

“Christian Growth”

(#23 in the “Practical Preaching From The Pen Of Peter” series)

II Peter 1:5-11

- I. The _____ for Christian growth (II Peter 1:5-7)
- The _____ (vs. 5a): Peter encourages them to use what God has given them to _____ their Christian growth.
 - The emphasis (vs. 5b): It is something that we must _____ at- it doesn't “*come naturally*”!
 - The _____ (vs. 5c-7)
 - The _____:
_____ is just the starting point-
_____ comes next! (Romans 8:29 – **“For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.”**)
 - The _____: There are certain characteristics that believers should be allowing the Holy Spirit to develop in them.
 - Virtue (“*moral* _____”)
 - Knowledge (“_____ *spiritual understanding/discernment*”)
 - Temperance (“*self-*_____”)
 - Patience (“_____”)
 - Godliness (“*piety*; _____”)
 - Brotherly kindness (“*love for fellow* _____”) (I John 3:14 – **“We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.”**)
 - Charity (“*love for* _____ - *even our enemies*”)
- II. The _____ of Christian growth (II Peter 1:8-9)
- A _____ piety (vs. 8): If the above characteristics *are* being developed in them by the Holy Spirit, then it will be evidenced in a _____ way in their lives.
 - GNOSIS = “_____ knowledge”.
EPIGNOSIS = “head knowledge _____ and _____”

- A _____ positive (vs. 9): a *lack* of these “*fruits of the Spirit*” being developed in a person's life indicates a lack of _____ salvation- no matter what they profess! (Matthew 7:20-21 – **“²⁰ Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them. ²¹ Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.”**) (John 13:10 – **“Jesus saith to him, He that is washed needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit: and ye are clean, but not all.”**)

- III. The _____ on Christian growth (II Peter 1:10-11)
- The _____ (vs. 10a): Peter now tells them to _____ themselves and make sure that they genuinely have the salvation that they profess to have. There must be the evidence of a changed _____ that results in outward change and spiritual growth. (James 2:14, 17-18 – **“¹⁴ What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him? ... ¹⁷ Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. ¹⁸ Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.”**)
 - The _____
 - An _____ of security (vs. 10b): If their lives give evidence to genuine salvation, then they know that they have _____ security.
 - An _____ salvation (vs. 11): *All* true believers gain entrance to Heaven. However, the abundance of their rewards is based on the _____ of the growth and development of these “*fruits of the Spirit*” in their lives. (I Corinthians 3:13b-15 – **“¹³ ...and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. ¹⁴ If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. ¹⁵ If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.”**)