Tony Bartolucci, Preaching Pastor Clarkson Community Church May 2, 2010

"Fanning the Flame of Truth: Introduction to 2 Peter" (Part 2)

05102Pe1.1(2) 2 Peter 1:1

1 Simon Peter, a slave and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to those who have received a faith of the same kind as ours, in the righteousness of our God and Savior, Jesus Christ. **2** Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

- 2 Peter 1:1-2, As translated from the Greek New Testament by Tony A. Bartolucci.

The Passage is Also Found on Page 183 of the New Testament Section of the Pew Bibles

I. Fanning the Flame of Truth: Introduction to 2 Peter

A. The Author (who wrote 2 Peter?)

- 1. Criticism and Inclusion into the Canon
- 2. Biographical Sketch of the Apostle Peter
 - a. "Simeon Peter"
 - b. Peter was from Bethsaida
 - c. Peter was married
 - e. Peter as a leader among the Apostles
 - f. Peter's blunders
 - g. Peter's denial of Christ
 - h. Peter's restoration (John 21 and a 'charcoal fire')

- i. Peter was an Apostle
 - * Two basic uses of the word "apostle" (Greek "apostolos")
 - 1) Function:
 - 2) Office:
- ** Six Reasons Why we Cannot have Apostles Today (office)
- 1) The church was built on the ______ of the Apostles (Eph. 2:19-20)
- 2) Apostles were to be eyewitnesses of the _____(Acts 1:22; 1 Cor. 9:1)
- 3) An apostle had to be uniquely _____ by Jesus Christ (Acts 1:24-25; Gal. 1)
- 4) Apostles were authenticated by sign _____ (2 Cor. 12:11-12; Heb 2:3-4)
- 5) Apostles were men of great authority (e.g. 1 Cor. 5:3)
- 6) Apostles have an ______ and unique place of honor (Rev. 21:14)

* As Wayne Grudem points out, the uniqueness of the original apostles is suggested by fact that phrase "of Jesus Christ" (i.e. "an apostle of Jesus Christ") is connected to no other office in the New Testament.

3. Peter's placement of "slave" before "apostle" in his self-description (v. 1)

B. The Audience (to whom was the letter written?)

- 1. The equality of our common salvation
- 2. A clear statement to the deity of Christ: He is "God and Savior"

C. The Atmosphere (what were circumstances of the letter?)

1. 1:12-13 – Fanning the Flame of Truth

D. The Abstract (Issues of Content)

E. The Address (Opening Greeting) - Verse 2