

# 1 Peter Part 2 – From Sea To Kingdom Come – Summary & Study Guide – Mar 1, 2026

## Summary

This teaching provides a theological examination of the **Apostle Peter's character and authority** as an essential foundation for studying his biblical epistles. The text emphasizes that Peter was a **pivotal leader** chosen by Jesus to anchor the early church, noting his specific **role in strengthening his peers** after facing his own trials. By highlighting Peter's unique relationship with Christ and his **personal experiences with suffering**, the teaching states that his writings are divinely inspired and practically vital for modern believers. Key events, such as the **Mount of Transfiguration** and Peter's restoration, are used to illustrate his high standing in both divine and demonic eyes. Ultimately, the speaker encourages a **serious study of Peter's letters**, suggesting they offer critical guidance for enduring future hardships with faith.

## Study Guide

This study guide is designed to deepen your understanding of the Apostle Peter's character, authority, and calling. By analyzing his relationship with Jesus and his role in the early church, you will be better prepared to study his epistles (1 and 2 Peter) with trust and insight.

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### I. Definitions of Key Words

- **Living Word:** A description of the Bible indicating it is not a static text but active and life-changing.
- **Sift:** A metaphor for a hostile act of shaking someone violently (like wheat) to separate the weak from the strong or to cause division.
- **Uneducated (Greek: *agrammatos*):** Literally meaning "without letters"; referring to a lack of formal rabbinic or seminary training.
- **Polysyndeton:** A figure of speech involving the repetition of many conjunctions (e.g., "and") in close succession to provide emphasis.
- **Transfigured:** A divine transformation where Jesus' appearance changed to reveal his glory.
- **Vision:** A supernatural presentation of images or events to the mind or eyes, distinct from physical reality (e.g., Moses and Elijah appearing on the mountain).

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### II. Key Study Notes and Expansion of Points

**1. The Divine Authority of the Text** The study of 1 and 2 Peter is not merely an "academic exercise" or "intellectual adventure". These writings are the **Living Word of God**, written by revelation and the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Because they originate from God, they demand a corresponding action of **obedience and life change**.

**2. The Theme of Suffering** A central theme of Peter's epistles is **suffering for the name of Jesus Christ**. While most people avoid suffering, Peter writes to prepare believers to handle it as it intensifies. Interestingly, Peter once rebuked Jesus for speaking of His own suffering (**Matthew 16:22**), showing Peter's initial resistance to the concept he would later champion.

**3. Peter in the Eyes of Jesus and Satan** The teaching highlights that Peter had a "huge target on his back".

- **Satan's Objective:** Satan demanded permission to "sift" all the apostles like wheat (**Luke 22:31**). This sifting is a strategy of division, intended to break leadership apart.
- **Jesus' Intercession:** While Satan targeted the group (plural "you"), Jesus made a specific, **earnest intercession for Peter** (singular "you") so that his faith would not fail (**Luke 22:32**).
- **The Command:** Jesus assigned Peter the specific responsibility to "strengthen your brothers" once he had turned back from his denial (**Luke 22:32**).

**4. Credentials Beyond "Letters"** The religious leaders of the day viewed Peter and John as "uneducated and untrained" because they lacked formal rabbinic training (**Acts 4:13**). However, their true credential was their **boldness** and the fact that they had "**been with Jesus**". Peter was a "phenomenal apostle of great strength," despite his personal imperfections and denials.

**5. The Restoration and Commissioning of Peter** After his denial, Jesus restored Peter by asking three times if Peter loved Him (**John 21:15-17**).

- **The Task:** Jesus commanded him to "Tend my lambs," "Shepherd my sheep," and "Tend my sheep".
- **The Cost:** Jesus prophesied that Peter would glorify God through a specific kind of death where he would be bound and led where he did not wish to go (**John 21:18-19**).

**6. Peter's Prominence in the Early Church** Peter held a distinguished place among the disciples:

- **Leadership:** He is consistently listed first in the New Testament lists of the 12 apostles (**Matthew 10:2-4; Mark 3:16-19; Luke 6:14-16; Acts 1:13**).
- **Pioneer:** He preached the first gospel declaration at Pentecost (**Acts 2:14**) and opened the door to the Gentiles via Cornelius (**Acts 10**).
- **Inner Circle:** Along with James and John, he witnessed the Transfiguration (**Matthew 17:1**) and helped organize the Last Supper (**Luke 22:8**).

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### III. Review Questions

1. What is the primary reason the author builds on Peter's character and calling before teaching his epistles?
2. In **Luke 22:31-32**, how does the Greek grammar (plural vs. singular "you") change the meaning of Jesus' warning and prayer?
3. What does the figure of speech **Polysyndeton** signify in **Mark 3**, and how many "ands" are used in that section?

4. According to **Acts 4:13**, what was the "most important" thing the religious leaders recognized about Peter and John?
  5. What secret did Jesus command Peter, James, and John to keep until after His resurrection?
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#### IV. Answer Key

1. **To establish trust:** Knowing where Peter stood in God's eyes ensures that the reader can "put their lives" on the text he wrote by inspiration.
  2. **Collective danger vs. Individual intercession:** The "you" in verse 31 is plural, meaning Satan wanted to sift *all* the apostles. In verse 32, Jesus switches to the singular "you" to show He was making a personal intercession specifically for Peter's faith.
  3. **Emphasis:** It signifies that God is giving major emphasis to the importance of the section. There are 18 "ands" in those six verses.
  4. **Their association with Jesus:** They recognized them as "having been with Jesus".
  5. **The Transfiguration:** They were commanded to tell no one about the vision of Jesus, Moses, and Elijah until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.
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#### V. Index of Biblical References within the Sources

- **Matthew 4:18-20:** Peter's calling to the office of apostle.
- **Matthew 8:14-15:** Jesus heals Peter's mother-in-law.
- **Matthew 10:2-4:** Peter listed first among the apostles.
- **Matthew 16:19:** Authority bestowed on Peter to bind and loose.
- **Matthew 16:22:** Peter rebukes Jesus regarding His suffering.
- **Matthew 17:1-9:** The Transfiguration of Jesus.
- **Mark 1:16-18:** Peter's calling.
- **Mark 3:13-19:** Appointment of the twelve; use of Polysyndeton.
- **Luke 5:1-11:** Peter's calling.
- **Luke 6:14-16:** Peter listed first.
- **Luke 22:8:** Peter and John organize the Last Supper.
- **Luke 22:28-34:** The kingdom grant, Satan's demand to sift the apostles, Jesus' prayer for Peter, and the prediction of denial.
- **John 1:40-42:** Peter's first visit with Jesus and his name change from Simon to Cephas/Peter.
- **John 13:36:** Peter's willingness to die for Jesus.
- **John 18:15-16:** Peter and John at the high priest's trial.
- **John 20:2-6:** Peter and John at the empty tomb.
- **John 20:22-23:** Power to bind and loose given to all disciples.
- **John 21:15-19:** Jesus restores Peter ("Feed my sheep") and predicts his death.
- **John 21:20-24:** Peter's distraction regarding John; his responsibility to "Follow me".
- **Acts 1:13:** Peter listed first.
- **Acts 2:14:** Peter preaches the first Christian sermon.
- **Acts 4:13:** Peter and John described as uneducated/untrained.

- **Acts 5:1-11:** Peter rebukes Ananias and Sapphira.
- **Acts 8:18-23:** Peter rebukes Simon the magician.
- **Acts 10:** Peter opens the gospel to the Gentiles at Cornelius' house.
- **1 Corinthians 9:1-5:** Paul mentions Peter (Cephas) taking a believing wife on travels.

## VI. Exhortations

- **Take the Word Seriously:** Approach the epistles of Peter not as an academic exercise, but as a life-changing encounter with the living God.
- **Be Prepared for Suffering:** Do not be surprised when trials come; use Peter's teachings to handle the "intensifying" suffering that may be in the near future.
- **Strengthen One Another:** Just as Peter was commanded to strengthen his brothers after his own failures, look for opportunities to build up the faith of those around you.
- **Follow Him:** Avoid distractions regarding others' journeys (as Peter was distracted by John's fate). Focus on Jesus' simple but profound command: "You follow me".
- **Read Daily:** Commit to reading the text of 1 and 2 Peter daily to gain the maximum benefit from this study series.

## The Apostle Peter: From Fisherman to Pillar of Faith

### Authority and Divine Calling



**Author of 7.8% of the Greek New Testament**  
Peter wrote two essential epistles through the inspiration and revelation of the Holy Spirit.



7.8%



**Listed First Among the Twelve Apostles**  
His name holds the primary position in all four New Testament apostolic lists.



**Witness to the Transfiguration**  
Peter was one of only three apostles chosen to see Jesus's glorified state.

### Trial, Restoration, and Leadership



**The Sifting of Faith**  
Despite being targeted by Satan for "sifting," Peter was sustained by Jesus's personal intercession.



**"Cephas" - A New Identity**  
Jesus renamed Simon to Peter (meaning "stone"), signaling his future as a stable leader.



**Commissioned to "Feed My Sheep"**  
After his restoration, Jesus placed the responsibility of strengthening the entire church on Peter.

### Distinguished Role



First Apostle to enter the empty tomb  
*John 20:3-6*



Preached the first Gospel sermon  
*Acts 2:14*



First to witness the risen Lord  
*1 Corinthians 15:5*