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## 2 Peter

The Second Epistle of Peter, also known as 2 Peter, is one of the books of the New Testament of the Christian Bible. It is believed to have been written by the apostle Peter, although some scholars dispute this claim. The book is addressed to a general audience of Christians, and its purpose is to encourage them to grow in their faith and to warn them against false teachers who may lead them astray.

The book begins with a greeting and an affirmation of the author's apostolic authority. The author then goes on to encourage the readers to grow in their faith by adding various qualities to their lives, such as virtue, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love. He also reminds them of the importance of holding fast to the teachings of the apostles, which are based on eyewitness testimony of Jesus' life and teachings.

The author then warns the readers about false teachers who will come among them, bringing destructive heresies and denying the teachings of the apostles. He describes them as being motivated by greed and lust, and warns that they will face judgment for their actions. The author then goes on to provide examples from the Old Testament of God's judgment on the wicked, including the angels who sinned and the flood in the time of Noah.

The book concludes with a reminder that the Lord is patient, not wanting anyone to perish but everyone to come to repentance. The author encourages the readers to continue to grow in their faith and to be diligent in their efforts to be found spotless, blameless, and at peace with God when the Lord returns.

In summary, 2 Peter is a letter of encouragement and warning to a general audience of Christians. The author encourages them to grow in their faith and to hold fast to the teachings of the apostles, while warning them against false teachers who will lead them astray. The book concludes with a reminder of God's patience and the need for repentance and diligence in preparation for the Lord's return.

Chapter 1: In this chapter, the author encourages the readers to grow in their faith by adding various qualities to their lives, such as virtue, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love. He also reminds them of the importance of holding fast to the teachings of the apostles.

Chapter 2: The author warns the readers about false teachers who will come among them, bringing destructive heresies and denying the teachings of the apostles. He describes them as being motivated by greed and lust, and warns that they will face judgment for their actions. The author then provides examples from the Old Testament of God's judgment on the wicked.

Chapter 3: The author reminds the readers that scoffers will come in the last days, questioning the Lord's return. He assures them that the Lord is patient, not wanting anyone to perish but everyone to come to repentance. The author encourages the readers to continue to grow in their faith and to be diligent in their efforts to be found spotless, blameless, and at peace with God when the Lord returns.

## 2 Peter 1

New International Version

1 Simon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ,

To those who through the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ have received a faith as precious as ours:

2 Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

Confirming One's Calling and Election

3 His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. 4 Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

5 For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; 6 and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; 7 and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love. 8 For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 But whoever does not have them is nearsighted and blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their past sins.

10 Therefore, my brothers and sisters,[a] make every effort to confirm your calling and election. For if you do these things, you will never stumble, 11 and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Prophecy of Scripture

12 So I will always remind you of these things, even though you know them and are firmly established in the truth you now have. 13 I think it is right to refresh your memory as long as I live in the tent of this body, 14 because I know that I will soon put it aside, as our Lord Jesus Christ has made clear to me. 15 And I will make every effort to see that after my departure you will always be able to remember these things.

16 For we did not follow cleverly devised stories when we told you about the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in power, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. 17 He received honor and glory from God the Father when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."<sup>[b]</sup> 18 We ourselves heard this voice that came from heaven when we were with him on the sacred mountain.

19 We also have the prophetic message as something completely reliable, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. 20 Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation of things. 21 For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

#### Footnotes

2 Peter 1:10 The Greek word for brothers and sisters (adelphoi) refers here to believers, both men and women, as part of God's family.

2 Peter 1:17 Matt. 17:5; Mark 9:7; Luke 9:35

Chapter 1 of 2 Peter begins with a greeting from the author, who identifies himself as Simon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ. He addresses the letter to those who have received a faith equal to his own through the righteousness of their God and Savior Jesus Christ.

The author then encourages the readers to add various qualities to their lives in order to grow in their faith. He lists seven qualities that they should strive to possess: virtue, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love. He says that if these qualities are present in their lives and increasing, they will keep them from being ineffective and unproductive in their knowledge of Jesus Christ.

The author then reminds the readers of their calling and election as believers in Christ, and encourages them to make every effort to confirm their calling and election. He says that if they do this, they will never stumble and will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

The author then shares his own experience of seeing Jesus' glory on the mount of transfiguration, and affirms the prophetic message of Scripture as something that comes from God and not from human beings. He emphasizes the importance of holding fast to the teachings of the apostles, and warns the readers against false prophets and false teachers who will arise among them and bring destructive heresies.

Overall, chapter 1 of 2 Peter encourages believers to grow in their faith and to hold fast to the teachings of the apostles in order to avoid falling prey to false teachings. It

emphasizes the importance of living a life characterized by moral excellence, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love, and reminds readers of their ultimate goal of receiving a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Here are some important verses from 2 Peter chapter 1, along with a brief explanation and the location within the chapter:

1. Verse 3: "His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness." This verse emphasizes that God has given us everything we need to live a godly life, and that we can access this power through our knowledge of Him.
2. Verse 4: "Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires." This verse reminds us that God has given us great and precious promises that enable us to participate in His divine nature and overcome the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.
3. Verse 5: "For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge." This verse encourages us to cultivate virtues such as faith, goodness, and knowledge, and to actively work towards developing these qualities in our lives.
4. Verse 9: "But whoever does not have them is nearsighted and blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their past sins." This verse warns against becoming spiritually blind and forgetting that we have been cleansed from our past sins.
5. Verse 16: "For we did not follow cleverly devised stories when we told you about the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in power, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty." This verse affirms the eyewitness testimony of the apostles regarding the coming of Jesus Christ in power.

The Second Epistle of Peter, often referred to as "2 Peter," is one of the books in the New Testament of the Bible. It is traditionally attributed to the apostle Peter, although some scholars debate its authorship. This letter contains important theological thoughts and has had significant theological influence in Christian tradition. Here are some key theological thoughts and influences from 2 Peter 1:

**Divine Power and Knowledge:** In 2 Peter 1:3, it emphasizes that God's divine power has granted to believers all things that pertain to life and godliness through the knowledge of Him. This highlights the importance of divine empowerment and knowledge as central theological themes.

**Partakers of the Divine Nature:** The letter speaks of believers becoming "partakers of the divine nature" (2 Peter 1:4). This concept underscores the transformative aspect of the Christian faith, where believers are called to become more like God in character.

Moral Excellence and Virtue: 2 Peter 1:5-7 discusses the importance of adding virtue, knowledge, self-control, steadfastness, godliness, brotherly affection, and love to one's faith. This list represents a call to moral excellence and a holy life.

False Teachers and Apostasy: A significant part of 2 Peter is dedicated to warning against false teachers and the danger of apostasy within the Christian community. Theological influence here lies in the emphasis on discernment and the need to remain rooted in orthodox Christian teaching.

Eschatology: The letter also touches on eschatological themes, particularly in 2 Peter 3, where it discusses the return of Christ and the judgment. This has had an influence on Christian thought regarding the end times.

The theological influence of 2 Peter can be seen in its contribution to Christian ethics, emphasizing moral growth and vigilance against false teaching. Additionally, its teaching on the transformative nature of faith and the divine empowerment of believers has influenced Christian spirituality and theology.

It's important to note that 2 Peter is relatively short and focuses on specific theological and ethical concerns within the early Christian community. Its influence is more localized compared to other New Testament writings like the letters of Paul or the Gospels, but it still plays a valuable role in shaping Christian thought and practice.

## 2 Peter 2

### New International Version

#### False Teachers and Their Destruction

2 But there were also false prophets among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the sovereign Lord who bought them—bringing swift destruction on themselves. 2 Many will follow their depraved conduct and will bring the way of truth into disrepute. 3 In their greed these teachers will exploit you with fabricated stories. Their condemnation has long been hanging over them, and their destruction has not been sleeping.

4 For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but sent them to hell,[a] putting them in chains of darkness[b] to be held for judgment; 5 if he did not spare the ancient world when he brought the flood on its ungodly people, but protected Noah, a preacher of righteousness, and seven others; 6 if he condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah by burning them to ashes, and made them an example of what is going to happen to the ungodly; 7 and if he rescued Lot, a righteous man, who was distressed by the depraved conduct of the lawless 8 (for that righteous man, living among them day after day, was tormented in his righteous soul by the lawless deeds he saw and heard)— 9 if this is so, then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials and to hold the unrighteous for punishment on the day of judgment. 10 This is especially true of those who follow the corrupt desire of the flesh[c] and despise authority.

Bold and arrogant, they are not afraid to heap abuse on celestial beings; 11 yet even angels, although they are stronger and more powerful, do not heap abuse on such beings when bringing judgment on them from[d] the Lord. 12 But these people blaspheme in matters they do not understand. They are like unreasoning animals, creatures of instinct, born only to be caught and destroyed, and like animals they too will perish.

13 They will be paid back with harm for the harm they have done. Their idea of pleasure is to carouse in broad daylight. They are blots and blemishes, reveling in their pleasures while they feast with you.[e] 14 With eyes full of adultery, they never stop sinning; they seduce the unstable; they are experts in greed—an accursed brood! 15 They have left the straight way and wandered off to follow the way of Balaam son of Bezer,[f] who loved the wages of wickedness. 16 But he was rebuked for his wrongdoing by a donkey—an animal without speech—who spoke with a human voice and restrained the prophet’s madness.

17 These people are springs without water and mists driven by a storm. Blackest darkness is reserved for them. 18 For they mouth empty, boastful words and, by appealing to the lustful desires of the flesh, they entice people who are just escaping from those who live in error. 19 They promise them freedom, while they themselves are slaves of depravity—for “people are slaves to whatever has mastered them.” 20 If they have escaped the corruption of the world by knowing our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and are again entangled in it and are overcome, they are worse off at the end than they were at the beginning. 21 It would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than to have known it and then to turn their backs on the sacred command that was passed on to them. 22 Of them the proverbs are true: “A dog returns to its vomit,”[g] and, “A sow that is washed returns to her wallowing in the mud.”

#### Footnotes

2 Peter 2:4 Greek Tartarus

2 Peter 2:4 Some manuscripts in gloomy dungeons

2 Peter 2:10 In contexts like this, the Greek word for flesh (sarx) refers to the sinful state of human beings, often presented as a power in opposition to the Spirit; also in verse 18.

2 Peter 2:11 Many manuscripts beings in the presence of

2 Peter 2:13 Some manuscripts in their love feasts

2 Peter 2:15 Greek Bosor

2 Peter 2:22 Prov. 26:11

Chapter 2 of 2 Peter begins with a warning against false teachers and their destructive teachings. The author describes these false teachers as having infiltrated the church in the past and as continuing to pose a threat to the faith of believers. He characterizes them as greedy, immoral, and arrogant, and says that they will bring swift destruction upon themselves.

The author then provides examples of how God has punished those who have rejected him in the past, such as the angels who sinned and the people who perished in the flood.

He also mentions Sodom and Gomorrah, cities that were destroyed by fire for their wickedness, as an example of God's judgment.

The author then goes on to describe the false teachers in more detail, saying that they are like irrational animals, living only for pleasure and corrupting others. He says that they speak arrogant and empty words, promising freedom but themselves being enslaved by sin. He warns the readers to stay away from them and not to be led astray by their false teachings.

The author then contrasts the false teachers with true servants of God, who live righteous lives and speak the truth. He says that God knows how to rescue the godly from trials and to punish the wicked on the day of judgment.

The chapter ends with a warning against those who have turned away from the truth, saying that it would be better for them not to have known the way of righteousness than to have known it and then turned away. The author emphasizes the importance of continuing to follow the truth and avoid being deceived by false teachings.

Overall, chapter 2 of 2 Peter is a warning against false teachers and their destructive teachings. It encourages believers to stay true to the teachings of the apostles and to avoid being led astray by those who would deceive them. The chapter emphasizes the importance of living a righteous life and warns of the consequences of turning away from the truth.

Here are some important verses from 2 Peter chapter 2, along with a brief explanation and the location within the chapter:

1. Verse 1: "But there were also false prophets among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the sovereign Lord who bought them—bringing swift destruction on themselves." This verse warns about the presence of false teachers who will introduce destructive teachings and deny the Lord, ultimately leading to their own destruction.
2. Verse 4: "For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but sent them to hell, putting them in chains of darkness to be held for judgment..." This verse references the punishment of angels who sinned and were sent to hell, emphasizing that even the heavenly beings are not exempt from judgment.
3. Verse 9: "if this is so, then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials and to hold the unrighteous for punishment on the day of judgment." This verse reassures believers that God is capable of rescuing them from trials and holding the unrighteous accountable on the day of judgment.
4. Verse 19: "They promise them freedom, while they themselves are slaves of depravity—for 'people are slaves to whatever has mastered them.'" This verse warns against false teachers who promise freedom but are themselves slaves to depravity, highlighting the danger of being mastered by sinful desires.
5. Verse 20: "If they have escaped the corruption of the world by knowing our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and are again entangled in it and are overcome, they are worse off at the end than they were at the beginning." This verse warns against those who have known Jesus but then return to the corruption of the world, stating that they are worse off than before they knew Him.

Second Peter, chapter 2, contains significant theological thoughts and warnings about false teachers and their influence within the Christian community. Here are the key theological thoughts and theological influences from 2 Peter 2:

**False Teachers and Their Destructive Influence:** The primary theological thought in 2 Peter 2 is the warning against false teachers who will arise among the believers. These false teachers are described as destructive and as introducing destructive heresies. They are characterized by greed, sensuality, and deception.

**Judgment and Divine Justice:** The chapter emphasizes the idea that God did not spare the angels who sinned, nor did He spare the ancient world but brought a flood upon it, and later destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah. This underscores the theological concept of divine judgment and justice.

**Rescue of the Righteous:** Amid the warning about false teachers and judgment, 2 Peter 2 also highlights God's ability to rescue the righteous. The example of Noah and Lot being saved from destruction serves as a reminder of God's faithfulness to those who remain faithful to Him.

**Theological Influence:** The influence of 2 Peter 2 can be seen in its contribution to Christian theology regarding the problem of false teachers and heresies within the Church. It underscores the importance of discernment, doctrinal purity, and the need for vigilance against those who would distort Christian teachings.

**Ethical Implications:** While the primary focus of 2 Peter 2 is on false teaching, it also has ethical implications. The chapter condemns immoral behavior, including sensuality and greed, and calls believers to live righteous and holy lives.

Overall, 2 Peter 2 serves as a warning against false teaching and immoral conduct within the Christian community. It has influenced Christian theology by emphasizing the importance of doctrinal purity and the need for discernment, as well as highlighting the concept of divine judgment and rescue of the righteous. This chapter plays a role in shaping the theological and ethical standards of the Christian faith.

## 2 Peter 3

### New International Version

#### The Day of the Lord

3 Dear friends, this is now my second letter to you. I have written both of them as reminders to stimulate you to wholesome thinking. 2 I want you to recall the words spoken in the past by the holy prophets and the command given by our Lord and Savior through your apostles.



3 Above all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. 4 They will say, "Where is this 'coming' he promised? Ever since our ancestors died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation." 5 But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens came into being and the earth was formed out of water and by water. 6 By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. 7 By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.

8 But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. 9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare.[a]

11 Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives 12 as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming.[b] That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. 13 But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells.

14 So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him. 15 Bear in mind that our Lord's patience means salvation, just as our dear brother Paul also wrote you with the wisdom that God gave him. 16 He writes the same way in all his letters, speaking in them of these matters. His letters contain some things that are hard to understand, which ignorant and unstable people distort, as they do the other Scriptures, to their own destruction.

17 Therefore, dear friends, since you have been forewarned, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of the lawless and fall from your secure position. 18 But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.

#### Footnotes

2 Peter 3:10 Some manuscripts be burned up

2 Peter 3:12 Or as you wait eagerly for the day of God to come

Chapter 3 of 2 Peter begins with a reminder to the readers about the importance of remembering the words spoken by the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior given through the apostles. The author then warns them that in the last days scoffers will come, mocking the promise of Christ's return and asking, "Where is this 'coming' he promised?"

The author then reminds the readers that in the past God has judged the world through water, but that in the future he will judge the world by fire. He says that the heavens and earth will be destroyed by fire, and that this destruction is being held back by God's patience, because he does not want anyone to perish but wants everyone to come to repentance.

The author then goes on to describe what the day of the Lord will be like, saying that it will come like a thief in the night and that the heavens will pass away with a loud noise and the elements will be dissolved with fire. He says that on that day the earth and everything in it will be laid bare.

The author then encourages the readers to live holy and godly lives, and to look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. He says that in accordance with God's promise, we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells. The chapter ends with a warning against those who distort the Scriptures to their own destruction, and a final exhortation to continue growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Overall, chapter 3 of 2 Peter emphasizes the importance of remembering the words of the prophets and the commandment of the Lord, and warns of the coming judgment of the world by fire. It encourages believers to live holy and godly lives, and to look forward to the day of God and the promise of a new heaven and a new earth. The chapter ends with a warning against those who distort the Scriptures and a call to continue growing in the knowledge of Christ.

Here are some important verses from 2 Peter chapter 3, along with a brief explanation and the location within the chapter:

1. Verse 3-4: "Above all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. They will say, 'Where is this "coming" he promised? Ever since our ancestors died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation.'" This verse warns of scoffers who will deny the promise of Jesus' return and mock those who believe in it.
2. Verse 8: "But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day." This verse reminds us that God's concept of time is not the same as ours, and that His promises will be fulfilled according to His timing, not ours.
3. Verse 9: "The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance." This verse reassures us that God is not slow in fulfilling His promise of Jesus' return, but is patient in giving everyone the opportunity to come to repentance.
4. Verse 10: "But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare." This verse describes the sudden and unexpected nature of Jesus' return, and the destruction that will occur before the final judgment.
5. Verse 13: "But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells." This verse gives hope to

believers that, despite the destruction that will occur before Jesus' return, there will ultimately be a new heaven and new earth where righteousness will prevail.

Second Peter, chapter 3, presents several significant theological thoughts and has had theological influence within Christian tradition. Here are some key theological thoughts and influences from 2 Peter 3:

**Eschatology and the Return of Christ:** One of the central theological thoughts in 2 Peter 3 is the focus on the second coming of Jesus Christ. The chapter addresses the skepticism of some concerning the promised return of Christ, emphasizing that God's promises are sure and that Christ will return, even though it may seem delayed. This chapter contributes to Christian eschatology, the study of the end times, and emphasizes the patience and faithfulness of God.

**Divine Judgment and Renewal:** 2 Peter 3 also contains a description of the future judgment by fire, where the heavens and earth will be destroyed, followed by a new heaven and a new earth. This theological thought contributes to the Christian understanding of divine judgment and the idea of God's ultimate renewal and restoration of creation.

**Theological Influence:** The theological influence of 2 Peter 3 can be seen in its contribution to Christian eschatology and the understanding of the end times. It reinforces the biblical teaching that Christ will return and that there will be a final judgment and renewal of all things. This chapter has influenced discussions on the nature of God's promises and the concept of patience and perseverance in waiting for Christ's return.

**Exhortation to Holy Living:** While the primary focus of the chapter is on eschatological matters, it ends with an exhortation for believers to live holy and godly lives, anticipating the coming day of the Lord. This underscores the ethical dimension of Christian faith, reminding believers of the need for holy living in light of God's promises and the future judgment.

In summary, 2 Peter 3 is a significant chapter in the New Testament that addresses eschatological themes, the return of Christ, divine judgment, and the renewal of creation. Its theological influence can be seen in its contribution to Christian eschatology and its encouragement for believers to remain steadfast in their faith and conduct as they await the fulfillment of God's promises.

Notes:

There are several difficult questions that arise from the book of 2 Peter, and while there may not be definitive answers to some of them, scholars and theologians have proposed various interpretations and possibilities.

One difficult question is regarding the authorship of 2 Peter. Some scholars debate whether the apostle Peter himself wrote the book, or if it was written by someone else using his name. Some of the reasons for this debate include the difference in style and vocabulary between 2 Peter and 1 Peter, as well as the fact that some early Christian writers did not include 2 Peter in their lists of authentic books. While some scholars argue that the differences in style and vocabulary can be explained by the different audiences and purposes of the two books, others believe that it is more likely that someone else wrote 2 Peter using Peter's name and authority.

Another difficult question is the meaning of some of the imagery and language used in 2 Peter, particularly in chapter 2. This chapter describes false teachers who will bring destructive heresies into the church and lead people astray. The descriptions of these false teachers include language and imagery that is often difficult to interpret, such as references to "angels who sinned," "springs without water," and "dogs returning to their own vomit." While some scholars suggest that these images may be drawn from contemporary Jewish or pagan literature, others argue that they have specific meanings and references within the context of 2 Peter and the early Christian community.

Finally, there is also debate and uncertainty regarding the eschatological teachings in 2 Peter, particularly in chapter 3. This chapter describes the coming of the day of the Lord and the destruction of the world by fire, but also emphasizes the patience and longsuffering of God, who desires all people to repent and be saved. Some scholars have questioned whether this passage teaches a literal, physical destruction of the world, or if it is intended to be understood as symbolic or metaphorical. Additionally, there is debate over the relationship between 2 Peter's eschatology and other New Testament teachings on the end times.

Overall, while there may not be definitive answers to these and other difficult questions in 2 Peter, continued study, discussion, and interpretation can help deepen our understanding of this important book and its teachings.