Greek Context of Obtain

Obtain 2 Peter 1:1 What does this word mean in this context? Obtain carries a broad spectrum, from inherit, to conquer, receive or to take by effor, and everything in-between. Peter drives me crazy with his grammar, his words are easy to twist into false narratives. But we learned that Peter also does a lot of hyper linking. So, maybe the obtain is based on Old Testament scripture. If not, what is the context in the Greek.
Thought for 2m 1s

Yes — the **English etymology of "obtain" is not the controlling issue here**. What matters is the **Greek word Peter actually used**.

2 Peter 1:1 (KJV)
"Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:"

The word behind **"obtained"** is:

λαχοῦσιν (*lachousin*)
from **λαγχάνω** (*lagchanō*)

Its core sense is:

to receive by lot, to be assigned a share, to receive as one's allotted portion, to obtain a portion/share

So Peter is **not** using a word that mainly means:

- conquer by force
- seize by personal effort
- earn by merit

The feel of the Greek is closer to:

"to those who have received as their allotted share a faith of equal honor with ours"

That fits the next word too:

ἰσότιμον (*isotimon*) = **equal in honor / equal in value / equally precious**

So Peter's point is not, "you worked your way into faith," but:

you have come to share the same precious covenant portion as we have.

The Greek context

The phrase is roughly:

τοῖς ἰσότιμον ἡμῖν λαχοῦσιν πίστιν
"to those who have received/allotted with us an equally precious faith"

A few important things are happening:

First, **λαχοῦσιν** is a participle with the sense of **"having received"**.
That already leans away from **ongoing self-achievement**.

Second, the faith is said to be received **"through" / "in"** the righteousness of God and the Savior Jesus Christ. So the basis is **Christ's righteousness**, not their own worthiness.

Third, the immediate context keeps pressing **gift-language**:

2 Peter 1:3 (KJV)
"According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness…"

2 Peter 1:4 (KJV)
"Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises…"

So in the flow of the passage:

- faith is received
- life and godliness are given
- promises are given
- then diligence follows in verses 5–7

That is a very important order.
Received first. Walk next.

Old Testament / biblical hyperlink background

This word carries the feel of **lot / allotted share / assigned portion** language.

That does **not** have to mean arbitrary preselection of individuals. In Scripture, **the lot often distributes a portion inside an already established covenant order**.

For example:

Numbers 26:55–56 (KJV)
"Notwithstanding the land shall be divided by lot: according to the names of the tribes of their fathers they shall inherit. According to the lot shall the possession thereof be divided…"

Joshua 14:2 (KJV)
“By lot was their inheritance, as the LORD commanded by the hand of Moses…”

1 Chronicles 24:5 (KJV)
“Thus were they divided by lot, one sort with another…”

Luke 1:9 (KJV) uses the same Greek root idea with Zechariah:
“According to the custom of the priest’s office, his lot was to burn incense…”

So the biblical idea is often:

God-governed share, assigned portion, granted place

not:

self-created possession

That helps a lot in 2 Peter 1:1.

Peter is saying something like:

You people now share the same honored covenant portion of faith as we do.

Not a second-tier faith.
Not a Gentile-lite faith.
Not a lesser portion.
The same precious share.

The safest sense in this verse

If I were to put 2 Peter 1:1 into plain-language study wording, I would say:

“To those who have received, as a God-granted share, the same precious faith as we have, grounded in the righteousness of Jesus Christ.”

That captures the Greek better than the modern English ear usually hears in “obtain.”

A guardrail against false readings

This word can be twisted two opposite ways:

One false direction is:
“obtain” = earn, achieve, conquer faith yourself

The other false direction is:
“obtain” = arbitrary imposed selection with no covenant logic, no response, no faithfulness, no revealed purpose

Peter’s wording does not need either distortion.

The word naturally fits this better:

a received share within God’s righteous covenant action in Christ

That harmonizes with your covenant peg well:

- the share is not self-earned
- the share is not random
- the share is granted by God
- the share is equal in honor
- the basis is Christ’s righteousness
- the result is then a faithful walk

Best concise answer

In **2 Peter 1:1**, **“obtained”** means:

received as an allotted share / granted portion

not mainly:

earned, conquered, or seized by effort

And Peter’s emphasis is that these believers have received **the same equally precious faith** as “us,” grounded **through the righteousness of Jesus Christ**.

If you want, I can next do a **full hyperlink map for 2 Peter 1:1–4** showing Peter’s ropes into **Joshua, priestly lot language, covenant inheritance, and Exodus/Sinai sharing language**.