

## Stand Fast

2 Peter 1:16-21 / The Prophetic Word  
July 10, 2016

For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit. —2 Peter 1:21

### I. THE RESURRECTION MYTH

- Jesus' death, resurrection, and ascension, are historical facts with eye-witness testimony (Luke 24:36-43; 1 Cor. 15:1-19; 1 John 1:1-4).
- Jesus' return, predicated on these facts, is also not a myth. Peter had already seen Jesus' glory and majesty (vss. 16-18; Matt. 17:1-8; Mark 9:2-8; Luke 9:28-36).
- The gospel is not about invented stories. Lies do not honor the God of truth, nor do they serve to advance the gospel (2 Cor. 4:1-4).
- Peter knew he was about to die. He also knew he would not be dying for a myth (2 Peter 1:14; 2 Tim. 4:6-8).

### II. THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE

- The Old Testament Scriptures are more fully confirmed for us because they have been supplemented by the words of the apostles—the New Testament (Eph. 3:1-5; 2 Pet. 3:1-2).
- We rely on the Scriptures until the day dawns and the morning star rises (Jesus returns). Then faith gives way to sight (vs. 19; Rom. 13:12; Rev. 22:16).

### III. CARRIED ON BY THE SPIRIT

- We believe that the Bible is inspired by God the Spirit. If true, it is God's words to us. If false, it is just another book.
- "What this passage means to me" is not a valid mode for interpretation of Scripture. True prophecy comes from God, not from fallible men. Scripture means what it means (Matt. 22:29; Mark 14:49; John 10:35; 2 Tim. 3:16).
- The word of God is fixed. By it we keep pure, by it we have understanding. It is a lamp unto our feet (Ps. 119:9, 89, 105).

**KNOW:** God's word is a confirmed word. We have the eye-witness testimony of the apostles to give eyes to our faith. When Christ returns, faith will give way to sight.

**DO:** Pay attention to God's revealed word.

#### Suggested Reading:

*The Canon of Scripture*, by F.F. Bruce

*Taking God at His Word*, by Kevin DeYoung

#### Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

##### Please read 2 Peter 1:16-21

1. How do we respond when people say to us that our Bible is just another "holy" book? What sets it apart?
2. What are some of your own reservations about the Bible? How do you go about addressing those doubts?
3. Is there a difference between the phrase "God's word" and "the word of God"? If so, what is the difference?
4. Peter is adamant about the fact that neither he, nor the other apostles, were making up myths or fairy tales. Why was it important for him to make that clear?
5. Read Matthew 17:1-8. What stands out to you about this event that Peter alludes to in our text for Sunday?
6. How do we go about obeying what Peter calls us to do in our text for Sunday? How do we "pay attention" to the word of God?