2 Peter 1:1-4 Introduction

By Daniel Deininger

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Who wrote it?

2 Peter 1:1 NKJV - Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ,

To whom did he write this?

Doesn't say at the beginning as his first epistle. But…

> 2 Peter 3:1 NKJV - Beloved, I now write to you this second epistle (in [both of] which I stir up your pure minds by way of reminder),

Who did he send the first epistle to?

> 1 Peter 1:1 NKJV - Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To the pilgrims of the Dispersion in **Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia**,
> 1 Peter 1:2 NKJV - elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace be multiplied.

He says beloved.. So they knew him, he knew them.

> 2 Peter 3:1 NKJV - Beloved, I now write to you this second epistle (in [both of] which I stir up your pure minds by way of reminder),
> 2 Peter 3:8 NKJV - But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day [is] as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.
> 2 Peter 3:14 NKJV - Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless;
> 2 Peter 3:17 NKJV - You therefore, beloved, since you know [this] beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked;
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> He also know Paul:
> 2 Peter 3:15 NKJV - and consider [that] the longsuffering of our Lord [is] salvation--as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you,

Why did Peter write this epistle?

Peter knew he was soon going to die:

> 2 Peter 1:12 NKJV - For this reason I will not be negligent to remind you always of these things, though you know and are established in the present truth.
> 2 Peter 1:13 NKJV - Yes, I think it is right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by reminding [you],

2 Peter 1:14 NKJV - knowing that shortly I [must] put off my tent, just as our Lord Jesus Christ showed me.
2 Peter 1:15 NKJV - Moreover I will be careful to ensure that you always have a reminder of these things after my decease.

Additional reasons:

- As encouragement for persecuted and suffering Christians (Shepherd's Notes)
- To emphasize true knowledge in the face of false teaching (Lion Handbook of the Bible)
- To give an emphasis on the knowledge of God… a living participation in the truth (Wiersbe)
- To encourage Christians to hold fast to the truth.
- To show the difference between true Christians and those in the world
- To warn of false ministers (teaching against keeping the law) and false Christianity (Gary Antion - UCG Epistles Class)

2 Peter 1:1 NKJV - Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have obtained like precious faith with us by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ:

A. Simon Peter - combination of original name and name given him by Jesus.
    a. John 1:42 NLT - Then Andrew brought Simon to meet Jesus. Looking intently at Simon, Jesus said, "Your name is Simon, son of John--but you will be called Cephas" (which means "Peter"). [The names *Cephas* (from Aramaic) and *Peter* (from Greek) both mean "rock."]
B. A servant. A positive example for us to be servants and to have the attitude of service.
C. "Like precious faith" Wiersbe says this means our standing with Christ today is the same as the apostles at their time. And we can love him without seeing him.
D.
    a. 1 Peter 1:8 NKJV - whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see [Him], yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory,
    b. 1 Peter 1:9 NKJV - receiving the end of your faith--the salvation of [your] souls.

2 Peter 1:2 NKJV - Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the <u>knowledge</u> of God and of Jesus our Lord,

A. Jesus Christ is also called God
    a. Hebrews 1:8 NLT - But to the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, endures forever and ever. You rule with a scepter of justice.
    b. 2 Peter 2:20 NKJV - For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning.

2 Peter 1:3 NKJV - as His divine power has given to us all things that [pertain] to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,

2 Peter 1:4 NKJV - by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption [that is] in the world through lust.