

## Standing on the Promises; 2 Peter 1:3-4

- I. Standing
  - a. “Standing on the promises of Christ, my King”
    - i. Not movable <sup>1</sup>
    - ii. Firmly planted, dependent on,
  - b. 2 Peter 1:3 (ESV) <sup>3</sup> His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence,
  - c. Called
    - i. Jesus called Peter from his boat
    - ii. Matthew 4:18–20 (ESV) <sup>18</sup> While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. <sup>19</sup> And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” <sup>20</sup> Immediately they left their nets and followed him.
    - iii. Our “calling” is different
    - iv. 2 Thessalonians 2:13–15 (ESV) <sup>13</sup> But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth. <sup>14</sup> To this **he called you through our gospel**, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>15</sup> So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by our spoken word or by our letter.
    - v. We are called by Jesus through the Gospel
    - vi. 1 Thessalonians 2:11–13 (ESV) <sup>11</sup> For you know how, like a father with his children, <sup>12</sup> we exhorted each one of you and encouraged you and charged you to walk in a manner worthy of God, **who calls you into his own kingdom and glory**. <sup>13</sup> And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers.
    - vii. We are called to salvation (not some good work or deed)
    - viii. 2 Timothy 1:8–9 (ESV) <sup>8</sup> Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, <sup>9</sup> **who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works** but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began,
    - ix. 1 Peter 5:8–10 (ESV) <sup>8</sup> Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. <sup>9</sup> Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are

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<sup>1</sup> Inc Merriam-Webster, [Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary](#). (Springfield, MA: Merriam-Webster, Inc., 2003).

being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.<sup>10</sup> And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, **who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ**, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.

x. God calls us into His salvation through the good news of Jesus Christ

d. “Through eternal ages let His praises ring”

## II. Promises

a. 2 Peter 1:4 (ESV)<sup>4</sup> by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.

b. “Standing on the promises that cannot fail”

i. God has kept every one of His promises

ii. When Abram was 75 years old, God promised him that he would become a father

iii. Genesis 12:1–4 (ESV)<sup>1</sup> Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you.<sup>2</sup> And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.<sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”<sup>4</sup> So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

iv. Abraham waited 25 years for that promise; he had Isaac at age 100

v. God kept even some of the harsh promises

vi. In Deuteronomy 28 God lists His curses for Israel should they disobey Him

vii. Deuteronomy 28:41 (ESV)<sup>41</sup> You shall father sons and daughters, but they shall not be yours, for they shall go into captivity.

viii. There are 68 verses in Deuteronomy 28 about the curses that God would (and did) visit on His people because of their disobedience

c. Howling storms

i. “When the howling storms of doubt and fear assail”

ii. We can (and do) let fear paralyze us

iii. Phobias are paralyzing fears that keep us from living!

1. An exaggerated usually inexplicable and illogical fear of a particular object, class of objects, or situation<sup>2</sup>

2. Claustrophobia; the fear of closed or narrow places (MRI)

3. Trypanophobia; the fear of needles or injections

4. “One important thing to remember is that virtually any object can become a fear object. The names of specific phobias are often formed as nonce words, or words coined for a single occasion only.” verywellmind.com

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<sup>2</sup> Inc Merriam-Webster, [Merriam-Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary](#). (Springfield, MA: Merriam-Webster, Inc., 2003).

5. When in the middle of our 'howling storm' we let fear keep us from making decisions that would help us overcome the storm
  6. "Fear is not real. The only place that fear can exist is in our thoughts of the future. It is a product of our imagination, causing us to fear things that do not at present and may not ever exist. That is near insanity. Do not misunderstand me danger is very real, but fear is a choice." Will Smith
  7. It seems to me that Timothy might have had some fear
    - a. "Let no one despise you for your youth" 1 Timothy 4:12
    - b. "As I remember your tears" 2 Timothy 1:4
    - c. "Be strengthened" 2 Timothy 2:1
    - d. 2 Timothy 1:7 (ESV) <sup>7</sup> for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.
  - iv. We can choose to be afraid, or we can choose to rest in the promises of God
    - d. "By the living word of God, I shall prevail"
- III. Partakers
- a. "Resting in my Savior as my all in all"
  - b. Through His promises we are 'partakers' of the divine nature
    - i. It is hard to think of ourselves in that light, "divine nature"
    - ii. But we have escaped the corruption through the blood of Jesus
      1. Those who have escaped have become heirs, co-heirs even
      2. Romans 8:16–17 (ESV) <sup>16</sup> The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup> and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.
      3. His blood has (and continues to) cleanse us of all unrighteousness
      4. 1 John 1:7 (ESV) <sup>7</sup> But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.
    - iii. Jesus calls himself the Light of the World in John 8:12 and 9:5
    - iv. Jesus calls us the light of the world in Matthew 5:14
    - v. Matthew 5:14 (ESV) <sup>14</sup> "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.
    - vi. Since we have been cleansed and continue to be cleansed, we are partakers of the divine nature
      1. Divine: that which belongs to the nature of God
      2. Nature: condition determined by birth
  - c. We can truly rest in our savior as our "all in all" when we are standing on the promises of God
- IV. Standing on the Promises
- a. We are called to His promise of Salvation
  - b. No matter the storm, we can rest in God's promises
  - c. We are partakers of the divine nature through His promises