

THE LIFE OF RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD PT. 17

II Peter 1:5-11

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II PETER 1:5-11

- I. Lived Wholeheartedly v. 5a
- II. Lived Specifically at Character Level vv. 5b-7
- III. Lived with God's Goals for Growth, Not Yours vv. 8-9
 - A. Positive Incentive for Effort Toward These Goals v. 8

**Moral Excellence, Knowledge, Self-Control, Perseverance,
Godliness, Brotherly Kindness, Love**

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Moral Excellence, Knowledge, Self-Control, Perseverance, Godliness, Brotherly Kindness, Love
 - B. Negative Results for Failure to Pursue These Goals v. 9**
 - 1. You can't see to LIVE.**
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II PETER 1:5-11

Our people must also learn to engage in good deeds to meet pressing needs, so that they will not be unfruitful.

Titus 3:14

Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; each one looking to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted.

Galatians 6:1

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2. You can't see to BE.

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NOT LIVING IN LIGHT OF THE GOSPEL

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NOT LIVING IN LIGHT OF THE GOSPEL

LIVING BY FAITH IN SOMETHING ELSE

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II PETER 1:5-11

‘Because you say, “I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have need of nothing,” and you do not know that you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked,

Revelation 3:17

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NOT LIVING IN LIGHT OF THE GOSPEL

LIVING BY FAITH IN SOMETHING ELSE

i.e. How do YOU handle sin?

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II PETER 1:5-11

How do YOU handle sin?

If you are not studying God and His gospel to the depths of sin's destruction, then reminders of sin's presence and devastation will overshadow the power and purposes of God over those sins.

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II PETER 1:5-11

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.** How should those fighting spiritual short-sightedness respond to the reality of sin displayed through our lives?

- Willingness to see where we are not right – teachableness to be shown over long period of time
- Acknowledge sin with constant focus on the work of the cross
- Gospel should make us secure enough to desire to be exposed
- Recognize gift of eye of the group/God
- Free from being crippled
- Confident that God is working good through imperfect people
- Secure in riches of God's kindness to us as deal with sin
- David – acquit me of hidden faults – welcomed Lord's provision

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- 2. Seek a deeper understanding of the implications of the gospel.**

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- 1. Desire to have sin exposed so God is glorified through us.**
- 2. Seek a deeper understanding of the implications of the gospel.**
- 3. Submit to the slow growth of grace.**

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- IV. Lived with His Calling in View vv. 10-11**
 - A. Maintenance in line with God's calling protects from eternal devastation.v 10**

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II PETER 1:5-11

What does calling/choosing imply? Where does focusing on calling and choosing lead you to focus?

- Ahead, moving
- He wants you
- Focus on One choosing you
- Resulting emotions: gratitude, security, humility
- Not random, there's a plan
- Do something with the calling
- Not what we choose so focus on the One who called and His calling
- Code of conduct with calling
- Security in God's character and faithfulness and His provision for calling
- Implies decision
- Security

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II PETER 1:5-11

**just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world,
that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love**

Ephesians 1:4

**yet He has now reconciled you in His fleshly body through death,
in order to present you before Him holy and blameless and beyond
reproach—**

Colossians 1:22

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II PETER 1:5-11

“. . . but as He called us to the end that we may be pure and spotless in his presence, then “purity of life is not improperly called the evidence and proof of election, by which the faithful may not only testify to others that they are the children of God, but also confirm themselves in this confidence, in such a manner, however, that they fix their solid foundation on something else.”

John Calvin

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II PETER 1:5-11

This work to maintain what God has said is your identity and calling gives a firm foundation/assurance so you are free to obey from where you are right now, resulting in growth in these character qualities. **Live these character qualities in light of your Col. 3:12, II Pet. 1:3 identity. What would this focus do for your everyday living?**

- Sweet aroma of Christ comes as we live/go/obey
- Prove true faith, work true faith
- Example – Israelites forgot identity as people of God – care and protection from ownership – came from lack of remembering which led to not knowing which led to not doing/obeying His word/will
- Heb. 11-12 (12:1) note all the examples of faith set aside (the sin that entangled) to gain what was precious
- Makes us more aware of need for these character qualities

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II PETER 1:5-11

“God’s grace should not lead to moral relaxation but intense effort.”

Tom Schreiner

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We do not preach election to unsaved people; we preach the Gospel. But God uses that Gospel to call sinners to repentance, and then those sinners discover that they were chosen by God! . . . Election is no excuse for spiritual immaturity or for lack of effort in the Christian life. Warren Wiersbe

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“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.” Alexander Nisbet

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Where should the promise of v. 10 lead us when we find ourselves overwhelmed by doubts, instability, feelings of worthlessness, or lack of purpose?

- Practice these things
- Re-examine what it means to fall (our own dreams, falling, failure, unfulfillment)
- Make a clear line between 2 kingdoms (God & self)
- What is the “more” we live for versus the “more” He prescribes
- Recognize “we lose” when we don’t honor His Word – don’t have to stumble
- Nothing do or don’t do makes us more accepted - we are accepted based on work of Christ – therefore discipline not punishment, but opportunity for growth
- Lead us to look for evidence of what is “not natural” changing as sign of assurance that I’m connected to God to His promises
- Should lead to life of confidence – do this
- Lead to the basics : why? God | What? What He designed us for? Eph 2:10 | How? By His Spirit Rom 8:17 through His Word

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 - A. Maintenance in line with God's calling protects from eternal devastation. v. 10**
 - B. Our confidence lies with a hope that is personal and always lies ahead. v. 11**

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Where does verse **11** focus and what does it give you?

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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.**” **1 Corinthians 2:9**

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“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. Isaiah 65:17, 24-25

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“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 14:1-6

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“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.”

John 17:20-21, 25-26

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 - 1. Your hope is based on God's promised riches given to you.**

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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 10:12

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In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, **according to the riches of His grace**

Ephesians 1:7

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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.**

1 Timothy 6:17

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

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“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 for ever, 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.”

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 - 2. Your hope lies ahead. Therefore faith looks forward.**

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What fights against our hope lying ahead and faith looking forward

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How would we focus our energies on these character traits in a way that would evidence the work of God—a result of faith, meaning effort IN God’s presence? What might that include OR what would be signs our growth is NOT a result of God’s power or inside living relationship with God?

- Rom 4:18-20 – lifting up the promises of God
- By periodic spiritual check-ups that looks for which of these is missing because healthy growth will have these flowing from + building on each other
- Look for evidence that the change/work done is result of look beyond ourselves and immediate results (faithful and joyful service)
- First direction we head when trying to grow in these shows source i.e. prayer – dependence – shows where help comes from and who we are seeking to please
- Looking to grow in humility – are you praying for this
- Proverbs 2:4 fervor, zeal, work—that life FILLED with this characteristic in looking for God’s kingdom purposes throughout our day—preparation in this vein

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