

THE LIFE OF RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD PT. 18

II Peter 1:5-11

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- 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.

a. Being short-sighted leaves you unable to perceive and therefore discern correctly.

b. Being short-sighted leaves you doing the wrong things.

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 - 2. You can't see to BE.

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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- 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

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

- On the blessings God wants to give you
- Eternity – gives assurance and hope
- Life now and later
- 1 John 3 – welcoming, something to be proud of
- Way we live now that contributes to future hope
- Authority behind your confident hope
- Anticipation

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 - A. Maintenance in line with God's calling protects from eternal devastation. v. 10**
 - B. Hope accompanying God's calling is personal and includes more ahead. v. 11**

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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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 - 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**
 - 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**

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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 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.”

Alexander Nisbet

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 - 1. Your hope is based on God's promised riches given to you.**
 - 2. Your hope lies ahead. Therefore, faith looks forward.**

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II PETER 1:5-11

What fights against our hope lying ahead and faith looking forward?

- Problems NOW obscure hope
- Past – habits, friendships either good or bad
- Moses/Joshua warned about complacency because content with what have
- Desire to have resolution now at all costs
- Future shrinking and past growing because no eternal perspective
- Our own inability to persevere without remembering the power of the One calling
- Live by what we see or control – not examining the validity of our hope
- Make God's character like ours OR detach His good character from our lives
- Our hopes are here not there
- Constant battle to keep this perspective, not a secret key or final level where don't have to battle
- Treasures here (even good character qualities over Jesus Himself)
- Don't have faith in God's power to transform us
- Can't even define hope biblically

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“Hypocrites have in them nothing real or solid, and that, on the contrary, they who prove their calling sure by good works, are free from the danger of falling, because sure and sufficient is the grace of God by which they are supported. Thus the certainty of our salvation by no means depends on us, as doubtless the cause of it is beyond our limits.”

John Calvin

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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.**

2 Timothy 1:8-12

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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 1:5

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.

Romans 16:25-27

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

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How does the idea of “the obedience of faith” head us in the direction of II Peter 1:10-11?

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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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