

YOU CAN TRUST GOD'S WORD

II Peter 1:16-21

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 - A. The gospel is sufficient. Stay focused there!

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 - B. The gospel has been lived. Live it now!**

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The Gospel

1. Made for communion with God. Loved, Belong, Live Together
2. Fellowship with God broken by finding life/love somewhere else. Rebel from Creator, separated, find own identity & purpose, war w God and others seeking own identity/purpose
3. Salvation/deliverance ONLY possible from the God we have defied.
4. God DID the impossible, providing a just means of reconciliation for His rebel creation. His love, holiness, justice, mercy on display.
5. We respond with repentance and faith and receive restored relationship with God AND provision for living for glory of God

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- 1. Can you articulate the gospel?**
- 2. Are you conscious of how that gospel affects each moment of each day of your life?**
- 3. Can you identify other gospels that daily threaten the gospel?**

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False teaching is only dangerous because you WANT it. It feeds some need/desire causing you to drift away from living the words you SAY you believe to follow similar teaching that **gives you what you value more than God's provision through Christ to bring glory to Himself** through your building His kingdom instead of yours.

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- II. Time is Short. vv. 13-14**

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II. Time is Short. vv. 13-14

III. Maintain gospel-driven life for the rest of your life. v. 15

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Path Forward

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No Silver Bullet

Path Forward

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No Silver Bullet

Messy

Path Forward

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SLOW

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- I. There are trustworthy witnesses testifying God's actions in history. vv. 16-18**

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 - A. God has given trustworthy witness of what is to come.**

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“But immediately after the tribulation of those days THE SUN WILL BE DARKENED, AND THE MOON WILL NOT GIVE ITS LIGHT, AND THE STARS WILL FALL from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. 30 “And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the SON OF MAN COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF THE SKY with power and great glory. 31 “And He will send forth His angels with A GREAT TRUMPET and THEY WILL GATHER TOGETHER His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other.

Matthew 24:29–31

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But some days later Felix arrived with Drusilla, his wife who was a Jewess, and sent for Paul and heard him speak **about faith in Christ Jesus. 25 But as he was discussing righteousness, self-control and the judgment to come,** Felix became frightened and said, “Go away for the present, and when I find time I will summon you.”

Acts 24:24–25

New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995. LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

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nor to pay attention to **myths** and endless genealogies, which give rise to mere speculation rather than furthering the administration of God which is by faith.

1 Timothy 1:4

and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to **myths**.

2 Timothy 4:4

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“But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. 32 “All the nations will be gathered before Him; and He will separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats;

Matthew 25:31–32

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 - B. God has given credible witnesses to His redemptive activity.**

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From that time Jesus began to show His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised up on the third day. **22 Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This shall never happen to You.” 23 But He turned and said to Peter, “Get behind Me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to Me; for you are not setting your mind on God’s interests, but man’s.” 24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me. 25 “For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. 26 “For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? 27 “For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and WILL THEN REPAY EVERY MAN ACCORDING TO HIS DEEDS. Matthew 16:21–27**

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“Truly I say to you, there are some of those who are standing here who will not taste death until they **see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom.”**

Matthew 16:28

And Jesus was saying to them, “Truly I say to you, there are some of those who are standing here who will not taste death until they **see the kingdom of God after it has come with power.”**

Mark 9:1

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Six days later Jesus took with Him Peter and James and John his brother, and led them up on a high mountain by themselves. 2 And He was transfigured before them; and His face shone like the sun, and His garments became as white as light. 3 And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him. 4 Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, I will make three tabernacles here, one for You, and one for Moses, and one for Elijah.”

Matthew 17:1-4

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Matthew 17:1-5

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Then the **cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.** 35 Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because the **cloud had settled** on it, and the **glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.**

Exodus 40:34–35

It happened that when the priests came from the holy place, **the cloud filled the house of the LORD,** 11 so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, **for the glory of the LORD filled the house of the LORD.**

1 Kings 8:10–11

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After being baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove and lighting on Him, **17** and behold, **a voice out of the heavens said, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased.”**

Matthew 3:16–17

“I and the Father are one.”

John 10:30

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6 When the disciples heard this, they fell face down to the ground and were terrified. **7** And Jesus came to them and touched them and said, “Get up, and do not be afraid.” **8** And lifting up their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus Himself alone. **9** As they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, saying, “Tell the vision to no one until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.”

Matthew 17:6-9

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And behold, two men were talking with Him; and they were Moses and Elijah, 31 who, appearing in glory, were speaking of His departure which He was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.

Luke 9:30-31

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And while they were gathering together in Galilee, Jesus said to them, “The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men; 23 and they will kill Him, and He will be raised on the third day.” And they were deeply grieved.

Matthew 17:22–23

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He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” 16 Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” 17 And Jesus said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because **flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.** 18 “I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.

Matthew 16:15-18

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The shepherds went back, glorifying and praising God for all that **they had heard and seen, just as had been told them. Luke 2:20**

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And He answered and said to them, “Go and report to John what you **have seen and heard**: the BLIND RECEIVE SIGHT, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the POOR HAVE THE GOSPEL PREACHED TO THEM. Luke 7:22

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came to me, and standing near said to me, ‘Brother Saul, receive your sight!’ And at that very time I looked up at him. 14 “And he said, ‘The God of our fathers has appointed you to know His will and to see the Righteous One and to hear an utterance from His mouth. 15 **‘For you will be a witness for Him to all men of what you have seen and heard.** Acts 22:13–15

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Acts 22:13-15

What was from the beginning, **what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the Word of Life—** 2 and the life was manifested, and we have seen and testify and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was manifested to us— 3 **what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also,** so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ. 5 **This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you,** that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all. 1 John 1:1-3, 5

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God might have employed men to “write the Gospel who had never seen Christ in the flesh, and commanded us to believe, yet has He condescended for our further satisfaction to make use of such men to write the most part of the New Testament as saw with their bodily eyes Christ glorious in flesh, and so were eye-witnesses of His Majesty.”

The glory of the Son of God so hidden for our sake “that He needed a declaration from heaven to show the Father’s esteem of Him and to beget a high esteem of Him in the hearts of His own.”

Alexander Nisbet

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 - A. God has given trustworthy witness of what is to come.**
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- II. There are trustworthy messengers testifying to the veracity, perspicuity, and sufficiency of God's word. vv. 19-21**

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 - A. Scripture IS God's Word.**

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I was crying to the LORD with my voice, And He answered me from His **holy mountain**. Selah.

Psalm 3:4

O LORD, who may abide in Your tent? Who may dwell on Your **holy hill**?

Psalm 15:1

“Thus says the LORD, ‘I will return to Zion and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem. Then Jerusalem will be called the City of Truth, **and the mountain of the LORD of hosts will be called the Holy Mountain.**’

Zechariah 8:3

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“The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your countrymen, you shall listen to him.

Deuteronomy 18:15

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**“But as for Me, I have installed My King Upon Zion, My holy mountain.”
7 “I will surely tell of the decree of the LORD: He said to Me, ‘You are My Son, Today I have begotten You. 8 ‘Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance, And the very ends of the earth as Your possession. 9 ‘You shall break them with a rod of iron, You shall shatter them like earthenware.’ ” Psalm 2:6–9**

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“Behold, **My Servant, whom I uphold; My chosen one in whom My soul delights.** I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the nations. Isaiah 42:1

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All of us like sheep have gone astray, Each of us has turned to his own way;
But the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all To fall on Him.

Isaiah 53:6

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Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, 2 which He promised beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures, 3 concerning His Son, who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh, 4 who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord, 5 through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for His name's sake,

Romans 1:1-5

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The authority of Scripture is greater than the comprehension of the whole of man's reason.

Martin Luther

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We must not in practice deny our allegiance to the authority of the Word of God by saying we believe it while continuing to live according to what is right in our own eyes.

Burk Parsons

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“I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near; **A star shall come forth from Jacob, A scepter shall rise from Israel, And shall crush through the forehead of Moab, And tear down all the sons of Sheth.**

Numbers 24:17

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“I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.”

Revelation 22:16