





“Gentlemen,
this is a
football.”
Vince
Lombardi

ALIEN

Living in a Chaotic World



2 PETER

Why is 2 Peter So Disputed?

“The history of the acceptance of 2 Peter into the New Testament canon has all the grace of a college hazing event. This epistle was examined, prayed over, considered, and debated more than any other New Testament book—including Revelation.”

www.bible.org, “Is 2 Peter Peter’s?”



Why is 2 Peter So Disputed?

- Questionable apostolic authorship
- Lack of citation by early church fathers (none before 3rd century)
- Not included in Muratorian Fragment (earliest list of canonical books of the NT)
- Style and literary differences between 1 and 2 Peter
- Significant similarities with Jude



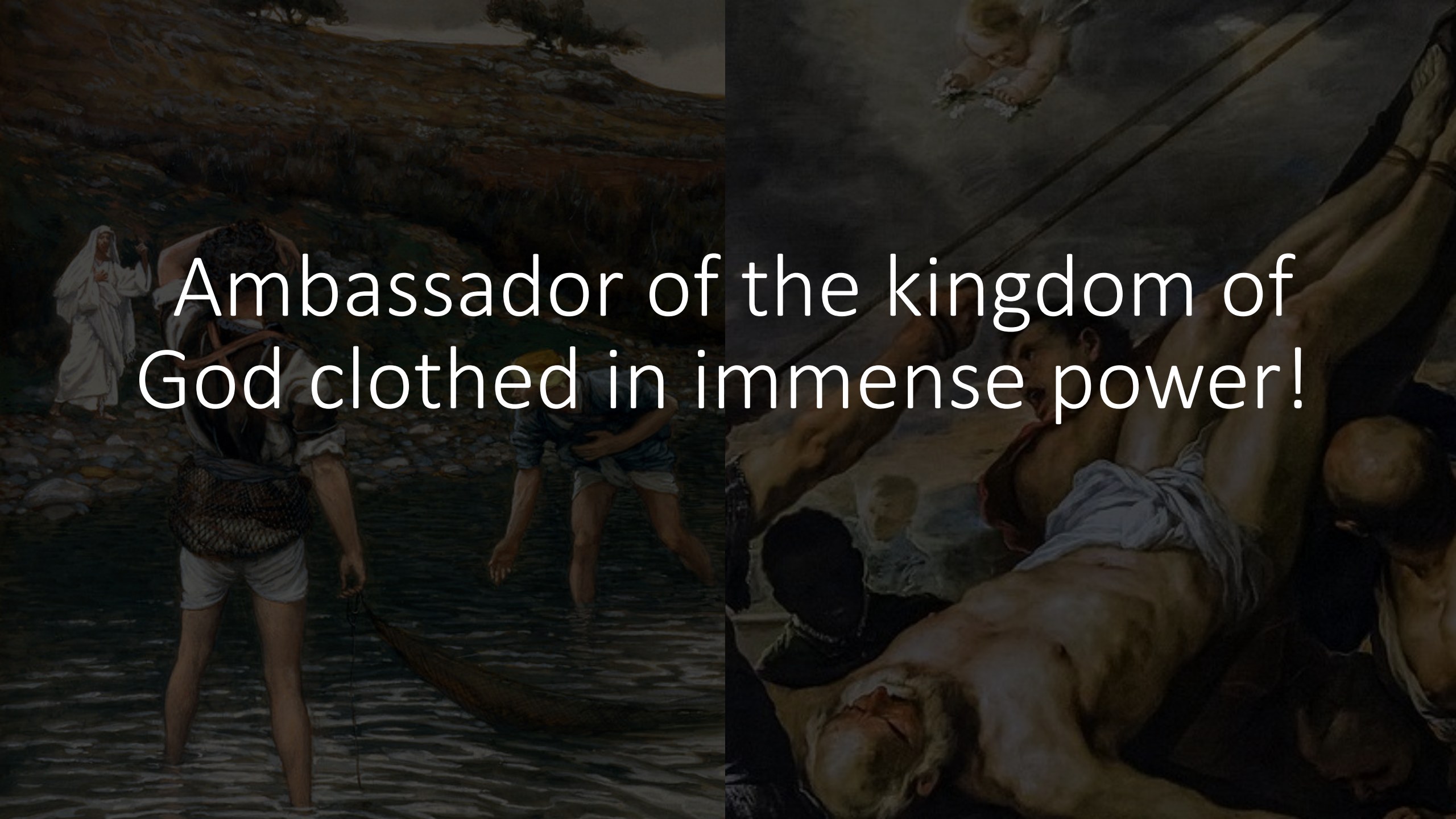


Peter's Resume

- Jewish Fisherman from Galilee named Simon
- Called and renamed by Jesus
- First to perceive Jesus as Messiah
- One of the three “inner circle” friends of Jesus
- Walked on water
- Denied knowing Jesus 3x
- Restored by Jesus – “Feed my sheep”
- Bold preacher of the Gospel
- Miraculously released from prison
- Martyred – tradition says crucified upside-down







Ambassador of the kingdom of
God clothed in immense power!



FULLNESS

Knowledge

ἐπίγνωσις

Epignosis

“Similar to the general term for knowledge (gnosis), this term refers to ‘true’ or ‘intimate’ knowledge. This deeper knowledge refers not to mere intellectual awareness or theoretical knowledge but to ‘heart knowledge.’”

Chuck Swindoll, Swindoll’s Living Insights NT Commentary: 2 Peter



Peter's Main Concerns

1. Beware false teaching
2. Pursue godly living.



Becoming Like God?

“‘Divine power’ and ‘divine nature’ had been important phrases in Greek thought for centuries...many Greeks in this period wanted to escape the material world of decay around them, believing that their soul was divine and immortal and belonged in the pure and perfect heavens above.”

Craig Keener, The IVP Bible Background Commentary: NT



“Participate”



Koinonia
Sharing in a
common life



FULLNESS

Knowing God

“What were we made for? To know God...What is the eternal life that Jesus gives? Knowledge of God...What is the best thing in life, bringing more joy, delight, and contentment than anything else? Knowledge of God...What, of all the states God ever sees man in, gives him most pleasure? Knowledge of himself...Once you have become aware that the main business that you are here for is to know God, most of life's problems fall into place...”

J.I. Packer, Knowing God



FULLNESS

Bedrock Promises for an Enduring Faith

- Participation in the Divine Nature (1:4)
- Entrance into God's Eternal Kingdom (1:11)
- Judgment is Coming for the Present World (3:7)
- A New Heaven and A New Earth (3:13)



Fullness in Christ Available to Those Who Believe

“See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!...Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.”

1 John 3:1-3



FULLNESS