

Spiritual Diligence

II Peter 1:5

January 31, 2010

Summary: Why did Peter write this book? “For this very reason” he says, having “become partakers of the divine nature,” we are commanded to supply in our faith the seven Spirit filled characteristics. Just as the righteousness of Christ was a diligent expression of His faith, so we must “apply all diligence” in our own faith. Grace is not an excuse to be lazy Christians. Authentic grace is full of diligence, devotion and purpose to become more like Jesus Christ as we are disciplined to faithfully abide in Him.

1. A. In II Peter 1:1 he says we have received our faith “*by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ.*” How diligent is the righteousness of Jesus in the Scriptures?
Luke 2:49-51, 23:39-43, II Corinthians 5:21, Hebrews 7:26-28, I John 3:5
- B. In what fashion is the aggressive diligence of Christ related to us becoming “*partakers of the divine nature?*”
Romans 8:29, II Corinthians 5:21, II Peter 1:2-4
- C. If we are “*partakers of the divine nature,*” this is how it shows! How should “*the true knowledge of Him who called us*” enable us to fulfill that calling with Christ-like diligence?
Galatians 2:20, Ephesians 5:1, II Peter 3:17-18
2. A. Let’s talk about grace. Does living in God’s grace mean that we do not have to exert any effort in living the Christian life?
II Peter 1:5
- B. Is “*applying all diligence*” separated from grace? Why would that notion be a fundamental misunderstanding about authentic grace?
Romans 5:20-6:18, Ephesians 2:8-10, Titus 2:11-14
- C. Biblical grace is not an excuse for “Christians” to be lazy. Diligence is not separate from grace, but instead is a powerful manifestation of God’s grace in us. To have strong grace is to “bring your best game!” What are some of the ways we can “*be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus?*”
Colossians 1:28-29, 4:2, II Timothy 2:1-10
3. A. In our faith we are to supply what seven spiritual characteristics as a way of life?
II Peter 1:5-7
- B. The word “**supply**” in the Greek is an **active imperative verb**, which means it is a command. This is not something that we can just crank up. If that is the case, then how do we carry this out?
John 15:4-11, Romans 12:1-2
- C. How might we more faithfully abide in Christ?
Psalms 1:1-3, 63:1-8, Ephesians 3:16-21, Colossians 3:16, II Peter 3:18