

Peter's Motivation for Writing (vv.12-15)

Importance of Repetition (v.12)

VERSE 12 Therefore (Διὸ [*conj./inferential, for this reason, therefore*]), **I will always be ready to remind you of these things** (μελλήσω ἀεὶ ὑμᾶς ὑπομιμνήσκειν περὶ τούτων [*fut.act.ind.1.p.s., μέλλω, mello, be about to do something, w/pres.infin. + adv., aei, always, + pres.act.infin., ὑπομιμνήσκω, hupomimnesko, remind, w/acc. of pers. + pro.acc.p., su, + prep. w/pro./demon.gen.nt.p., houtos; "of these things"*]), **even though you already know them** (καίπερ εἰδότες [*conj./subord., even though, + pf.act.pt.acc.m.p., οἶδα, oida, know*]), **and have been established** (καὶ ἐστηριγμένους [*conj. + pf.pass.pt.acc.m.p., στηρίζω, sterizo, establish; cp. Jam.5:8; 1Pet.5:10*]) **in the truth which is present with you** (ἐν τῇ παρουσίᾳ ἀληθείᾳ [*prep.w/def.art.w/pres.act.pt.dat.f.s., πάρεμι, pareimi, be present, + dat.f.s., aletheia, truth*]).

ANALYSIS: VERSE 12

1. "Therefore" is the inferential conjunction διό, meaning "for this reason".
2. It looks backward to v.11 and the potential of a superabundant entrance into Ph3 ("eternal kingdom of Jesus Christ") based on application of *epignosis* under the 7 virtues of vv.5-7.
3. For Peter, the revelation of that future kingdom and glory is very special for those who persevere in the face of hostility and contradiction (cp. 1Pet.1:6,7).
4. So again, for the reason specified in v.11, Peter goes to special links to be sure that those under his charge are ready to meet the challenges to their Ph2 momentum.
5. The words "I will always be ready" show Peter's commitment to his calling to "study and teach".
6. He took seriously Jesus' final words to him in Jn.21 ("If you love me, feed my sheep").
7. Towards the end of his life the Asian Christians fell to his charge.
8. Peter's responsibility "to remind" them of the "things" of vv.5-7 ended with his promotion into Ph3.
9. "These things" (v.12) refers to the virtues of vv.5-7 (cp. vv.8,9,10,15 where the demonstrative pronoun οὗτος occurs in reference to the 7 virtues).
10. Repetition is an essential part of communication in any discipline.
11. Repetition is especially important where the hearers are well informed.
12. Hence the words, "even though you *already* know *them*".
13. Peter is aware of the fact that these believers have been well versed in the doctrines of the CWL.
14. This cannot be said of just anybody making a claim to faith in Christ.
15. The reality of Ph1 and Ph2 truth resides in the souls of the readers as a result of an extended period of indoctrination under faithful shepherds (cp. 1Pet.5:10 where the verb occurs as a future indicative).
16. Hence, the perfect passive participle "have been established".
17. The verb στηρίζω means to make solid and therefore, by implication, immovable (cp. Lk.16:26).
18. It is used in connection with rigorous teaching of BD (1Thess.3:2; Rom.16:25).
19. They were firmly settled/established in their understanding of the POG.

20. Interestingly, this very word occurs in Lk.22:31,32 where Jesus prophesied with respect to Peter that after he was squared away he would in turn “strengthen your brethren”.
21. These words were in connection with Peter’s impending denial of Christ.
22. Peter’s fall was the direct result of not being diligent in the intake of BD.
23. Only after he took the whole of truth seriously could he really strengthen positive volition.
24. The final words of the verse are “which is present with *you*”.
25. This expression, along with the references to doctrine in 2Pet.1:1 and 2:2, points to the notion that there was (and is) a clearly defined and authoritative body of truth that was being communicated throughout the world (cf. Jude.3).
26. These believers needed to have a firm grasp on the issues pertaining to the CWL as they would face the onslaught of many false teachers in the years to follow.
27. The antidote to this growing threat is soundness in the faith.

Peter’s Urgency (vv.13,14)

VERSE 13 And I consider it right (δικαίον δὲ ἡγοῦμαι [*adj.acc.nt.s., dikaios, righteous; morally and ethically right; “right”, + conj., and, but, now, + pres.dep.ind.1p.s., ἡγέομαι, hegomai, consider*]), **as long as I am in this earthly dwelling** (ἐφ’ ὅσον εἰμὶ ἐν τούτῳ τῷ σκηνώματι [*prep.w/adj./correl. of time; as long as, + pres.act.ind.1.p.s., eimi, + prep.w/pro./demon.loc.nt.s., houtos, “in this”, + def.art.w/loc.nt.s., σκηνώματι, skenomati, temporary abode versus a fixed one; 3X: Acts.7:46; 2Pet.1:13,14; but compare the verb σκηνόω, dwell temporarily; 5X: Jn.1:14; Rev.7:15; 12:12; 13:6; 21:3*]), **to stir you up by way of reminder** (διεγείρειν ὑμᾶς ἐν ὑπομνήσει [*pres.act.infin., διεγείρω, diegeiro, stir up, awaken {from sleep} + pro.acc.p. + prep.w/instr.f.s., ὑπόμνησις, hupomnesis, reminder; cp. vb. in v.12*]),

VERSE 14 knowing that the laying aside of my earthly dwelling is imminent (εἰδὼς ὅτι ταχινή ἐστιν ἡ ἀπόθεσις τοῦ σκηνώματός μου [*pf.act.pt.n.m.s., oida, know, + conj./declar., hoti, + def.art.w/n.f.s., apothesis, removal; “laying aside”, + def.art.w/gen.nt.s., skenoma, “earthly dwelling”, + pro.gen.s., ego, + pres.act.ind.3s., eimi, + adj.n.f.s., tachinos, as indicating what is near or impending; “imminent”; 2X: 2Pet.2:1*]), **as also our Lord Jesus Christ has made clear to me** (καθὼς καὶ ὁ κύριος ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦς Χριστὸς ἐδήλωσέν μοι [*adv./compar. + conj./adjunc., also, + pro.gen.p., ego; “our”, + def.art.w/n.m.s., kurios, + Iesous, + Christos, + aor.act.ind.3.s., δηλόω, deloo, make clear, + dat.s., ego, “to me”*]).

ANALYSIS: VERSES 13,14

1. There is another consideration for urgency toward the readers.
2. That consideration has to do with Peter’s understanding of a prophecy that concerned him personally.
3. The prophecy had to do with Peter’s death that was about to take place.
4. So his observations in the verses that follow are framed.

5. The phrase “I consider it right”, or “I think it right”, concerns his personal opinion (cp. 1Pet.5:12).
6. It was Peter’s considerate opinion that “as long as” he was “in this *earthly* dwelling” he had an obligation “to stir up” believers under his charge with respect to the CWL.
7. Coupled with the ever-present necessity upon him (v.12) along with his impending departure from Ph2, Peter is all the more stirred up with respect to his gift to communicate the realities of BD.
8. The twilight of this career did not diminish in his mind and heart the necessity of bringing positive volition to its most aware and alert state.
9. Peter was imbued with the spirit of prophecy at a variety of points that induced him to write as he did.
10. He was aware of the impending assault of false teachers, his own impending death, and the nature of the coming of Christ.
11. So he considered it the “right” thing to do to stir up, warn, and remind positive volition.
12. The words “as long as I am in this *earthly* dwelling/tent” refer to his very transitory existence in the tent of his natural body.
13. The noun “dwelling” refers to a tent-like abode with particular emphasis on non-permanency (cp. Acts.7:48 and 2Pet.1:14).
14. The human body is more like a tent than a house (cf. 2Cor.5:1-6).
15. Peter’s goal was “to stir up” believers with regard to matters that they had already become acquainted with.
16. Again, this information was not new to them, but worthy of repetition.
17. Peter understood a prophecy uttered by the Lord Jesus Christ concerning the time and circumstances of his death.
18. Hence, the perfect participle “knowing”.
19. Peter knew that his death was “imminent”, or “soon” to take place (the adj.n.f.s., *tachinos*).
20. Jesus had prophesied that Peter would die in old age (Jn.21:18).
21. Christ also “made it clear” that he would willingly die a martyr’s death.
22. A fact that Peter refers to euphemistically.
23. The prophecy of Jn.21:18 was probably known throughout the body of Christ.
24. But Peter does not use it to manipulate their emotions.
25. He refers to his dramatic and violent death in the most sanitized of terms.
26. He does tell them that the Lord Jesus Christ revealed his death to him.
27. The verb “made clear” means to impart information in the most plain and clear fashion possible.
28. Again, in this verse he refers to death as a “laying aside” of the natural body (cf. 2Cor.5:8).
29. At the point of physical death brought on by crucifixion, Peter’s soul entered into the presence of the Lord and his body remained on earth awaiting the resurrection from the dead.

Help Beyond the Grave (v.15)

VERSE 15 **And I will also be diligent** (σπουδάσω δὲ καὶ [fut.act.ind.1.s., σπουδάζω, *spoudazo*, *be eager/diligent*, + conj., *de*, *and*, + conj./ascensive, *also*]) **that at any time after my departure** (ἐκάστοτε μετὰ τὴν ἐμὴν ἔξοδον [adj./adv., *hekastote*, *at any time*; IX + prep., *meta*, *after*, + def.art.w.adj./pro./poss.acc.f.s., *emos*, *my*, w/acc.f.s., ἔξοδος, *exodos*, *departure*, *exodus*; *historically of the Exodus of Israel from Egypt*]) **you will be able to call these things to mind** (ἔχειν ὑμᾶς τὴν τούτων μνήμην ποιῆσθαι [pres.act.infin., *echo*, *have*; “*be able*”, + pro.acc.p., *su*,

“you”, + *pres.mid.infin.*, *poieo*, *do*; “to call” or *recall*, + *pro./demon.gen.nt.p.*, *houtos*, “these things”, *w/def.art.w/acc.f.s.*, *mneme*, *memory*; “to mind”]).

ANALYSIS: VERSE 15

1. The diligence spoken of in this verse has to do with the writing and sending of 2Peter.
2. The words “And I will also be diligent” (a favorite concept of his in this chapter) speaks to his tenacity with respect to his gift to the very end of his life.
3. Peter’s willingness to feed and shepherd the flock as an apostle resulted in a final application, the writing of Second Peter, precipitated by the rise of false teachers.
4. This explains how Peter was able to extend his spiritual influence from beyond the grave.
5. Hence, the words “that at any time after my departure”.
6. The noun “departure” is used here as a euphemism for physical death (like the noun “sleep”).
7. It is of interest to note that this term (ἐξοδος) is used in the Transfiguration story in Lk.9:31.
8. There it is used of Christ’s exodus from the earth to the third heaven (ascension).
9. It is used one other time in Heb.11:22 of Joseph’s faith when he demanded that his bones be removed from Egypt at the time of the Exodus.
10. Here it is used of the physical death of the believer in which the real you (i.e., the immortal soul) is released from the body and transferred to heaven.
11. Scripture teaches that upon physical death the believer is “with the Lord” who is in heaven (2Cor.5:8), which status will be perpetuated in the resurrection state (1Thess.4:17...“thus we shall always be with the Lord”).
12. The words “you will be able to call these things to mind” refers to the perpetuation of Peter’s divine viewpoint in the books that bear his name (First and Second Peter and Mark).
13. Peter’s future diligence refers to the effort that he makes in the body of this letter which, being canonical, has been preserved for the Church’s perusal over the centuries.
14. Peter certainly enabled a far larger audience the opportunity to do their own reminding with respect to what he simply calls “these things”.
15. “These things” are mentioned in vv.5-7 (7 virtues) and the reinforcement in vv.8-11.
16. Whenever theological liberals try to mislead believers, we can refer to information such as we find in Second Peter.
17. Our study of Second Peter is a reminder of the things which, if taken seriously, can deliver us from the loss associated with the lust that is in the world.
18. The reference in this verse is almost certainly to Second Peter.
19. The tense of the verb “I will also be diligent” is admittedly difficult, but employing the future even as he writes looks forward to the sections of the letter he is about to compose.
20. Peter’s language is revealing in other respects, for it anticipates a time when the living witness of the apostles is no longer operative and the Church needs the stamp of apostolic authority on the writings left behind.