

The LIFE of Relationship with God Pt. 18

II Peter 1:10-11 Prayer Meeting, Wednesday, June 14, 2023 Trust & Obey 349

I. The Life of Relationship with God is Lived Wholeheartedly v. 5 Now for this very reason also, what reason? seeing His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness) God has given power to live godly lives, for THIS reason, applying all diligence, In your faith, supply **II. Lived Specifically at Character Level vv. 5-7** easy to forget these things, lost in everyday life, so must remember **III. Lived with God's Goals for Growth, Not Yours vv. 8-9 A. Positive Incentive for Effort Toward These Goals v. 8** For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful; WORK HERE, you WILL be useful/productive in one sphere that matters, in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. **B. Negative Results for Failure to Pursue These Goals v. 9 1. You can't see to LIVE** For he who lacks these qualities is blind or short-sighted, **a. Being short-sighted leaves you unable to perceive and therefore discern correctly**, see only earthly things nearby but unable to see heavenly things far away Kistemaker **b. Being short-sighted leaves you doing the wrong things** instead of Tit. 3:14 zealous for good deeds, vice/wrong words/deeds (Jude, II Pet. 2, I Jn. 2:11) **2. You can't see to BE** having forgotten his purification from his former sins. means **Not Living in light of the gospel**; work of Christ not present focus—not living as forgiven sinners, Schreiner, therefore **Living by faith in something else** How do you handle sin? **If** not studying God and His gospel to depths of sin's destruction, then reminders of sin's presence and devastation will overshadowing the power and purposes of God over those sins; focus in Peter is on false who profess faith but live in open sin, claim to have been forgiven, but no life change; Calvin v. 9 THIS is beginning of Christianity—it follows that those who do not strive for pure and holy life do not understand even the first rudiments of faith . . . how does this live? While trusting Christ for justification and His work of sanctifying us frees us from final wrath/judgment, our fellowship with God is still broken when we live with known sin. But we must also remember that God's name is dishonored when we live with unknown sin. Therefore, instead of focusing on whether we meant to sin or didn't understand or that those talking to us don't know/love us, how SHOULD fighting spiritual blindness cause us to respond to the reality of sin being displayed through our lives—both recognized and unrecognized by us? **1. Desire to have sin exposed so God glorified through us** SHOW me my sin—bring all not godly to come to surface—hallowed be Thy name; **2. Seek a deeper understanding of implications of gospel**—true understanding of gospel gives freedom to look at every instance of sin exposed and have hope b/c same gospel that paid your penalty/took wrath gives provision to fight sin/lift up Christ as your source of righteousness/standing b/r God **3. Submit to the slow growth of grace**; short-sighted when demand quick change; impatience focuses on me/now—life in Christ focuses on Him eternally—we've got time (ie. II Pet. 3:9 The Lord is NOT slow); continued look to Christ leads to increasing changes at character, desire level—focus moves from now/earth to THEN/eternal—lifelong process **IV. Lived with His Calling in View vv. 10-11 A. Maintenance in line with God's calling protects from eternal devastation. v. 10** ¹⁰ Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you; Focusing on relationship w God from perspective of calling puts focus on Him—His character, His goals (what He called you for), then for provision FOR that calling—then free to be all the more diligent to dig in to build kingdom everyday from where you are! normal, everyday, Christian living—Gal. 2:20 life I live in flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God who LOVED ME and gave Himself for me; Trust/obey; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble; emphatic negative, NOT EVER stumble—not mean never sin, but rather “kept from an irretrievable fall” Hiebert, pp. 60-61 will not come to eternal ruin heretics/false teachers and their disciples face Green, p. 202 Don't live in v. 9! These warnings of terrible end are one of means God uses to help His own persevere—Assurance lies in diligence ^{As some comfortable measure of the certainty of both may be attained to, even by ordinary believers, so this jewel of assurance does not fall in the lap of any lazy soul, nor can any expect to attain to it, or yet to entertain it, in whose hearts grace is without exercise, and whose conversation is without fruitfulness; for so the Apostle exhorts to give all diligence to make them sure; importing that, without that diligence, they cannot be made sure to our hearts.” Nisbet, p. 231} look to the One who called, know His grace to grow, obey, do His will, but also grace to grow in fear of falling “finally or scandalously” Nisbet why? what's at stake? Not merely avoiding spiritual ruin—looking for too little! ¹¹ for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied to you. Where does verse 11 focus and what does it give you?

B. Hope accompanying God's calling is personal and includes more ahead v. 11

THIS is where find if care only about HERE/NOW, or whether you were made for more—kingdom of Christ eternal, beyond time; You belong, He cares for you, You will have what you need; what is that kingdom like? Beyond words: I Cor. 2:9, Is. 65:17, 24-25, II Pet. 3:13, Personal: Jn. 14:1-6, 17:20-21, 25-26; Rev. 21:1-8 THIS is what is at stake! —This word “supply” combined w richly speaks of lavish provision (some refer to welcome given Olympic winners when return home, others focus on rich benefactor welcoming friend or servant into home); **1. Your hope is based on God's promised riches given you** that's His character to provide, to supply! think grandmother or someone who lavishes on you—that's who He is Rom. 10:12, Eph. 1:7, I Tim. 6:17, Tit. 3:6 ie. You are my friends if you do what I say—not earning, but valuing—head this direction! Fill life w THESE things! Nisbet “There is a beginning of heaven to be had in this life, even such a clear sight by faith in the Word, of God reconciled with us in Christ, and such foretastes of that sweet life we shall have with Him forever, as fills the heart sometimes with comfort, makes duties and difficulties easy, as if a Christian were walking in the entry or porch of heaven, and stepping in at the open gate thereof” p. 232 **2. Your hope lies ahead. Therefore, faith looks forward**, faith acts/lives! word supplied same as word supply in v. 5 he provides/supplies, we work with diligence, we supply/provide; divine wealth for temporal exertion, Davids; Hiebert “to their activity of diligently supplying the needed qualities of Christian character God will reciprocate by supplying them an entry in the eternal kingdom” p. 61 **What fights against our hope lying ahead and faith looking forward?**

Isaiah 65:17, 24-25 “For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; And the former things will not be remembered or come to mind. ²⁴ “It will also come to pass that before they call, I will answer; and while they are still speaking, I will hear. ²⁵ “The wolf and the lamb will graze together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox; and dust will be the serpent's food. They will do no evil or harm in all My holy mountain,” says the LORD.

John 14:1-6 “Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. ² “In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. ³ “If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴ “And you know the way where I am going.” ⁵ Thomas said to Him, “Lord, we do not know where You are going, how do we know the way?” ⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.

John 17:20–21, 25-26 “I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word; ²¹ that they may all be one; even as You, Father, *are* in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me. ²⁵ “O righteous Father, although the world has not known You, yet I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me; ²⁶ and I have made Your name known to them, and will make it known, so that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.”

Romans 1:5 through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about *the* obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for His name’s sake,

Romans 10:12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same *Lord* is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him;

Romans 16:25–27 Now to Him who is able to establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery which has been kept secret for long ages past, ²⁶ but now is manifested, and by the Scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the eternal God, has been made known to all the nations, *leading* to obedience of faith; ²⁷ to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, be the glory forever. Amen.

1 Corinthians 2:9 but just as it is written, “THINGS WHICH EYE HAS NOT SEEN AND EAR HAS NOT HEARD, AND *which* HAVE NOT ENTERED THE HEART OF MAN, ALL THAT GOD HAS PREPARED FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIM.”

Ephesians 1:7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace

Colossians 1:13 For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son,

1 Timothy 6:17 Instruct those who are rich in this present world not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy.

2 Timothy 1:8–12 Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord or of me His prisoner, but join with *me* in suffering for the gospel according to the power of God, ⁹ who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity, ¹⁰ but now has been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, ¹¹ for which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle and a teacher. ¹² For this reason I also suffer these things, but I am not ashamed; for I know whom I have believed and I am convinced that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him until that day.

Titus 3:6 whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior,

Peter determined vv. 12-15, then II Pet. 3:17—moral behavior matters! what are you choosing? If walk way of gospel under Lordship of Christ, can be assured you are His and will be welcomed one day;

Eph. 4:17-21, so right path is to put off old self, put on new self;