

The Certainty of God's Word

2 Peter 1:16-21

I. The Eye-Witness Testimony of the Apostles (16-18)

A. The Common Complaint about their Testimony (16a)

B. The Specific Content of their Testimony (16b)

C. Their Impeccable Credentials as Witnesses (16c-18)

A. They saw firsthand the majesty of Christ

B. They heard firsthand the declaration of the Father

The Certainty of God's Word

2 Peter 1:16-21

- I. The Eye-Witness Testimony of the Apostles (16-18)
- II. The Divine Inspiration of the Scriptures (19-21)

Paul Enns, *Moody Handbook of Theology*

“Inspiration may be defined as the Holy Spirit’s superintending over the writers so that while writing according to their own styles and personalities, the result was God’s Word written—authoritative, trustworthy, and free from error in the original autographs.”

The Certainty of God's Word

2 Peter 1:16-21

- I. The Eye-Witness Testimony of the Apostles (16-18)
- II. The Divine Inspiration of the Scriptures (19-21)

Westminster Confession of Faith

"...our full persuasion and assurance of the infallible truth, and divine authority thereof, is from the inward work of the Holy Spirit, bearing witness by and with the word in our hearts."

J. I. Packer, *Concise Theology*

“God authenticates Holy Scripture to us as his Word—not by some mystical experience or secret information privately whispered into some inner ear, not by human argument alone (strong as this may be), nor by the church’s testimony alone (impressive as this is when one looks back over two thousand years). God does it, rather, by means of the searching light and transforming power whereby Scripture evidences itself to be divine. The impact of this light and power is itself the Spirit’s witness “by and with the Word in our heart.”

The Certainty of God's Word

2 Peter 1:16-21

I. The Eye-Witness Testimony of the Apostles (16-18)

II. The Divine Inspiration of the Scriptures (19-21)

A. The Results of the Inspiration of Scripture (19)

1. The Bible's Sure Reliability

Samuel Cox

“Peter knew a sounder basis for faith than that of signs and wonders. He had seen our Lord Jesus Christ receive honor and glory from God the Father in the holy mount; he had been dazzled and carried out of himself by visions and voices from heaven; but, nevertheless, even when his memory and heart are throbbing with recollections of that sublime scene, he says, ‘we have something surer still in the prophetic word.’”

The Certainty of God's Word

2 Peter 1:16-21

I. The Eye-Witness Testimony of the Apostles (16-18)

II. The Divine Inspiration of the Scriptures (19-21)

A. The Results of the Inspiration of Scripture (19)

1. The Bible's Sure Reliability

2. The Bible's Vital Necessity

John MacArthur

“At His second coming, Christ will replace the perfect temporal revelation of Scripture with the perfect eternal revelation of His person. He will fulfill the written Word and write it forever on the hearts of the glorified saints.”

The Certainty of God's Word

2 Peter 1:16-21

I. The Eye-Witness Testimony of the Apostles (16-18)

II. The Divine Inspiration of the Scriptures (19-21)

A. The Results of the Inspiration of Scripture (19)

1. The Bible's Sure Reliability

2. The Bible's Vital Necessity

B. The Details about the Inspiration of Scripture (20-21)

1. The Product of Divine Initiation

2. The Process of Divine Inspiration

John MacArthur and Richard Mayhue, *Biblical Doctrine*

“In the writing of Scripture, it was the prophet communicating God’s Word through his pen. It was also the Spirit moving continually to convey God’s Word through the prophet. In the end result, that which was written was fully the words of the human authors in their language and style and from their personal perspectives, but it was under the direct superintendence of God by his Spirit producing on the page the very words of God. The ultimate product is the divine, inspired, inerrant, and authoritative words of God on every page of all sixty-six books of the Bible.”

The Certainty of God's Word

2 Peter 1:16-21

I. The Eye-Witness Testimony of the Apostles (16-18)

II. The Divine Inspiration of the Scriptures (19-21)

A. The Results of the Inspiration of Scripture (19)

1. The Bible's Sure Reliability

2. The Bible's Vital Necessity

B. The Details about the Inspiration of Scripture (20-21)

1. The Product of Divine Initiation

2. The Process of Divine Inspiration