

II Peter 1:3-11
True Knowledge and Growth
Called to Glory and Virtue

Background Scripture: *ye Therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness. But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be glory both now and forever. Amen. [II Peter 3:17-18]*

Theme: Faithful Truth Verses False Teachers

[Purpose]

Peter wrote **(1)** to exhort believers to diligently pursue godliness and a true knowledge of Christ, and **(2)** to expose and repudiate the insidious activity of false prophets and teachers among the churches in Asia Minor who were undermining apostolic truth. Peter summarizes his purpose in **[II Peter 3:17-18]**, where he exhorts true believers **(1)** to be on their guard so that they may not be “led away with the error of the wicked” **(3:17)**, and **(2)** “grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ” **(3:18)**.

[1:3]: All Things that pertain unto life and godliness: The love of our heavenly Father, salvation through Jesus Christ, Christ’s intercession for us in heaven, the indwelling of and baptism in the Holy Spirit, the communion of the saints and God’s inspired Word are sufficient to meet all that believers need for life and godliness **(Matthew 11:28-20; Hebrews 4:16; 7:25; 9:14)**.

No additional human wisdom, teaching or theory is needed to complete the sufficiency of God’s Word that reveals our perfect salvation in Christ. The words of Jesus, the **N.T.** apostolic faith and grace of God were adequate in the early church to meet the needs of the lost, and they are just as adequate today. Absolutely nothing can offer more height, depth, strength and help than what Jesus Himself proclaimed and provided and what the apostles testified to in Biblical revelation. Jesus Christ alone is “the way, the truth, and the life.” **(John 14:6)**

Giving all Diligence to Add to your Faith:

To Faith Virtue

To Virtue Knowledge

To Knowledge Temperance

To Temperance Patience

To Patience godliness

To godliness Brotherly Kindness

To Brotherly Kindness Charity

(Faith, Virtue, Knowledge, Temperance, Patience, godliness, Brotherly kindness, Charity)

[1:8-10]: (John 15:2) “Every branch in Me that bears not fruit He takes away: and every branch that bears fruit, He purges it, that it may bring forth more fruit.”

[1:10]: Make your Calling and Election Sure: Our faith and salvation must not be taken for granted. We will continue to be faithful to the end only if we sincerely endeavor, by God’s grace, to add to our faith the spiritual qualities listed in **(vs. 5-9)** “if ye do these things, ye shall never fall: for so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting Kingdom.” **(vs. 10-11)**

[1:11]: Abundantly into the Everlasting Kingdom: Some believers, because of negligence, will barely make it into the kingdom (**I Corinthians 3:15**), while others who remain steadfast in holiness will be welcomed with honor (**Matthew 25:21; Acts 7:55-56; II Timothy 4:7-8,18**).

Final thought: *Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be stablished in the present truth.* [**II Peter 1:12**].