

## The LIFE of Relationship with God Pt. 19

### II Peter 1:11 Prayer Meeting, Wednesday, June 21, 2023 Trust & Obey 349

**I. The Life of Relationship with God is Lived Wholeheartedly v. 5** God has given power to live godly lives, seeing His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, Now for this very reason also, 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** <sup>8</sup> 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** <sup>9</sup> 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, 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; continued look to Christ leads to focus moves from now/earth to THEN/eternal and **increasing changes at character, desire level—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** <sup>10</sup> 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; **for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble**; Trust/obey, **emphatic negative, NOT EVER stumble**--not never sin, but rather "kept from an irretrievable fall" Hiebert, pp. 60-61 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** **why? what's at stake?** Not merely avoiding spiritual ruin **B. Hope accompanying God's calling is personal and includes more ahead v. 11** <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. THIS is where find if care only about HERE/NOW, or whether you were made for more; looked at pictures **Jn. 17:20-21, 25-26** of that kingdom that showed personal, You belong, He cares for you, You will have what you need; saw pictures **I Cor. 2:9**, of the amazing eternal MORE, Rev. 21:1-8 **1. Your hope is based on God's promised riches given you abundantly supplied** speaks of lavish provision; that's His character to provide! **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! **2. Your hope lies ahead. Therefore, faith looks forward**, word supplied same as word **supply** in v. 5; we work/supply/provide with diligence b/c trust His word/work, to these He provides/supplies 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?** Don't see it; seems impossible—can't measure up, want tangible rewards now (like Baal Israelites kept falling for); dangerous to live in words that don't require response—leads to looking at self or around instead of Christ--**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, b/c 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." Calvin, p. 378 perhaps doesn't seem very eternal/supernatural to put in effort down here for kingdom that can't see—if supernatural, should see more supernatural; **I Pet. 1:23, 25** this word brought to life by power of God as He opens your eyes resulting in simple faith and childlike trust, ie. Kistemaker "I have assurance of salvation b/c God has given me his Word, has revealed himself in Jesus Christ, and has worked and continues to work in my heart through the Holy Spirit. God has created faith in my soul so that I put my complete confidence and trust in him." p. 258 **II Tim. 1:8-13** faith not just theoretical/words, it acts--not just WORK of church, but WORK OF FAITH **Rom. 1:5, 16:25-27** **Schreiner** Peter not concerned about rewards as much as entering the kingdom at all—"not salvation by works but salvation with works" p. 306 Hiebert reminds, human activity does not earn entry, it is the way that leads to eternal kingdom, **Moo**--NT makes clear that Christ's kingdom comes into existence through Christ's death and resurrection—experience the kingdom the reign of God now **Col. 1:13**, II Thess. 1:5; but NT shows kingdom has future aspect – your kingdom come—we are dissatisfied w things as they are and long for day when our sins and trials will be no more "It is our effusive welcome into this eternal kingdom that should motivate us to move forward in the Christian life." p. 49 This is NOT fantasy—Peter's very human discipleship/shepherding—warnings, reminding of calling and rewards and grace of God; Davids—all encourages them to seek THIS kingdom and lavish reception of THIS king should encourage to develop virtues flowing from commitment to faith in Him 1:5 **How does the idea of "the obedience of faith" challenge our street level view of faith and head us in the direction of II Peter 1:10-11?** It doesn't allow us to separate heaven and the supernatural from the present/the natural; **choice**—walk way of gospel v. 8 increasing in THESE areas OR follow corruption of false gospel shown by immoral living, eternal destruction; **Gal. 5:21, I Cor. 6:9-11, HOW do you walk in line w gospel's calling to make you holy in daily choices?** By looking to

Him who supplies NOW as well as THEN **II Pet. 1:3-4**, as focus on the human effort part, MUST REMEMBER it was God that brought effectual call--“Christ’s call is so powerful that we are promised that we will obtain glory and moral virtue.” P. 302 “objective obedience is the foundation for subjective assurance” Schreiner p. 305 Phil. 4:19 (My God will supply . . . physical needs as well as rest until the end); makes faith/trusting Christ/living life of prayerful dependence and kingdom living an all the time way of living—Is THIS what you mean when say you’ve accepted the gospel? Does it live this way? When live trusting His Word—gives calling, security of position, gives place to look for provision—all Him, that’s why He gets glory! gratitude results--Wiersbe—think of blessings growing Christian enjoys—fruitfulness, vision, security AND heaven’s best! reward of what ahead is motivation to be active in duties and exercising grace given us; Here we suffer, fight, don’t understand, but looking to Him who not only sees, but promises strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow—trust His word! **Heb. 6:10, II Cor. 5:1, Matt. 25:31-34**; but reward while sought and real all hinges on One we will be with in eternity; Mounce notes “Eternity will not be endless sequence as much as it will be the presence of the One in whom time ceases to have significance.” In Hiebert, p. 62 see how central Jesus is to Peter vv. 1,2,8,11 AND living in light of eternity (heretics/false teachers/unbelievers reject future judgment 3:3-7, but end WILL come 3:10-13—put spiritual high beams on and live in light of eternity! Do you want **Matt. 7:21-27** or **II Pet. 1:11**? These words of assurance what Peter desires for them, but warning also here—that’s why vv. 12-15

**Matthew 7:21-27** “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter.”<sup>22</sup> “Many will say to Me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?’<sup>23</sup> “And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.’<sup>24</sup> “Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them, may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock.<sup>25</sup> “And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and yet it did not fall, for it had been founded on the rock.<sup>26</sup> “Everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not act on them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand.<sup>27</sup> “The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and it fell—and great was its fall.”<sup>28</sup>

**Matthew 25:31-34** “But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne.<sup>32</sup> “All the nations will be gathered before Him; and He will separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats;<sup>33</sup> and He will put the sheep on His right, and the goats on the left.<sup>34</sup> “Then the King will say to those on His right, ‘Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.’<sup>35</sup>

**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;<sup>21</sup> 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.<sup>22</sup> “O righteous Father, although the world has not known You, yet I have known You, and these have known that You sent Me;<sup>26</sup> 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,<sup>26</sup> 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;<sup>27</sup> 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.”

**1 Corinthians 6:9-11** Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals,<sup>10</sup> nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God.<sup>11</sup> Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.

**2 Corinthians 5:1** For we know that if the earthly tent which is our house is torn down, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

**Galatians 5:21** envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

**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,<sup>9</sup> 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,<sup>10</sup> 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,<sup>11</sup> for which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle and a teacher.<sup>12</sup> 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,

**Hebrews 6:10** For God is not unjust so as to forget your work and the love which you have shown toward His name, in having ministered and in still ministering to the saints.

## Stir Up the Gospel

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<sup>12</sup> Therefore, I will always be ready to remind you of these things, even though you already know them, and have been established in the truth which is present with you.

Remind—idea 3x in these verses, then again 3:1-2 in light of seriousness of what is at stake (eternal life in eternal kingdom with THE KING

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, I will always be ready to remind you of these things,

**I. What you have been given is precious and is under attack. v. 12**

**A. The gospel is sufficient. Stay focused there.**

even though you already know them, these things, specifically vv. 3-11, but rest of letter; other letter referred to in chapter 3; but remember, Peter may not have even met these personally according to some I read (he may have been in Rome writing to those in Asia Minor), talking about common body of truth given; **I Cor. 15:1-4, Jude 3**—Peter preached it, so did Paul; in established communities of Jesus followers **Why need to be reminded IF already know it?** Take away alzheimers, old age In face of forgetting **What causes facts you believe to fade?** not seeing how it lives—disconnect from words and your life which means don’t really believe what think believe—pressure exposes what REALLY believe and “forget” what say believe-- “memory fades fast when the pressure is on or when new and attractive teaching comes along” Davids p. 193, new teaching

**1 Corinthians 15:1-4** Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand,<sup>2</sup> by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain.<sup>3</sup> For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,<sup>4</sup> and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,