THE LIFE OF RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD PT. 16

II Peter 1:5-11

I. Lived Wholeheartedly v. 5a

- I. Lived Wholeheartedly v. 5a
- II. Lived Specifically at Character Level vv. 5b-7

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 - A. Positive Incentive for Effort Toward These Goals v. 8

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

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 - A. Positive Incentive for Effort Toward These Goals v. 8
 - **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.

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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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At the same time they also learn to be idle, as they go around from house to house; and not merely idle, but also gossips and busybodies, talking about things not proper to mention. 1 Timothy 5:13

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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

'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?

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.

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.

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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

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 - A. Maintenance in line with God's calling protects from eternal devastation. v 10

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

But we should always give thanks to God for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God has chosen you from the beginning for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and faith in the truth. 14 It was for this He called you through our gospel, that you may gain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Thessalonians 2:13-14

"In the Greek-speaking world, the election or selection of military and political leaders was based on the merit and character of those chosen. But God's love is the root cause of his election, regardless of the character, accomplishments, merits, or virtue of the one called (Rom. 5:7-8; II Tim. 1:9)."

Gene L. Green

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

"... 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

This work to maintain what God has said is your identity and calling gives assurance as you continue focusing on these character qualities.

This work to maintain what God has said is your identity and calling gives assurance as you continue focusing on 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
- Heb. 11-12 (12:1) note all that the examples of faith- set aside what entangles to gain what was precious
- Makes us more aware of need for these character qualities

"God's grace should not lead to moral relaxation but intense effort."

Tom Schreiner

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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

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

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 <u>and</u> 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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