice you from the way in which the Lord your God commanded you to walk. So you shall put away the _____ from your midst."
- **Jeremiah 6:13-14** "Because from the least of them even to the greatest of them, everyone is given to covetousness; and from the _____ even to the _____, everyone deals _____. They have also healed the hurt of My people slightly, saying, 'Peace, peace!' when there is no peace."
- **Galatians 2:4** "But this occurred because of _____ brethren secretly brought in (who came in by _____ to _____ out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage), to whom we did _____ yield submission even for an hour, that the truth of the gospel might continue with you."

Definition: "There will be FALSE TEACHERS among you" - Jesus' parables in Matthew 13:24-50 tell us that evil men and false prophets will infiltrate God's kingdom, and **they will look like God's people on the outside**, but they will be false. Jesus says in Matthew 7:21-23 that MANY will say to Him at the judgment that they did many things in His name, but He will say **"I NEVER KNEW YOU!"** Perhaps God allows false teaching and evil men masquerading as Christians, **in order for us to CHOOSE the TRUTH** from among all the LIES of Satan. Satan will be destroyed and all evil will be done away with when Jesus returns to set up His kingdom on earth, **at "the end of this age"** (Matt. 13:39). Then there will be no more pain, no more sorrow, no more sin (Rev. 21:4), and it is THEN that God removes all the false prophets and false, so-called believers from among His people. All throughout the

Bible, God promises that He WILL judge ALL SIN and ALL EVIL, **but not until the appointed time, at the END of this AGE, at the Day of Judgment.** It is because of His grace and mercy that God does not INSTANTLY judge sin and evil, because He is still giving those people a **CHANCE to REPENT** and turn to Him to be saved.

- **Matthew 13:24-30 & 36-42** "Another parable He put forth to them, saying: 'The kingdom of _____ is like a man who sowed good seed in his field; but while men slept, his _____ came and sowed _____ among the _____ and went his way. But when the grain had sprouted and produced a crop, then the _____ also appeared. So the servants of the owner came and said to him, 'Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have tares?' He said to them, 'An _____ has done this.' The servants said to him, 'Do you want us then to go and gather them up?' But he said, 'No, lest while you gather up the _____ you also uproot the wheat with them. Let _____ grow _____ until the _____, and at the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, "First gather together the tares and bind them in bundles to _____ them, but gather the wheat into my barn.'" "....His disciples came to Him, saying, 'Explain to us the parable of the tares of the field.' He answered and said to them, 'He who sows the _____ seed is the Son of Man. The field is the _____, the good seeds are the _____ of the _____, but the _____ are the sons of the _____ one. The _____ who sowed them is the _____, the harvest is the _____ of the _____, and the reapers are the _____. Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age. The Son of Man will send out His _____, and they will gather _____ of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, and will cast them into the _____ of _____. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth.'"
 - **Matthew 13:49-50** "So it will be at the _____ of the _____. The angels will come forth, _____ the _____ from among the just, and cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth."

Definition: "TARES" - "Tares" are a weed-like plant that LOOKS exactly like wheat, but of course does not have the wheat kernel, so therefore it is of no value. Jesus used "tares" as an example of people who would **APPEAR on the OUTSIDE to be saved**, and members of His kingdom, but would actually be empty and false. We have Jesus' own words that there will be **MANY so-called Christians in the church who are NOT God's people** and **have NEVER BEEN God's people** - they belonged to the devil all along!

- **Matthew 7:15** "Beware of _____, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but _____ are ravenous _____."
- **John 6:64 & 70-71** "'But there are some of you who do _____ believe.' For Jesus _____ from the beginning who they were who did _____, and who would betray Him." "Jesus answered them, "Did I not choose you, the twelve, and one of you is a _____?" He spoke of _____ Iscariot, the son of Simon, for it was he who would betray Him, being one of the twelve."

Definition: "Secretly bring in DESTRUCTIVE HERESIES" - Heresy means "any religious belief that is in opposition to the true, orthodox doctrines of the church." These false teachers very subtly and secretly bring in their false teachings. "Denying the Lord who bought them" means that, although they use the name of Jesus, and read out of the Bible, it is a different Jesus, and they do not believe that His blood BOUGHT and paid for their sins - their teachings are a works-related religion.

- **Galatians 5:19-20** "Now the _____ of the _____ are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, _____."