

“Understanding the Fruit and Assurance of our Authentic Faith” 8/18/19

2 Peter 1:5-11

Studies in 2 Peter- “Avoiding the Snare of Skepticism and False Teaching”

What is your most valuable possession?

Perseverance- objective reality of God-given faith and salvation (Romans 8:28-39; John 10:28-29; 1 Peter 1:5; John 6:39-40; Philippians 1:6; Eph 1:4, 5, 11)

Assurance- subjective reality of God-given faith and salvation (Rom 8:14-17).

When our feelings/heart condemns us God is greater (1 John 3:20)

“These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.” (1 John 5:13)

Are you saved? “I hope so” Is the Word false? Believe God?

Challenges- demands of God’s law (Rom 5:20); insecurities; ignorance of Gospel which brings total forgiveness (past, present, future); decision reference; struggles with remaining flesh; understanding of trials; lack of obedience (1 John 2:3-4)

Benefits- blessings, comfort, strength, courage, understanding, hope

JAMES 2:26 – Faith without works is dead

LESSON 1- In understanding the fruit of our faith we see its CHARACTER

- A. The character of our faith is rooted in God’s power and our EFFORTS
(Phil 2:12-13; Eph 1:3; John 15:16; 5; Col 1:28-29; 2 Cor 8:7- Zeal)

“Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.” (Philippians 2:12-13) – “Salvation” here is in the sense of “sanctification”

- B. The character of our faith is rooted in specific VIRTUES
(John 15:16; 5; Gal 5:22-23; James 2:14-26; 1 Corinthians 13; Matt 13:22)

Discipleship A disciple will be intentional in their efforts to grow fruit!
Moment (John 15:16; Gal 5:22-23)

LESSON 2- In understanding the fruit of our faith we see its CERTAINTY

- A. The certainty of our faith is connected with RISK
(Titus 1:16; 3:14; Matt 7:21-23; 13:22; John 2:23-25; 1 John 2:19)

RISK OF BEING DECEIVED...

- B. The certainty of our faith is connected with abundant PROMISES
(Heb 6:12; John 8:32; 2 Tim 4:8; 1 Cor 3:11-14; 2 Cor 5:10; Rom 8:29-30)

READ ROMANS 8:28-39 ???

Discipleship A disciple will pray and live up to what they already possess!

Moment

Our Vision- Striving to be Disciples who make Disciples

"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. ²⁹ "My Father, who has given *them* to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch *them* out of My Father's hand. (Jn. 10:27 NKJ)

"This is the will of Him who sent Me, that of all that He has given Me I lose nothing, but raise it up on the last day. ⁴⁰ "For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life, and I Myself will raise him up on the last day." (Jn. 6:39 NAU)

You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and *that* your fruit would remain, (Jn. 15:16 NAU)

- 1) Saved, but don't feel like it
- 2) Saved and feel assured
- 3) Not saved, but feel like it (deceived)
- 4) Not saved, don't feel saved either