

THE VIRTUES OF A CHRISTIAN



As we enter into the Spring quarter of our theme, "Celebrating the Seasons of Faith," the thrust of N.T. teachings indicate that Christians are to grow.

- Eph 2:21 "in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is _____ into a holy temple in the Lord."
- Eph 4:15 "but speaking the truth in love, we are to _____ in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ."
- 2 Cor 3:18 "But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being _____ into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit."
- 2 Pet 3:18 "But _____ in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen."

Maintaining...status quo...holding on is not the mindset of a disciple who is walking with the Lord.



One of the great sections of the Bible that shows this is the Virtues or Graces of 2 Peter 1

Second Peter

1. **Growing closer to the Lord (ch 1)**
 - Peter is aware of his impending death (13-15)
 - Peter is aware that he is telling his readers what they already know (1:12-13; 3:1-2)
 - Peter accents the difference from his message and that of false teachers (16-21)
- The benefits of these virtues are highlighted (4-11)
2. **The judgment toward false teachers is sounded (ch 2)**
 - One specific error is destroyed (3:3-16)
3. **Peter repeats his theme once more:**
 - don't be carried away by error (3:17)
 - grow in the Lord (3:18)

Things to notice about 2 Peter 1:

1. Being diligent (5, 10)
2. Granted to us by God (3, 4)
3. The mathematics: (2) _____; (5) _____; (8) _____
4. His divine power (3), His divine nature (4)

A Comparison between the Virtues of 2 Peter and the Fruit of the Spirit (Gal 5:22-23)

Fruit of the Spirit	Christian Virtues

What differences do you notice?

What similarities do you notice?

Peter's use of "ADD" or "Supply" (NAS) implies FOUR important lessons:

1. These things are not _____ with faith
2. There is a _____ responsibility for each Christian to add these things to his character
3. There is a great benefit in doing these things:
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4. There is both an _____ to add these things and to keep adding them

1. What are the three negatives that are attached to failing to add these virtues to our lives (8-10)?

2. What should come from our remembering the purification from our former sins (9)?

3. What are the signs of spiritual growth that we ought to notice?

4. Why does Peter begin with faith?

5. How will this spiritual growth help one when facing error, as Peter outlines this letter?

6. What are some of the reasons our growth gets stunted?