

The Letter to  
God's Elect



# II Peter

W

N

E



# The Three Kinds of Books in the New Testament

## *Historical*

Matthew  
Mark  
Luke  
John  
Acts

## *Pauline*

### TO CHURCHES:

Romans  
1 Corinthians  
2 Corinthians  
Galatians  
Ephesians  
Philippians  
Colossians  
1 Thessalonians  
2 Thessalonians

### TO INDIVIDUALS:

1 Timothy  
2 Timothy  
Titus  
Philemon

## *General*

Hebrews  
James  
1 Peter  
2 Peter  
1 John  
2 John  
3 John  
Jude  
Revelation

# TIME LINE OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

## Historical Books

Gospel-Acts						post-Acts		
A.D. 0	A.D. 30	A.D. 48	A.D. 50	A.D. 53	A.D. 60	A.D. 62	A.D. 67	A.D. 95

## Pauline Epistles

		Galatians	1 Thessalonians 2 Thessalonians	1 Corinthians 2 Corinthians Romans	Ephesians Colossians Philemon Philippians	1 Timothy Titus	2 Timothy	
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## General Epistles

		James				1 Peter 2 Peter	Hebrews Jude	1 John 2 John 3 John Revelation
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Dr. Kenneth Hanna, From the Gospels to Glory, (2015)

Second Peter is the last testament of Simon Peter (1:12-15). Peter *is conscious* that his martyrdom is rapidly approaching. Second Peter *is reminiscent* of Paul's second letter to Timothy. The church is *facing assault* from a hostile world, but it is also *being infiltrated* by false teachers (2:1-22). The church is *at risk of being infected* by the growing indifference to Christ's return and the judgment to follow (3:1-16). Second Peter might well have been written today at the dawning of a third millennium. Like a mirror, it reflects the pagan culture of our times and the prevailing condition of the church. 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter is greatly needed, yet it is *little known* and is *lightly regarded* in our time.





Dr. Kenneth Hanna, From the Gospels to Glory, (2015)

The author claims to be Peter and identifies himself as an apostle. The writer calls himself Simon Peter (1:1). He claims to be a personal eyewitness of the transfiguration of Christ (1:16-18) and recalls the Lord's prediction of His death (1:14; John 21:18-19). He uses the first person singular pronoun "I" in a highly personal passage. The author places himself on a par with the apostle Paul, with whom the author was a contemporary (3:15). He also claims to have written a previous letter (3:1).





# What are Critical Scholars?



Historical (or, Literary) criticism is a branch of literary analysis that investigates the origins of ancient texts in order to understand “the world behind the text.”

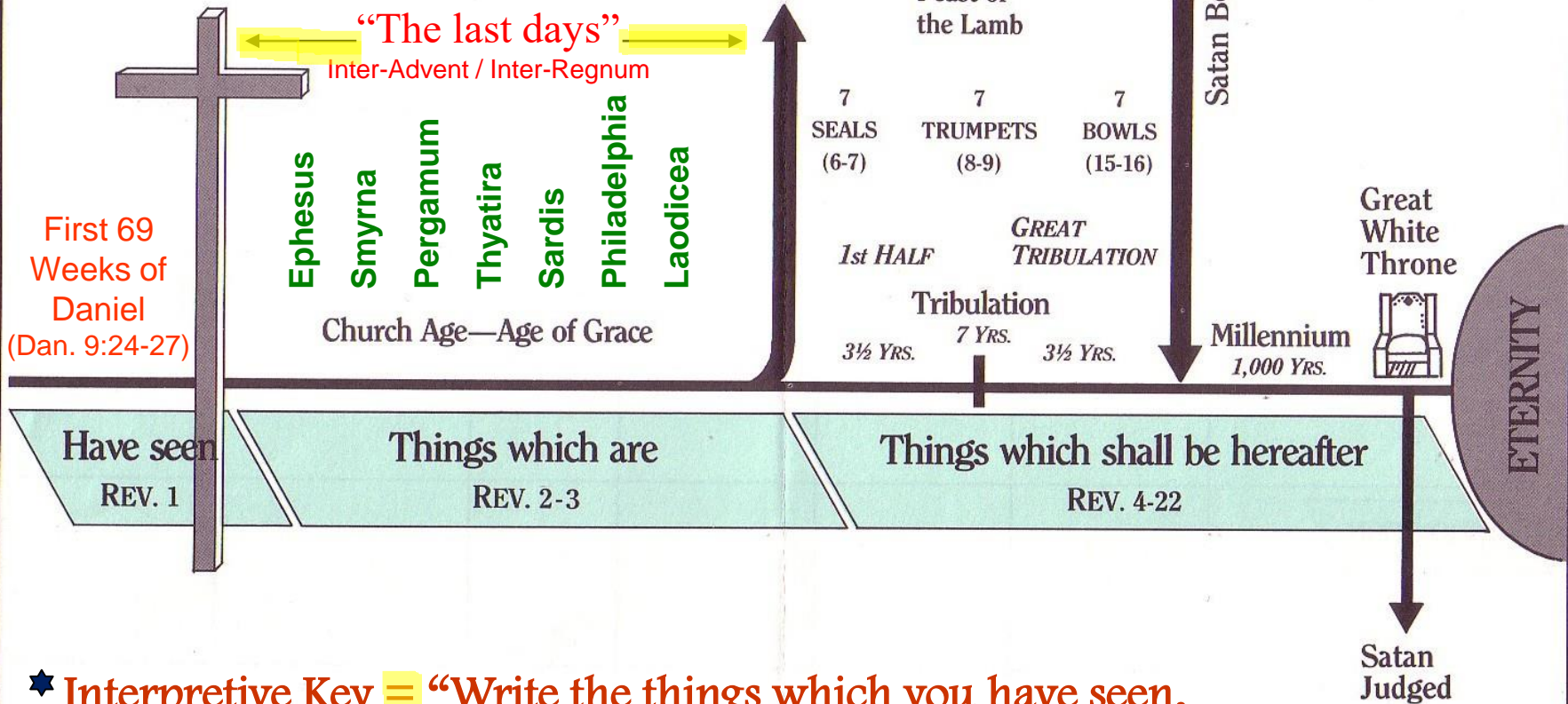
**HIGHER CRITICISM or Historical Criticism**



**LOWER CRITICISM or Textual Criticism**

The discipline concerned with *the recovery of original texts* especially of Scripture *through the collation of extant manuscripts.*

“In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, **but in these last days** he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe.” - Hebrews 1:1-2



★ **Interpretive Key** = “Write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after these things.” (Revelation 1:19, NASV)



## What are the “last days”?



NIV Study Bible - Comment on Heb. 1:1-2

*in the past (vs. 1)* = prior to Christ’s coming, in contrast to *in these last days (vs. 2)* = the Messianic era inaugurated by the incarnation.





## What are the “last days”?



### NIV Study Bible - Comment on 1 John 2:18

***this is the last hour*** – With other NT writers, John viewed the whole period beginning with Christ’s first coming as the last days. *They understood this to be the “last” of the days because neither former prophecy nor new revelation concerning the history of salvation indicated the coming of another era before the return of Christ.* The word “last” in “last days”, “last times”, “last hour” also expresses a sense of urgency and imminence. The Christian is to be alert, waiting for the return of Christ (Matt. 25:1-13).

"Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to God's  
elect, strangers in the world, scattered through-  
out Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bith-  
ynia, who have been chosen according to the  
foreknowledge of God the Father, through the  
sanctifying work of the Spirit, for obedience to  
Jesus Christ and sprinkling by his blood: Grace  
and peace be yours in abundance."

1 PETER 1:1-2

NIV 1984

# THE PROVINCES OF ASIA MINOR 1ST CENTURY A.D.

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# First-Century Lands



BITHYNIA

PONTUS

ASIA

GALATIA

CAPPADOCIA

Mediterranean Sea

Heraclea

Chalcedon

Troas

Gordion

Ancyra

Pergamum

Thyatira

Sardis

Smyrna

Philadelphia

Hierapolis

Laodicea

Colosse

Antioch in Pisidia

Iconium

Lystra

Derbe

Ephesus

Miletus

## 2 PETER 3:17-18

2 PETER

“Therefore, dear friends, since you already know this, be on your **guard** so that you may not be carried away by the error of lawless men and fall from your secure position. But **grow** in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.”

γνῶσις

*gnōsis*

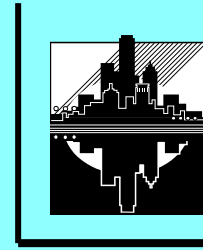
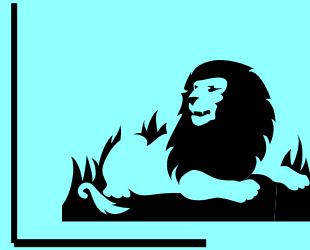
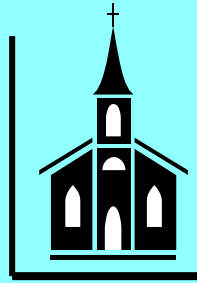
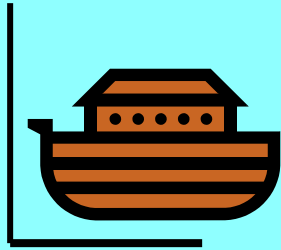
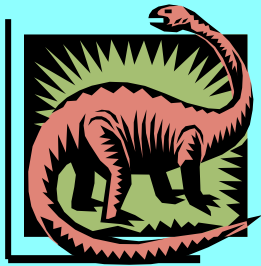
knowledge

ἐπίγνωσις

*epignōsis*  
knowledge

# THE FIVE WORLDS

## of History, Science & Prophecy



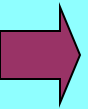
Less than  
one month?

1,656 Years

Flood to  
Second  
Coming

1,000 Years

Forever



“Very Good”  
World  
Before  
The Fall  
Genesis 1-2;  
cf. 1:31

“The world  
of that  
time”  
Before The  
Flood  
2 Peter 3:6

“Present  
Heavens  
& Earth”  
2 Peter  
3:7

Millennial  
Kingdom  
Following  
Christ’s  
Return  
Rev. 20

New Heaven  
New Earth  
Eternity  
Future  
2 Peter 3:13  
Rev. 21-22



## SURVEY OF 2 PETER

**Purpose:** To warn against false teaching, moral compromise, and doctrinal error in the last days.

**Date:** A.D. 66–67

**Key Words:** Know, Diligence, Remember / Remind, Corruption

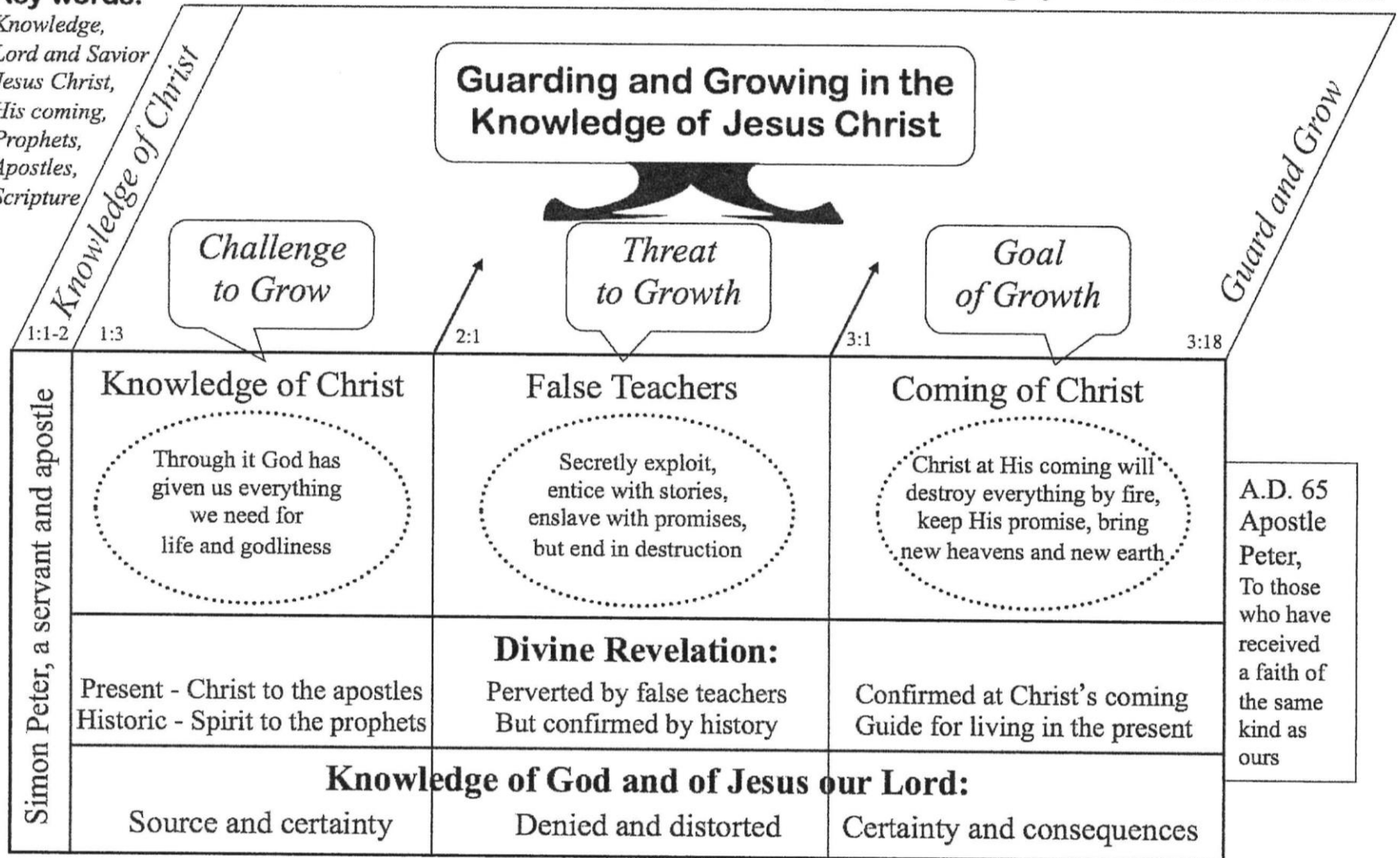
**Tone:** Urgency, Intensity

	<b>Moral Corruption</b>	<b>Doctrinal Compromise</b>	<b>Prophetic Concern</b>	
<b>Introduction</b>	<i>Answers Question:</i>	<i>Answers Question:</i>	<i>Answers Question:</i>	<b>Conclusion</b>
	How can I escape defilement?	What shall I expect from “prophets”?	Where will all this end?	
1:1–3	Chapter 1	Chapter 2	Chapter 3	3:18
<i>Warning</i>	Be Pure! (v. 4)	Be Aware! (vv. 1–3)	Be Strong! (v. 14)	
<i>Reminder</i>	Verses 12–13	Verses 21–22	Verses 1–2	
<i>Promise</i>	“You will never stumble” (v. 10)	“God will rescue you” (v. 9)	“We look for new hope” (v. 13)	
<i>Perspective</i>	Looking within	Looking back	Looking ahead	

# 2 PETER: Guard the Truth by Growing in the Knowledge of Christ

**Key words:** Knowledge, Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, His coming, Prophets, Apostles, Scripture

**Key verses: 3:17-18** *Therefore, be on your guard ... grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*



Simon Peter, a servant and apostle

A.D. 65  
Apostle Peter,  
To those who have received a faith of the same kind as ours