

2 Peter 1.1

^{NASB} "Simon Peter, a bond-servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have received a faith of the same kind as ours, by the righteousness of our God and Savior, Jesus Christ:"

^{ASV} "Simon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained a like precious faith with us in the righteousness of our God and *the* Saviour Jesus Christ:"

Patrick Navas:

"The grammatical structure of 2 Peter 1.1 is similar to Titus 2.13. The *MacArthur Study Bible* states: "The Gr. Construction has only one article before this phrase, making the entire phrase refer to the same person. Thus, Peter is identifying Jesus as both Savior and God." However, it was observed by Dr. Nigel Turner in *A Grammar of New Testament Greek* (Moulton-Turner, 1963): "The repetition of the article was not strictly necessary to ensure that the items be considered separately." And in another place: "Unfortunately, at this period of Greek we cannot be sure that such a rule [regarding the article] is really decisive. Sometimes the definite article is not repeated even where there is clearly a separation in idea."

Numerous other translations (as in the case of Titus 2.13) render the verse so that both God the Father and Jesus Christ are in view. Not only is this way of translating the verse grammatically legitimate, but the very next verse distinguishes between the two so that contextually one finds added reason for doing so. Verse two reads: "Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord" (NASB). Although arguably not decisive (when the grammar is considered independently), such a fact cannot by any means be set aside as irrelevant. This may be why the footnote on 2 Peter 1.1 in the Catholic *New American Bible* acknowledges: "The words translated *our God and Savior Jesus Christ* could also be rendered 'Our God and the savior Jesus Christ.'" Several other translations also call Jesus God in this instance but are careful to inform their readers about the alternative rendering [including Rotherham's Emphasized Bible, the RV, RSV, NRSV, and the Jerusalem Bible]."¹

¹ Patrick Navas, *Divine Truth or Human Tradition?*, (Bloomington, IN: AuthorHouse, 2007), pp. 298-299.