

# “Add To Your Faith”

## The Character of Christian Life

It is only through the power of God's Spirit that we are able to attain a Christ-like character. Upon salvation, we are given all that we will ever need to live a godly life. With the Spirit's help we will be changed completely and preserved blameless (1 Thessalonians 5:23). Our part is simply to grow in grace and knowledge of God— He will provide the increase. Because of this great gift, we are to diligently give ourselves to the development of the new nature within us. If we fail to learn and apply the basic truths supplied in this epistle, we will remain perpetual babes in Christ (Hebrews 5:11-14). But if these qualities abound, we “*will be neither barren nor unfruitful*” (NKJV). We are promised that we will share in God's glory and virtue. He has done His part, therefore, we must “add to our faith.”

### *Second Peter 1: 1-11*

“This letter is from Simon Peter, a slave and apostle of Jesus Christ.

I am writing to you who share the same precious faith we have, faith given to us by Jesus Christ, our God and Savior, who makes us right with God.

<sup>2</sup> May God bless you with his special favor and wonderful peace as you come to know Jesus, our God and Lord, better and better.

<sup>3</sup> As we know Jesus better, his divine **power** gives us everything we need for living a godly life. He has called us to receive his own glory and goodness! <sup>4</sup> And by that same mighty power, he has given us all of his rich and wonderful **promises**. He has promised that you will escape the decadence all around you caused by evil desires and that you will share in his divine nature.

<sup>5</sup> So make every effort to apply the benefits of these promises to your life. Then your **faith** will produce a life of **moral excellence**. A life of moral excellence leads to **knowing God** better. <sup>6</sup> Knowing God leads to **self-control**. Self-control leads to **patient endurance**, and patient endurance leads to **godliness**. <sup>7</sup> Godliness leads to **love for other Christians**, and finally you will grow to have **genuine love** for everyone. <sup>8</sup> The more you grow like this, the more you will become productive and useful in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup> But those who fail to develop these virtues are blind or, at least, very shortsighted. They have already forgotten that God has cleansed them from their old life of sin.

<sup>10</sup> So, dear friends, work hard to prove that you really are among those God has called and chosen. Doing this, you will never stumble or fall away. <sup>11</sup> And God will open wide the gates of heaven for you to enter into the eternal Kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”

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