



**SERIES: MAY- JULY: THE MAIN THING**

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**Monday, 7/11/2022**

**Scripture: 2 Peter**

**TITLE: 2 Peter – Be On Guard**

How can you tell the difference between the truth and a lie? How can you tell the difference between something authentic and fake? The short answer is the truth corresponds to reality while a lie does not.

There are a lot of fakes out there. Fake purses, watches, paintings, religions, and versions of Christianity. There are a lot of lies out there. Lies about Jesus, the Bible, sexuality, God, religion, and the list just goes on.

If you need help sticking to the truth of Christianity, then you should study the book of 2 Peter.

The letter of 2 Peter was written by none other than Simon Peter. Now, there is some debate about the authorship of this letter, but I don't think we should doubt its authenticity. Its internal evidence is very strong for it.

Peter was likely writing just before his death while in Rome. The letter addresses three topics: chapter 1 is about cultivating Christian character. Chapter two condemns false teachers. Chapter three confirms Jesus' return. Peter will address the topics of holiness, heresy, hope, true prophecy, false prophets, and the day of the Lord.

What's the main thing from 2 Peter? It's to be on guard. Be on guard against who or what? Against lies, false doctrines, false teachers, and anything that takes us away from Jesus.

2 Peter 1:20-21 says, "Above all, you know this: No prophecy of Scripture comes from the prophet's own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by the will of man; instead, men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit."

And Peter continues in 2 Peter 2:1-3, "There were indeed false prophets among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, and will bring swift destruction on themselves. Many will follow their depraved ways, and the way of truth will be maligned because of them. They will exploit you in their greed with made-up stories. Their condemnation, pronounced long ago, is not idle, and their destruction does not sleep."

Peter will continue to press on the seriousness and the assurance of their destruction. God will not let false teachers and their lies go unpunished. God's Word is sure because it is His Word.

So what should we do until that day? Peter says in 2 Peter 3:14, “Therefore, dear friends, while you wait for these things, make every effort to be found without spot or blemish in his sight, at peace.” In other words, be faithful in God’s power through His grace.

So here’s my challenge for you today: Stand firm. Stand faithful. Stand on God’s Word. There are lies everywhere? How will you know the truth? Go back to the Bible and stand firm. There are a lot of counterfeit religions and versions of Christianity? How can you be on guard against them? Stand on God’s Word.

When we stand on God’s Word, we will win the day.