

# 2 Peter 1:8 - 11

## Remembering Truth When it Really Counts

*“... a primer to guard against false teaching”*

### Understanding Our Faith (Part 3)

### Back to the Basics: Our Results - To Achieve Success

#### Questions for Discussion & Reflection

*Answer the following questions and please be prepared to share with the larger group...*

1. Read 2 Peter 1:8 – 11. This passage breaks out two choices each of us have in our lives. What do you think those are?
2. Describe the outcomes of the negative possibilities.
3. Describe the outcomes of the positive possibilities.
4. Why would a person be “*blind or short-sighted*”?
5. What does Peter mean when he says they “*have forgotten his purification from his former sins*”?
6. Peter promises that if we “practice these things, you will never stumble”. Explain what he means by that.
7. How is our “*entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ abundantly supplied to us*”?

## Understanding Our Faith - Back to the Basics (1:2b – 11)

- Our Quest (Part 1)
  - *To Know Our God* (1:2b – 4)
- Our Journey (Part 2)
  - *To Become More Like Him* (1:5 – 7)
- **Our Results (Part 3)**
  - ***To Achieve Success* (1:8 – 11)**

### Today's Learning Objectives:

*To determine the \_\_\_\_\_ outcomes available to me in life and decide to \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord so I will grow experientially in my \_\_\_\_\_ with Him and strengthen my \_\_\_\_\_ in our living hope...*

## 2 Peter 1:8 – 11

### \_\_\_\_\_ Possibilities (9)

<sup>9</sup> For he who lacks these *qualities* is blind or short-sighted, having forgotten *his* purification from his former sins.

### \_\_\_\_\_ Possibilities (8, 10-11)

<sup>8</sup> For if these *qualities* are yours and are increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>10</sup> Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble;

<sup>11</sup> for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied to you.

### **Negative Possibilities (9)**

*“For he who lacks these qualities is blind or short-sighted, having forgotten his purification from his former sins”*

- **Option #1:** \_\_\_\_\_ pursue these virtues...
  - “*For he who lacks these qualities*” – what qualities?
    - Verses 5-7 – *Moral excellence, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love*
  - This is a believer who, regardless of the reason, hasn’t made an explicit \_\_\_\_\_ to pursue these virtues
- **Results:** \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ – “*Is blind or short-sighted*”
    - This describes a person who cannot see or rightly discern anything \_\_\_\_\_
    - This is true for where they are at today, out into the distance or the future (Isaiah 59:1-2, 9b-10; Revelation 3:18-19)
    - They lack a biblical world view or \_\_\_\_\_ to interpret life!
  - \_\_\_\_\_ what God has done -“*Having forgotten his purification from his former sins*”
    - This actually means to “have received forgetfulness of catharsis or cleansing”
    - They easily forget or dwell on what God has done for them in the \_\_\_\_\_ and is doing for them in the \_\_\_\_\_ or will do in the \_\_\_\_\_
    - Because of this they will lack \_\_\_\_\_ of their salvation (Ephesians 2:4-7; 5:8, 26; Titus 3:5-7; James 1:18, 22-25; 1 Peter 1:23; 1 John 1:7)
  - **Other Observational Outcomes...**
    - \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ – “*useless and unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ*” - It appears we can assume this person will be spiritually “idle” as to really knowing God and, as a result, “\_\_\_\_\_”
    - Plagued by \_\_\_\_\_ – “*you will stumble*” – This person will struggle and be much more susceptible to sin \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and could suffer immense misfortune as a result!!!

## **Positive Possibilities (8, 10-11)**

*“For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ... Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble; for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied to you.”*

- *“Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you”*
  - To be *“diligent”* conveys a sense of \_\_\_\_\_ and eagerness (see verse 5)
  - To *“make certain”* is used as a way to legally validate or confirm
  - *“... about His calling and choosing you”* - the author is not saying that these virtues produce salvation, but that these virtues are the \_\_\_\_\_ of our salvation; they confirm or validate or assure us that we are His \_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 11:29; 2 Corinthians 13:5; 1 Thessalonians 1:4; 2 Thess. 2:14; 2 Timothy 1:9; Hebrews 6:11)
- **Option #2:** Intentionally \_\_\_\_\_ these virtues...
  - \_\_\_\_\_ – *“For if these qualities are yours...”*
    - It is our responsibility to acquire these virtues
  - \_\_\_\_\_ – *“For if these qualities are increasing...”*
    - To be *“increasing”* means to “possess more than enough, even too much, of something”; it is to claim ownership of these virtues in progressively increasing amounts
    - There are evidently \_\_\_\_\_ of ownership of these qualities, implying degrees of \_\_\_\_\_ in one's intimacy with Christ
    - It is our responsibility to continually \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ these virtues
  - \_\_\_\_\_ – *“For as long as you practice these things...”*
    - It is our responsibility to *“practice”* these virtues

- This refers to the ongoing drum beat or \_\_\_\_\_ of daily conduct; this is the regular discipline or \_\_\_\_\_ of intentional focus (Galatians 5:22-25; Ephesians 5:15-17; Romans 12:9-13; Colossians 3:12-17)
- **Results:** \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ – *“they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ”*
    - To “render” here means to “make” or to “set in order”
    - In other words, our decision to intentionally pursue these puts our lives \_\_\_\_\_ or in a place that we ensure we are “useful” or “\_\_\_\_\_” and “\_\_\_\_\_” or “\_\_\_\_\_” for really knowing God and living of His glory
  - Not \_\_\_\_\_ – *“You will never stumble”*
    - As we pursue these virtues, we will “never” trip up, stumble, sin, or fall
    - Because of that we will confidently enjoy an abundant and productive spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ with God (Psalm 16:11; John 10:10; Ephesians 1:18; 1 Timothy 6:17)
  - Build \_\_\_\_\_ – *“for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied to you.”*
    - “for in this way” means as we \_\_\_\_\_ our lives to please God and become more like Christ... as we do that...
    - *“the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied to you”*
      - This describes the blessings of \_\_\_\_\_ we are children of God
      - This describes the encouragement towards \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ that will lavishly splash all over us and be a strong tower in the midst of trials and suffering

- This confidence will be the \_\_\_\_\_ to  
“*abundantly supply*” or undergird our souls when we need it  
the most!!!
- This also implies a future \_\_\_\_\_ awaits us  
(Revelation 22:12)

### **In Summary...**

To the extent we lack and don’t pursue these virtues...

We will be unable to rightly diagnose life, will quickly forget  
what God is up to and will stumble spiritually!!

As we acquire, develop, and practice these virtues...

We will develop intimacy with God and a biblical world view, we will not sin and  
therefore, aggressively, eagerly and confidently validate the assurance of our salvation!!