

## THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

NOVEMBER 6TH, 2022 // BOOK OF 2 PETER

### GREETINGS (2 PETER 1:1-2)

#### A SERVANT AND AN APOSTLE

Peter had literally walked with Jesus on land and water. He was called out by Christ to lead and feed those that would follow Christ. He was clearly an apostle.

- This didn't make Peter proud. He knew his past and that his position was that of a humble servant to his Savior.

#### EQUAL FAITH

The faith we have in Christ is the same faith the apostles had. They may have seen Him, walked with Him, and shared life with Him, but their faith was no bigger or better than ours.

- **It is not necessary to see the Lord with our human eyes in order to love Him, trust Him, and share His glory.**

#### THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD

This isn't just knowing and thinking about God. This knowledge is an intimate and personal relationship with God.

- **As we walk with Christ, we will experience the grace of God and the peace of God. This grace and peace will also be multiplied in the lives of people around us.**

### GROWTH CHART (2 PETER 1:3-15)

#### THE ABILITY TO GROW

The Christian life begins with faith. In our relationship with God, He also gives us divine power to live for Him.

- **Our new life with Christ also comes with a "new nature." This nature will change our desires, behavior, and even our environment.**

#### EVERY EFFORT

Spiritual growth is not automatic; it requires us to develop and exercise qualities of a godly life.

- **Real spiritual growth begins with faith.** Any effort on our part to improve ourselves will misplace glory. **We must cooperate with God as He changes us.**

#### SUPPLEMENT YOUR FAITH

Goodness (morality), knowledge (truth), self-control, endurance (to stand firm), godliness (obedience and reverence), affection (kind), and love (deep, biblical).

- **As God develops these virtues in us, we become more like Christ but keep our individuality. God is a multiplier, not a duplicator!**

#### RESULTS

As we are faithful in our relationship with Christ, we will possess these qualities in "increasing measure."

- **Following Christ isn't passive. Our lives should be visible to the world, the Church, and ourselves. Our confidence and strength come from seeing God work on us, in us, and through us.**

#### AN URGENT REMINDER

Peter knew his time on earth was growing short and he wanted to make sure everyone would continue to be reminded of the truths he would share in this letter.

- **Our life for Christ is here and now. Do we live with an urgent desire to make known the truths that God is revealing to us today?**

### TWO WORDS (2 PETER 1:16-21)

#### HIS MAJESTY

Peter shares that he saw Christ transformed and heard the voice of God on "the holy mountain."

- This was not a myth or clever story. Peter had seen the Living Word and could easily refute those who denied Christ's deity, glory, and return.

#### THE PROPHETIC WORD

To address the false teachers, Peter also declares how the Bible speaks to the authenticity of Christ through the fulfillment of prophecy.

- **The world can be a dark place. We must stay close to the light of Christ and the light of His Word. The light will become brighter as we grow in Christ.**

### THE TRUE SOURCE

V20-21 simply tells us the scriptures did not come from man; the authors were simply carriers, through the Spirit, of God's message to us.

- **Since the Spirit gave the Word, humble believers can read it, understand it, and apply it, led by the same Holy Spirit who inspired it. It is too powerful to be by us, but it is FOR US.**

#### FAITH

- We have been given everything we need to live godly lives: faith from God.
- The knowledge of God is an intimate and personal relationship with God.
- **Our faith in God and relationship with God will lead us to spiritual growth that can't be duplicated but can be multiplied.**

#### MATURITY

- Our ability to grow spiritually is part of our new nature in Christ.
- **We must/will submit to the leadership of Christ in our lives if we are authentic.**
- **This isn't a "let go and let God" attitude. It's surrender and JOINING God in His plan for our future and eternity.**

#### AWAKENED

- The Holy Spirit that reveals the truth of the gospel will also guide us in our growth.
- **We need to be reminded of Christ's sacrifice and our responsibility.**
- The world is dark and may get even darker, but **the Word of God will shine brighter and brighter as we are set free to live godly lives!**