

## **Chapter Thirteen**

### **PETER'S PEN**

Because of the various judgments on the world system, angels, and false prophets found in the second and third chapters of II Peter, **the carrot is almost buried from human sight.** Our modern day preachers and scholars are so preoccupied in their search and pronouncement of the impending doom that hovers over our generation that this **life changing carrot** that Peter gives in the first chapter is totally overlooked OR ignored.

In this chapter, we will attempt to uncover this carrot and bring it into the glaring light it deserves by developing a simple outline from Pastor Peter's pen:

- Peter speaks of the past
- Peter speaks of the present
- Peter speaks of the future
- Peter speaks of "an abundant entrance"
- Peter speaks of future unknowns

**PETER SPEAKS OF THE PAST**  
**"...give diligence to make your calling**  
**and election sure."** II Peter 1:10

## MAKE SURE YOU ARE SAVED

Give diligence, or make absolutely certain, of your calling and election. In layman's language, Peter was admonishing them to make sure they were saved. In the Bible, when personal salvation from hell is referred to, it is always in the past tense, "saved." **"By grace are ye saved..."** Eph 2:8

**The individual is to make sure.** Believers are admonished to make their calling and election sure. It is something that each individual must do for himself – make sure you are saved.

### **Make Sure You Read The Whole Verse.**

There are some theologians who wrongfully teach the subject of "election." They teach that the election of the sinner unto salvation is totally of God, and it is God who determines who will or will not be saved. The verse they use is II Thess 2:13, which states, **"But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath**

*"...give diligence to make your calling and election sure..."*

**II Peter 1:10**

**from the beginning chosen you to salvation...”**

Those that wrongfully stress the doctrine of election are quick to go to the original Greek language and point out that the word translated “beginning” means the “casting down,” referring to creation.

We are just as quick to say, “Amen.” It is really referring to

The answer to this question is simple. God, who is infinite and all knowing, elected the sinner from the beginning <b>through His foreknowledge.</b>
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the beginning, before the creation of the earth. Then they erroneously argue, “If God chose or elected the sinner to be saved in the beginning, then how could the sinner, who has not yet been born, have any part in his election?”

The answer to this question is simple. God, who is infinite and all knowing, elected the sinner from the beginning **through His foreknowledge.** Peter stated this truth in I Peter 1:2, where he declares, **“Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father...”** God can look through time and see the sinner listening to the Gospel and being convicted of his sins by the Holy Spirit. The sinner, realizing he is lost and going to hell, hears of God’s love and provision for him through the death of

Jesus on the cross, as his substitute. The sinner then turns from his sins and cries out to God for mercy, pleading for the shed blood of His Son. **God foresees the means** that caused this sinner to call out to God for mercy, **as well as the election itself.**

God foresees the means that caused this sinner to call out to God for mercy, as well as the election itself.

### **MAKE SURE YOU DON'T STOP IN THE MIDDLE OF THE VERSE**

When one stops reading in the middle of II Thess 2:13, “**...from the beginning chosen you to salvation...**” is the end of the verse, causing confusion and error. **The verse does not stop there;** there is no period after the word salvation. The verse continues on and explains how, or on what condition, God chooses the sinner to salvation. “**...through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth.**” It is through the hearing of the Gospel and believing the truth. Verse 14 clearly states, “**Whereunto he called you by our**

The whole picture is that the infinite God sees the Gospel being preached to the sinner from the beginning, and sees the sinner surrendering to the Holy Spirit's drawing, and thus elects, or chooses, him to salvation.

**gospel...**” So, the whole picture is that the infinite God sees the Gospel being preached to the sinner from the beginning, sees the sinner surrendering to the Holy Spirit’s drawing, and thus elects, or chooses, him to salvation.

## **MAKE SURE TO MAKE THE RIGHT EMPHASIS**

The stress on the doctrine of election is not on **who the elected are**, but on **what the ones who are elected are to do**. In John 15:16, Jesus told the early disciples, “Ye have not chosen [elected] me, but I have chosen [elected] you, and ordained you...” Please note why He chose them:

- **“...that ye should go”** - chosen to go
- **“and bring forth fruit,”** - chosen to bring forth fruit, or win souls
- **“and that your fruit [converts] should remain:”** - chosen to follow up and disciple their converts
- **“that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.”** - chosen to pray big prayers, “whatsoever.”

But Peter, in dealing with the past in II Peter 1:10, stated, "...make your calling and election sure...", or in layman's language, "make sure you are saved" (past tense). As important as one's salvation from hell is, **the apostle Peter only referred to it one time**. In the next few verses, he refers to another principle three different times.

### **PETER SPEAKS OF THE PRESENT**

**"...for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall [backslide, or stumble as a Christian]."**

II Peter 1:10

Notice the present tense of this verse, "do these things." The question arises, "Do what things?" In the verse, "do" denotes that it is a present or on-going action, and refers

*"...for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall [backslide, or stumble as a Christian]."*

*II Peter 1:10*

back to the principles in verses 5 through 7, in which Peter admonished the believer to add to his personal faith in Christ as his Savior.

In the growth process, the Christian is to make a diligent effort to build good works into his life and grow into a mature believer, so that he will never backslide or stumble.

Note the process of obtaining God's promise so that, as a child of God, one will never fall or backslide:

- **VIRTUE** - Add to your faith, **virtue** (good works or habits).
- **KNOWLEDGE** - Then Peter continued, "Add to your good clean life, **knowledge**." That is, learn more about Jesus and His eternal Word.
- **PATIENCE** - After taking time to live in and study His Word, add **patience**. Learn to endure and be steadfast in your life of service.
- **GODLINESS** - As you are adding patience and steadfastness to your Christian walk, be sure to add **Godliness**, or holiness. One could spell Godliness, "God-like-ness", which means Holy living.
- **BROTHERLY KINDNESS** - While you are learning to follow Jesus and imitate His lifestyle, be kind to your brothers and sisters. Add **brotherly kindness** in your life because everyone is having a tough time and needs encouragement. Live to encourage others.

- **CHARITY** - While you are practicing brotherly kindness and encouraging your fellow man, be sure to have the **charity** (love) of Christ and strive to win lost souls.

Now, if you do these things in your daily life, you will become a tender, compassionate child of God, who will have real fellowship with Christ.

When Peter encouraged them to add these wonderful, Christ-like traits to their personal faith in their daily walk, **he spoke of these admonitions only one time**. But when he came to the future tense, “**the abundant entrance which will be ministered unto you into the glorious millennial Kingdom**”, he did not say it just one time. When he came to the future event of all events for the faithful child of God, **he did not mention it just two times**. Peter repeated himself **three times!**

## **PETER’S INCONSISTENT CHRISTIAN LIFE MOTIVATED HIM**

Why did Peter speak of the future glory and then restate the wonderful promise of future glory a second time? He confirmed that he wanted to hold the coming



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events of  
future glory  
continually  
before them,

even after he died. Why would he be so repetitious?

**First,** Peter remembered when all he had to motivate him was his salvation. All he knew was, **“I’m saved.”** It was thrilling to know he had eternal life and was going to Heaven, but oh, those ups and downs in his inconsistent life. He remembered his zeal as a young Christian, and his ignorance. He remembered the many times that, through his zeal, he had put his foot in his mouth (figuratively speaking). It was only after he began to comprehend his future position as a king, of sitting and eating at Jesus’ table in the Millennium that he began to excel.

**Second,** Peter remembered when all he had to motivate himself was his spiritual growth. He remembered hearing Jesus teach, and then questioning him as He explained the various parables. He remembered glorifying the truths of the beatitudes as he was instructed by Jesus.

Peter was present during Jesus’ great Sermon on the Mount, and later at Jesus’ discourse on His second coming. He would

always treasure being **chosen and ordained** as one of the twelve apostles.

But, when Jesus was captured in the garden, Peter lost control and resorted to the flesh by cutting a man's ear off. When Jesus was interrogated at His mock trial, Peter stood far off and warmed himself with His enemies. He even denied Jesus, not once, but three times.

When, as the leader, he should have demonstrated courage, he was with the rest of the apostles behind locked doors. Then, he would never forget, although they had

It made him see how absolutely urgent it was to get the Gospel to every creature in the world.
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already been commissioned to go the world, he

returned to his fishing vocation. He remembered the power of his influence, which caused six of the apostles to follow him when he returned to his vocation.

- He was **saved**
- He **finished his Bible college training**
- He **finished his internship under Jesus**
- He was **ordained and commissioned**
- **All of that, and he still failed in his Christian life**

Peter's thoughts went back to when he first saw Jesus in His glorified body. As a young preacher upon the Mount of Transfiguration, he saw Moses and Elijah transformed with Jesus. He was so thrilled that he wanted to build three tabernacles and stay there forever.

But, none of his Bible college training or his intern training

But it was only after he saw the carrot (future tense), that his life was <b>changed and his purpose on earth became clear.</b>
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under Jesus transformed him into a fearless leader. It was only after **Jesus spent His final forty days** on earth teaching that caused Peter's spiritual growth.

It made him see how absolutely **urgent it was to get the Gospel to every creature in the world.** Without hearing the Gospel, no man would call upon the name of the Lord. Without calling on His name for mercy, no one would be saved from hell. It was Jesus' teaching of the glorious 1000-year reign, where those that gave themselves over to getting the Gospel to a lost world in this short earthly life would be kings. That **caused him to develop his eternal focus,** instead of his limited earthly focus. This focus of being near his beloved Jesus and having fellowship with him each day for

1000 years is what **converted him into being a great fearless leader.**

- **He was saved** (past tense)
- **He was growing spiritually** (present tense)

But it was only after he saw the carrot (future tense), that his life was **changed and his purpose on earth became clear.** His real life would be for a 1000 years in the Millennial Reign, as a king under the King of Kings.

When Peter saw this truth, he was transformed, and he never slowed down or looked back.
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That life could begin at any time, depending on when Jesus came back. Until Jesus' return, he was to exert every effort to winning and training people so that everyone on this earth would at least have a chance to be saved from hell. When Peter saw this truth, he was transformed, and he never slowed down or looked back. His simple job was to preach and train until he was abundantly ushered into the Kingdom, consumed his life.

### **PETER SPEAKS OF THE FUTURE**

**“For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting**

**kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus  
Christ.” II Peter 1:11**

**This was a promise concerning the future.** In verse 12, Peter simply stated that

“For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.” *II Peter 1:11*

he was only reminding them of something they already knew and were practicing. Peter’s exact words to them were, **“though ye know them, and be established [practicing] in the present truth [about the abundant entering into the coming Kingdom].”**

Notice the importance Peter placed on this teaching. Although they knew and were practicing these wonderful truths about the coming Millennial Kingdom, he was not going to neglect to **“put you always in remembrance of these things.”**

**STIR UP YOUR MINDS WITH  
SOMETHING YOU ALREADY KNOW  
AND PRACTICE**

They already knew of the coming Millennial Kingdom, with all of the great people of the earth. They already knew that this vast number would be lead by the

**KING OF KINGS** and **LORD OF LORDS**, JESUS CHRIST, HIMSELF. They already knew that as King, He would put the devil in hell and peace would reign universally.

**“FOR SO AN ENTRANCE SHALL BE MINISTERED UNTO YOU”**

Please observe the expression “will be ministered unto you.” Peter was saying, “I don’t want you to forget, for one moment, the glory that awaits you in the Kingdom. You will be the one who will be the center of attention, **who will be ministered to.**”

You will not have to minister – you will be ministered to. You will not have to serve – you will be served. You will no longer be a poor, unknown person – you will be elevated to a place of prominence and glory.
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You will not have to minister – **you will be ministered to.**

You will not have to serve – **you will be served.**

You will no longer be a poor, unknown person – you will be elevated to a place of prominence and glory.

You will no longer be a person with meager, earthly goods – you will be the boss, living in the big house on the hill. You

will be royalty, serving with the King of Kings for a full 1000 years. You will be one of Christ's servants, fulfilling His purpose for your life – **to have dominion over the earth.**

Daniel's prophecy, concerning those who will shine brightest in the Millennium, is for those who were wise in their life. Daniel saw those who were wise as stars shining in the Heavens. Daniel 12:3

Solomon defined a wise person as one who "wins souls." Pro 11:30 So, in order to shine as one of the stars in Heaven, one must be responsible for winning people to Jesus.

## **WHO IS THE ONE WHO IS MINISTERING UNTO YOU?**

One of the truths that make this such an awesome occasion is realizing who the person is that will be ministering unto you.

Is it angels? Could be! Is it other brethren? Could be! The angels and other dear Christian friends could have a great part in ushering you into the glorious Millennial Kingdom. They will certainly be there.

## WHAT WE DO KNOW ABOUT WHO IS DOING THE MINISTERING?

The apostle Peter stated something we can know for sure. Peter told pastors that the call of God to His obedient servants was to share in "...his eternal glory by Christ Jesus..." I Peter 5:10

The sharing of "His eternal glory" will be by God's grace, and not by man's brilliance. Peter stated, "The God of all

Solomon defined a wise person as one who "wins souls." *Pro 11:30* So, in order to shine as one of the stars in Heaven, one must be responsible for winning people to Jesus.

**grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory."**

No doubt, it will take much grace to endure the suffering, the rejection, the trials, and difficulties of a life dedicated to obeying the command of winning souls and ministering on behalf of Jesus. But God attempts to make all of this suffering and pain worthwhile by holding up the end results before these faithful servants – **the call to eternal glory**, which means one will be elevated to share with Christ tremendous blessings for all of eternity.

## WE HAVE THE PROMISE OF JESUS



Jesus  
promised the  
apostles that they  
would eat and drink  
at His table, and

But God attempts to make all of this suffering and pain worthwhile by holding up the end results before these faithful servants - **the call to eternal glory.**

serve as a king over one of the twelve tribes, during the Millennial Reign. Luke 22:29-30

In Luke 12:37, Jesus promised His faithful pastors who were serving Him when He came back that, **“...he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them.”**

Can you imagine Jesus as the principle one who is taking the lead in ministering to you? One may reason, how could Jesus

The point is, He has promised to gird Himself and serve His faithful servants. He has also promised to allow some to share in His eternal glory.

take the time to personally lead in ministering to the millions of people who will appear at the awards banquet?

As man it would seem impossible, but as God all things are possible. He, as God, will do it the same way He hears millions of prayers now, and personally comforts each of His children at the same time.

The point is, He has promised to gird Himself, and serve His faithful servants. He

has also promised to allow some to share in His eternal glory.

## **THE LONG AWAITED DAY BECOMES REALITY**

Finally, the time arrives when faith **turns into reality**. The long awaited day is here and you are ushered into the everlasting Kingdom.

The maestro in charge of the music lifts his hand, and on the downbeat the orchestra and the Heavenly choir begins to sing. You, as the guest of honor, stand. All eyes are upon you. The King of Kings goes to the podium.

The great apostle Paul, or one of the archangels, begins to read the citations and commendations

. Then, he turns  
to face the  
King and  
Prince of

Then, he turns to face the King and Prince of Heaven and declares, “Your Majesty, it is my great honor to present to you your faithful and distinguished servant...” And with a pause, <b>he calls your name</b> .
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Heaven and declares, “Your Majesty, it is my great honor to present to you your faithful and distinguished servant...” And with a pause, **he calls your name**.

The many in your spiritual down-line, whom you won or trained, burst into cheers. **The clapping and cheering is deafening.**

Jesus turns toward you with outstretched hands.

You catch your breath. The crown He holds in His hands...**is your crown.** With trembling steps you move forward and bow your head. He gently places the crown upon your head. You feel its weight settle upon your head. You feel His loving arms around you in a tender embrace.

He speaks, and those words will echo in your mind forever. You will never forget the sound of His voice when he says, “Well done, thou good and faithful servant. Enter into the joy of the Lord and into your kingdom, rule, as my servant, over your subjects for 1000 years.”

With His arm around your shoulders, He turns and proclaims, “My Father, members of the royal courts of Heaven, Holy angels, and all honored guests, it is **my distinct pleasure to present to you**, my loyal friend and servant...”

He speaks your name. The band starts playing and cheers erupt from the crowd.

You are so awestruck that you just stand there motionless.

There is coming a day, and it may not be far off, when something like this scene will become a reality. Peter is saying, **“Now, don’t forget it.”**

Although the apostle Peter tried to describe the abundant entering into the everlasting Kingdom, his words fell far

He speaks, and those words will echo in your mind forever. You will never forget the sound of His voice when he says, “Well done, thou good and faithful servant. Enter into the joy of the Lord and into your kingdom, rule, as my servant, over your subjects for 1000 years.”
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short as you will see when **faith and hope become reality**. For the faithful servants, it will become a reality. **“For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom...”**

## **PETER SPEAKS OF AN ABUNDANT ENTRANCE**

**“For so an entrance shall be ministered  
unto you abundantly...”**

II Peter 1:11

The Kingdom itself will be glorious – **no wars, no deaths, no tears, no plagues and no monster to destroy the earth**. He will be in hell. He will be chained in hell by

the new King, and peace will **reign universally**.

**“For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.”** Habakkuk 2:14 The curse will be lifted from the earth. The nature of the wild animals will be curbed and the streets of the city will be safe. Little children will play with poisonous reptiles and neighbors will know and love each other. All of these things will be true because the earth will be governed by the Lord and His proven servants.

Peter wrote of these truths to his converts and believed that they knew and were established in these truths. So, why did he say in verse twelve, **“...I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things....”**

The Kingdom itself will be glorious - no wars, no deaths, no tears, no plagues and no monster to destroy the earth. He will be in hell
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Again in verse thirteen, he stated, **“I am going to stir you up by putting you in remembrance of these things.”**

And then finally in verse fifteen, he stated, **“...after my decease to have these things always in remembrance.”**

It is clear that he was trying to pen something for his followers, and all others who become Christians. It was the Holy Spirit's way of using the renowned old pastor, who impacted the lives of millions, to place a **blinking red light** so that future generations would examine his words more carefully.

**NOTE THE EXPRESSION:  
“ABUNDANTLY INTO THE  
EVERLASTING KINGDOM”**

Just to leave this lawless land of death and destruction, and go into the peaceful land where Jesus rules in peace and righteousness, would be indescribable. But it is obvious that the Holy Spirit is attempting to raise our expectations by using the word **“abundantly”** in reference to our entrance into the Kingdom.

We are but men of the flesh. Our knowledge is of the earth and we could travel the world and find

It was the Holy Spirit's way of using the renowned old pastor, who had impacted the lives of millions, to place a **blinking red light** so that future generations would examine his words more carefully.

examples of things that are abundant, or things that are done abundantly. But in

speaking of Kings who God wanted to honor, and in examining past adventures into abundance, there is only one man who comes to mind – **King Solomon**.

### **What Is Abundance?**

When you think of Solomon’s construction of the Holy temple – **that is abundance**.

When you think of Solomon’s magnificent palace, which took fourteen years to build – **that is abundance**.

When you think of the glory of Solomon’s wisdom and rulership – **that is abundance**.

When you hear of Solomon’s order and organization, II Chronicles 9:4 – **that is abundance**.

When you hear of the love and joy of Solomon’s subjects, II Chronicles 9:7 – **that is abundance**.

A queen came, beheld Solomon’s brilliance, order, riches, and reign, and went away saying, “...**One**

There will be something glorious and in great abundance concerning the abundant entering into the everlasting Kingdom.
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**half of the greatness of thy wisdom was not told me...**” II Chronicles 9:6 – **that is abundance**.

Could it be there are **thrones in the Millennium** that would equal Solomon's throne? II Chronicles 9:17

**Could there be palaces** built in the Millennium for future kings that would rival or surpass Solomon's?

Could there be joy and honor expressed by your Millennial servants that would equal Solomon's?

This glorious event caused Peter to say it not once, **not twice, BUT THREE TIMES** – and to place it in the Holy Bible to be referred to over and over again by men of every generation.

**“For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly.”**

## **PETER SPEAKS OF FUTURE UNKNOWNNS**

When Peter stated, “so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly,” he spoke of things that are still beyond this life and, as such, are still unknown. It is clear that, through his teaching, his converts had a clear understanding of what lay ahead in the next dispensation. They had accepted these truths and were looking forward to the Millennial Kingdom. Peter's intent was to



“stir them up,” by keeping them focused on the glory that would be ministered unto them abundantly when they entered the everlasting Kingdom. Peter was attempting to help them visualize the crowns that would be placed upon their heads, the rewards that would be given, and the positions of glory and leadership that they would share under King Jesus.

### **PETER’S DISCLAIMER OF THE COMING GLORY**

Peter must have thought that, through his stating and restating and then describing the glory of the future Kingdom, his beloved members and preachers might have thought **he had begun to fantasize the splendor of the coming coronation**. After all, Peter was an old man who was facing death; and old men have been known to lose touch with reality. Peter may have sensed that some would discard what he was stating, so in verse sixteen he made a disclaimer concerning this future glory. He said, **“For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus**

**Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.” II Peter 1:16**

Peter was saying, “I am not overstating

Peter was saying, “I am not overstating the greatness of that coming event. I am not telling you some fable or fairytale. I was there on the Mount of Transfiguration and beheld the future glory.

the greatness of that coming event. **I am not telling**

**you some fable or fairytale.** I was there on the Mount of Transfiguration and beheld the future glory. I saw Jesus in His majestic form. I heard Him speak to Moses and Elijah about coming events. I am doing the best I can as a poor, frail human being to relate the transforming effects it had on my life. **I am trying to teach you what Jesus taught me.** You are facing dark,

discouraging days in the ministry. Soul winning is declining in these days of apostasy

“With all of these distractions and many of God’s people being led astray, it is easy to lose your zeal for lost souls. It is easy to give in to discouragement.”

we are now in. There are preachers in our own pulpits who are withstanding the truth. There are splits in many of our churches. Liberal brethren, as well as those who have gone too far to the right, are causing much distraction in our memberships.”

Peter continued, “With all of these distractions and many of God’s people being led astray, it is easy to lose your zeal for lost souls. **It is easy to give in to discouragement.**”

Jesus worked calmly even with the knowledge of the torture that was looming closer and closer casting a dark shadow over His life. Our Lord only manifested love and mercy to those around Him as things got darker and darker. He, for the joy (carrot) set before Him, endured the cross, despising the shame – **“looking to the future Kingdom and the blessings that were waiting just across the river.”**

“How did He do that?” Peter challenged.

Peter stated, “That is what I am trying to get across to you. I am trying to do what

We were able to look beyond this seemingly hopeless task by seeing the abundant entrance that would be ministered unto us, into the everlasting Kingdom.
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**He did in His last forty days on this earth.**  
Acts 1:3 He went over these

principles of the soon coming Kingdom – over and over again until it became embedded in our minds and souls.”

“As Jesus taught the future Kingdom principles, they became a major part of our

thought pattern. As we learned and rehearsed these thoughts, they began to become part of our accepted beliefs. Those beliefs grew into convictions. Those convictions were absorbed into our being and became part of us. Now, **they process our being and drive us to obey what were before, hopeless tasks.**”

“We were not overwhelmed by the gigantic task of preaching the Gospel to everyone in the world anymore. We were able to look beyond this seemingly hopeless task **by seeing the abundant entrance that would be ministered unto us, as we entered into the everlasting Kingdom.** We, through the joy waiting for us in the future Kingdom when Jesus receives us home, were able to achieve great victories. We were looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who was waiting for us on the other side of the river. Although He was just beyond the horizon, it seemed like the dark clouds of this world formed a „V“, which centered upon His glorious personage.”

Peter’s admonition continued, “That is what I am trying to get across to you. By first stating these principles, you were good students and believed them, and began to

practice them. But I knew that **I had to hash and rehash those blessed truths** until you could look beyond those dark days **to the abundant entrance that Jesus will minister unto you into His everlasting Kingdom.**”

Leave this textbook open  
and return to the course  
main page and take test.  
Test is open book.