

2 Peter 1:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able after my decease to have these things always in remembrance.

Analysis

Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able after my decease to have these things always in remembrance. Peter commits to ensure (spoudasō, σπουδάσω, "I will be diligent") that "after my decease" (meta tēn emēn exodon, μετὰ τὴν ἐμὴν ἔξοδον), literally "after my exodus" or "departure," believers can "always" (hekastote, ἐκάστοτε, "at any time") remember these truths. Exodus (ἔξοδος) echoes Moses' exodus from Egypt and anticipates Christ's "exodus" discussed at the Transfiguration (Luke 9:31)—Peter's death participates in the redemptive pattern of departure leading to greater fulfillment.

This verse likely indicates Peter's purpose in writing this letter—a written testament ensuring his teaching endures beyond his lifetime. Unlike oral tradition that can be corrupted or forgotten, written Scripture preserves apostolic witness authoritatively. The early church recognized this epistle's function as Peter's final instructions, giving it canonical authority.

Peter's concern that believers "have these things always in remembrance" reveals the ongoing threat of forgetfulness even with written documents. Possessing Scripture doesn't automatically translate to remembering and applying it; intentional, repeated engagement is necessary. This establishes the perpetual need for biblical teaching, preaching, and meditation—not one-time reception but continual rehearsal of foundational truths throughout Christian life.

Historical Context

The early church initially relied heavily on oral tradition and apostolic presence for instruction and authority. As the first generation of apostles aged and faced martyrdom, preserving their teaching became urgent. The apostles' writing of New Testament documents addressed this need, providing authoritative, enduring witness to Christ and His gospel. Peter's awareness of impending death motivated committing his testimony to writing.

Early church fathers valued apostolic writings as uniquely authoritative because apostles were eyewitnesses of Christ and recipients of special revelation (Eph 3:5). By the late first/early second century, churches collected and circulated apostolic writings, eventually forming the New Testament canon. Peter's statement here contributed to theological understanding of Scripture's purpose: not replacing living teachers but providing permanent standard against which all teaching is measured. The existence of written Scripture also democratized access to apostolic teaching beyond those who personally knew apostles.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How regularly and intentionally do you engage Scripture to keep foundational truths in active remembrance?
2. What practices or resources help you most effectively remember and apply biblical truth?
3. What are you doing to ensure younger believers or family members will remember core Christian truths after you're gone?

Interlinear Text

σπουδάσω	δὲ	καὶ	ἐκάστοτε	ἔχειν	ὑμᾶς	μετὰ
I will endeavour	Moreover		G2532	always	may be able	that ye
G4704	G1161			G1539	G2192	G5209
τὴν	έμὴν	ἔξοδον	τὴν	τούτων	μνήμην	ποιεῖσθαι
G3588	my	decease	G3588	these things	in remembrance	to have
	G1699	G1841		G5130	G3420	G4160

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 71:18 (Parallel theme): Now also when I am old and grayheaded, O God, forsake me not; until I have shewed thy strength unto this generation, and thy power to every one that is to come.

2 Peter 1:12 (Parallel theme): Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth.