

Date: November 19, 2017  
Message #2: **“Salutation Nuggets”**  
Text: 2 Peter 1:1-2  
Speaker: Pastor Steve Balvanz

**I. The \_\_\_\_\_:**

*“Simon Peter, a bond-servant and apostle of Jesus Christ...” (v.1a)*

2 Peter is a letter written to strengthen believers by a man who knew what it was to fall and fall hard, but also knew what it was to be picked up and strengthened by His Lord. And now he was doing the same thing to the first recipients of his letter in Asia minor, and 2,000 years later, for you and me. (Matt. 26:31-35; Lk. 22:31-32)

**II. The \_\_\_\_\_:**

*“...To those who have received a faith of the same kind as ours, by the righteousness of our God and Savior, Jesus Christ” (v.1b)*

The faith Peter is talking about here is *saving faith*. He is talking about the act of believing. Peter is talking about the Christian’s power to believe the gospel of salvation.

Salvation itself is a gift from God, but even the faith to believe the gospel and be saved is a gift given to us by God. (Eph. 2:8-9; Acts 16:14; 1 Cor. 2:5)

Among His elect, God has no favorites. He makes no distinctions based ethnicity or anything else. God gives *all* Christians the same saving faith with all the same privileges of being a child of God.

“Our salvation is not based upon ourselves or anything we have done. Our salvation has been won through Christ’s righteousness, not ours. If God accepts us on the last day, it will not be because of anything you and I have done. It will be through Jesus Christ and what He has done.” (Mark Dever)

**III. The \_\_\_\_\_:**

*“Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord” (v.2)*

A growing knowledge of God and Jesus is the means by which we can experience and enjoy His grace and peace in abundance.

“In our day we are rightly warned about the danger of a sterile faith, of a ‘head’ knowledge that never touches the heart. But we need equally to be careful of a ‘heart’ knowledge that never touches the head! The biblical writers demand a ‘knowledge of God’ that unites head and heart.”  
(Douglas Moo)