

GROWING
IN
Grace

BUT GROW IN THE GRACE AND
KNOWLEDGE OF OUR LORD AND
SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST.

– 2 PETER 3:18

GROWING IN Grace

LESSON 4 – ADD TO YOUR FAITH

“But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith...”

(2 Peter 1:5)

GROWTH IN GRACE PRESUPPOSES FAITH

- Faith is distinct from the listed virtues –
2 Peter 1:5-7
- Faith is already evident in the Christian, and will lead to growth – Ephesians 4:13;
2 Peter 1:8-9; Matthew 13:23; John 15:1-8
- Access into God's grace is by faith, and growth in God's grace continues to be by faith – Romans 5:1-2; 1 Peter 1:5

GROWTH IN GRACE PRESUPPOSES FAITH

- “Through the eyes of faith, a disciple of Christ sees tribulation as a tool for growth.”
 - **Romans 8:20, 25, 28** – subject to futility in hope, hope leads to perseverance, things work together for our good.
 - **Romans 5:3-5** – faith, joy, perseverance, character, hope
- The virtues are not independent of faith but built on faith. (cf. **2 Peter 1:5-7**)

FAITH IS THE FOUNDATION UPON WHICH THE VIRTUES ARE ADDED

- The foundation on which the virtues are added is faith in Christ – 2 Peter 1:2-4
- Man's wisdom may get some things right, but it will not lead to growth, nor pleasing God – cf. Acts 17:28-31
- There is evidence of Christ's influence in the world, but it is always Christ Himself we must turn to for spiritual growth – 2 Peter 1:3; Romans 10:17

FAITH IS OBTAINED THROUGH THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD

- *“to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ.” (2 Peter 1:1, KJV)*
- “faith of the same value” (NKJV footnote)
- *“the righteousness of God”* – Romans 1:16-17
 - Produces faith – Galatians 2:16
 - The wisdom of men does NOT produce the “faith of the same value.”
 - Example: 1 Corinthians 1-2