

## SALVATION'S CERTAINTY

(2 Peter 1:5-11)

- I. The Command for Spiritual Growth (2 Peter 1:5-7)
  - A. The effort prescribed (1:5a)
    - 1. Requires an urgent and eager application of energy
    - 2. Accompanies “your faith”
    - 3. Requires personally providing something lacking
    - 4. Describes our experiential sanctification
  - B. The virtues pursued (1:5b-7)
    - 1. [The] Moral Excellence: biblically upright moral character
    - 2. [The] Knowledge: practical discernment between right and wrong
    - 3. [The] Self-control: restraining one’s own desires
    - 4. [The] Perseverance: remaining strong in unwelcome toil and hardship
    - 5. [The] Godliness: reverent attitude that seeks to please God in all things
    - 6. [The] Brotherly Kindness: affection for other believers demonstrated by acts of kindness
    - 7. [The] Love: purposefully seeking the wellbeing of the one loved
- II. The Incentives for Spiritual Growth (2 Pet. 1:8-9)
  - A. If one possesses and increases in these qualities...
    - 1. He will not be useless
    - 2. He will not be fruitless
    - 3. Both pertaining to the “true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ”
  - B. If these qualities are absent from one’s life...
    - 1. He is blind or near-sighted
    - 2. He has forgotten his purification from former sins
- [IIb. Possible Causes for a Lack of Assurance
  - A. Constant preaching that does not balance confrontation with comfort
  - B. Feeling that they are too sinful to be forgiven
  - C. Believing that salvation is assured by their performance

- D. Unable to remember the event of one's salvation
- E. Continuing to struggle with temptation and failure
- F. Failing to see God's hand in their trials
- G. Fail to walk in the Spirit

[IIc. Several Benefits of Assurance

- A. Causes the heart to live in the fullness of joy
- B. Encourages the soul to seek God's purposes above all else
- C. Produces in the believer a spirit of gratitude and praise
- D. Strengthens the soul against temptations and trials
- E. Motivates the believer to live in obedience
- F. Calms the believer's spirit with peace and rest in the midst of life's storms
- G. Enables the believer to wait patiently for God's perfect timing
- H. Purifies the believer's heart (1 John 3:2b-3)

III. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Spiritual Growth (2 Peter 1:10-11)

A. Necessary for personal \_\_\_\_\_ (1:10a)

- 1. Requires personal \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Results in \_\_\_\_\_ of God's \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

B. Produces personal \_\_\_\_\_ (1:10b)

- 1. Possibly a promise of \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Probably a promise of \_\_\_\_\_

C. Promises personal \_\_\_\_\_ (1:11)

- 1. Not \_\_\_\_\_ by one's \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. But \_\_\_\_\_ by one's \_\_\_\_\_