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Open English Translation of the Bible

The first letter from
Shim'on 'the Rock' (Peter)

Introduction

The second letter from Shim'on 'the rock Kefa' was sent to believers in various towns of Asia Minor (also called Anatolia, now part of modern Turkey) (1 Peter 1:1, 2 Peter 3:1). His purpose of writing this was to contradict the work of false teachers, and to scold the people for their bad behaviour as a result of following that teaching. Therefore he encouraged them to not believe that teaching because they should only believe the teaching concerning the messiah. They also need to be adding the following to their faith: good behaviour, wisdom/knowledge, self-control, patience, obeying God, and loving others.
Those people taught that the messiah would not return since it had already been quite a while and he hadn't yet returned. But Shim'on answered by saying that the messiah would certainly return, but God doesn't want to punish everyone, but desires that people would turn away from their sins.

Main components of Kefa's letter

Introduction *1:1-2*
The calling of Christians *1:3-21*
False teachers *2:1-22*
The messiah Yeshua's return *3:1-18*

Lighter type marks additions. Underscores join parts of a single source word.
Struck words are untranslated. The ◘ sign marks a verse with no text.
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Readers' Version

1:1 This letter is from Shim'on (Simon) Kefa (Peter; Grk. Petros) , a slave and messenger **of Yeshua (Jesus; Grk. Yesus) the messiah** (Grk. Christos), writing to those who have faith in the sinlessness of our **God** and saviour **Yeshua Messiah** that's just as precious as our faith.

2 May you experience much grace and peace through your knowledge **of God** and **Yeshua** our **master**.

God's calling

3 He has given us everything necessary for life and godliness through his divine power as we know the one who called us to his own glory and moral excellence. **4** Through these things, he has given us precious and very great promises that you will become participants of the divine nature after escaping the corruption in the world of lust. **5** For this same reason, work hard to apply your faith adding moral excellence, and to that excellence add knowledge; **6** to that knowledge add self-control; to that self-control add endurance; to that endurance add godliness; **7** to that godliness add brotherly concern; and to the brotherly concern add selfless love. **8** Because if these things are part of you and continually increasing, your knowledge of our **master Yeshua (Jesus; Grk. Yesus) Messiah** won't become useless or unproductive. **9** But if these things aren't part of someone, that person is shortsighted as if they've forgotten that prior cleansing of their sins.

10 So then fellow Christians, work hard to make your calling and election certain—that way you will never fall away— **11** and so you will be richly provided entry into the eternal kingdom of our **master** and saviour **Yeshua Messiah**.

12 Therefore I intend to always remind you about these things, even though you know them and are already established in the truth that you know. **13** But I consider it right, as long as I live in this tent, to get you stirred up with a reminder, **14** since I know that this tent of mine will soon be left behind as our **master Yeshua Messiah** himself told me. **15** And I will also make every effort to make sure that you will always remember these things after my departure.

16 We didn't follow cleverly crafted fables, but rather having been eyewitnesses of the majesty of our **master Yeshua Messiah**, we made his power and forthcoming return known to you. **17** Because he received the honour and glory from **God** the Father when a voice spoke to him with magnificent glory saying, "This is my son that I dearly love and who has pleased me greatly."[1] **18** Indeed we heard this voice from heaven ourselves as we had been taken with him to the holy mountain.

19 In addition there are the words of the prophets that were fulfilled which you would do well to pay attention to—like a light that shines in the dark places—until the day dawns and the one who is the morning star rises in your hearts. **20** And know this foundational truth: all of the prophecy in Scripture doesn't just come from our own interpretations **21** or from the ideas of man, but from **God** speaking via men being guided by **the** Holy **Spirit**.

False teachers

2:1 But just like there were also false prophets among the people, so also there will be false teachers among you who will sneakily bring in destructive heresies—even denying the master who bought them, and thus bringing swift destruction onto themselves. **2** Many people will follow their gross immorality causing evil to be spoken of about the true way. **3** They will exploit you with greed and made-up words but the judgement of old won't be idle and their destroyer won't be sleeping.

4 Because if **God** didn't spare the messengers when they sinned, but chained them in darkness and kept them to be delivered to judgement in due course,[2] **5** and if he didn't spare the ancient world but only preserved the eight including Noah the proclaimer of righteousness

1 **RV 1:17-18 · Cross-ref.** Mat 17:1-5; Mrk 9:2-7; Luk 9:28-35.

2 **RV 2:4 · Cross-ref.** Yud 6.

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when the flood came on the ungodly world,[3]
6 and if he reduced the cities of Sedom and
Amorah (Gomorrah) to ashes by a catastrophe[4]
which condemned them to being an example of
what the ungodly will become, 7 and if he saved
the righteous man Lot who was distressed by
the gross immorality of the lawless people[5]
8 and whose righteous soul was tormented by
seeing and hearing their lawlessness day after
day, 9 then **the master** knows how to rescue
godly people from their trials, and knows how
to keep the unrighteous people to be punished
at the day of judgement, 10 especially those
who follow their fleshly lusts that defile them-
selves and despise his being master over us.

Those bold, self-willed people don't worry
about insulting the glorious ones, 11 whereas
even messengers who are greater in both
strength and power don't slander or pass **the
master's** judgement on those glorious ones.
12 But these men act like unthinking animals
that are born to be captured and destroyed
when they slander concerning things they
know nothing about, and they will bring about
their own destruction. 13 The harm they did
will lead to their own harm as payment as their
indulgence in broad daylight. They've become
spots and blemishes as they feast together with
you yet take joy in their deception. 14 Their
eyes are full of lust for adultery and never cease
to sin, and having trained their hearts in greed
they entice unstable people to become their
cursed offspring. 15 They have left the right
path and gone astray, following the path of
Be'or's son Bil'am (Balaam) who loved the
wages of unrighteousness,[6] 16 but he was
scolded for his sin when a normally dumb don-
key spoke to him with a man's voice to stop his
madness.

17 These men are like waterless fountains and
like mists driven by storms, and the gloomy
darkness is reserved for them 18 because they
speak vane and inflated words to entice people
to fleshly lusts. Those who have just escaped
from the errors of their living 19 are promised
freedom, but they themselves have become
slaves to corruption, because whatever a per-
son has been defeated by is what they become a
slave to. 20 Because if they have escaped the de-
filements of the world by their knowledge of
our **master** and saviour **Yeshua (Jesus; Grk.
Yesus) Messiah** and yet get entangled again,
they are defeated and have ended up worse off
than at the beginning. 21 It would have been
better not to have known the way of righteous-
ness, than having known it and to turn back
from the holy instruction that was passed on to
them. 22 The proverb is correct in what it says
and has happened to them: "A dog returns to its
own vomit,"[7] and "A sow that's been washed
wallows in the mud again."

**The messiah
Yeshua's return**

3:1 This is now my sec-
ond letter to you my
friends—both of which were sent as reminders
to stir up your minds to sincerely 2 remember
the messages spoken in the past by the holy
prophets as well as the instruction of the **mas-
ter** and saviour that came via your apostles.
3 Firstly you should know that mockers will
come during the last days, scoffing, following
their own lusts[8] 4 and saying, "What about his
promised return? Everything has just contin-
ued as usual from the beginning of creation
right past the time when the ancestors died.
5 But because of their desires, the truth is hid-
den from them that the universe came into be-
ing long ago by **God's** spoken command and
the earth was formed out of water and through

3 **RV 2:5 · Cross-ref.** Gen 6:1–7:24.

4 **RV 2:6 · Cross-ref.** Gen 19:24.

5 **RV 2:7 · Cross-ref.** Gen 19:1-16.

6 **RV 2:15-16 · Cross-ref.** Num 22:4-35.

7 **RV 2:22 · Cross-ref.** Prv 26:11.

8 **RV 3:3 · Cross-ref.** Jude 18.

water[9] **6** and these same waters deluged the ancient world which then perished.[10] **7** But the present universe and the earth have been preserved by that same command, to be kept for fire in the day of judgement and destruction of those who are ungodly.

8 But don't let this one thing escape your attention my dear friends, that one day for us **is** like a thousand years with **the master**, and a thousand years is like one day.[11] **9** **The master** isn't slow in fulfilling his promise as some consider slowness, but is patient toward you—not wanting anyone to perish but rather wanting everyone to come to repentance.

10 But the day **of the master** will come like a thief,[12] when the universe will suddenly pass away, its components will burn up and be destroyed, and the earth and what happened on it will be examined. **11** Since all these things will be destroyed, what kind of people should you be? Holy and godly in conduct, **12** waiting for and hastening the coming of the day **of God** when the universe will be set alight and destroyed and its components will melt as they burn up. **13** But we await a new universe and a new earth filled with righteousness according to his promise.[13]

14 And so dear friends, while you await these events be eager and found to be at peace with him—spotless and blameless. **15** And consider the patience of our **master** as leading to salvation as our dear brother Paulos wrote to you using the wisdom that has been given to him. **16** He speaks in all his letters concerning these things, some of which are hard to understand and which ignorant and unstable people twist just like they twist the other scriptures to their own destruction.

17 So knowing this in advance dear friends, guard yourselves in case you fall from your own stable position with the same errors as the lawless ones. **18** Rather grow in the grace and knowledge of our **master** and saviour **Yeshua (Jesus; Grk. Yesus) Messiah**. May the glory be his, both now and through the days of eternity. May it be so.

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9 **RV 3:5 · Cross-ref.** Gen 1:6-9.

10 **RV 3:6 · Cross-ref.** Gen 7:11.

11 **RV 3:8 · Cross-ref.** Psa 90:4.

12 **RV 3:10 · Cross-ref.** Mat 24:43; Luk 12:39; 1Th 5:2; Rev 16:15.

13 **RV 3:13 · Cross-ref.** Isa 65:17; 66:22; Rev 21:1.