"Grow in the Grace and Knowledge of our Lord"

Intro: In this letter Peter has been asserting the ________________ of Scripture while alerting us to the dangers of false teachers. We have learned that the way to overcome the false is to know the truth! Not only has Peter ________________ that we would be able to readily identify false teachers and their erroneous teachings, but he has also reminded us that it is through the true knowledge of our Lord that we are abundantly ________________ with everything we need to live right God-devoted lives.

2 Peter 3:14-18

I. The divine ________________.

A. Through a ________________ of "the words spoken beforehand by the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior spoken by [our] apostles" (vs. 2) it is expected that we are "looking for and hastening the coming of the day of ________________" (vs. 12) with a joyful expectation! It is in this expectation that we find pure ________________.

1. As we ________________ in expectation of the imminent return of Christ, we will have a proper biblical motivation to live ________________ God-glorifying ________________!

II. The divine ________________.

A. We are to "be ________________ ..."

1. To "be diligent" is to "be eager, to work earnestly, to ________________ our best ________________!"

B. We are to "be diligent to be ________________ by Him in peace."

1. Our Lord desires that we be at ________________ with Him that when He returns we would be found obediently, joyfully and expectantly ________________ for His return as a bride who has prepared herself for her husband!

C. We are to be " ________________ and ________________."

1. Peter already described the false teachers as "stains and blemishes" (2:13). In contrast, the true believer is to be one who is spotless and blameless. Of this Spiros Zodhiates writes that, as employed here, "spotless" "speaks of moral ________________ and "blameless" speaks of being ________________ "even the possibility of moral ________________."  

2. "Spotless and blameless" is very close (if not absolutely equivalent) to the kind of life Peter had in mind when he wrote that we have been granted ________________ we need for "life and godliness." Church, we have everything we need ________________ spotless and ________________ "through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence" (2 Peter 1:3)!

D. We are to be "regard the ________________ of our Lord to be ________________.

1. The ________________ of our Lord is not meant to give us time to "follow after [our] own lusts," (3:3) but to give us time to live out (_______________) our salvation; that we might "be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing [of us]" (1:10). As we seize the opportunity His patience affords us to obediently put our salvation to practice we are all the more convinced of His ________________ and ________________ us!
2. Our Lord's great patience is not for us alone, but for all who will believe. This time is our to glorify God by sharing the truth of His love - by letting our light so shine before men that they may see our and glorify our Father who is in heaven (Matt 5:16)!

E. We are to that the Apostles spoke "the commandment of the and Savior." (Cf. 1 Peter 3:2)

1. who are untaught in the truths of Christ and/or are unstable in their intentions will "" the Apostles' difficult teachings so as to serve their own lustful purposes!

2. And, they do this with the just "as they also do to the rest of the Scriptures." This is a huge statement! It would be impossible to overstate the value and importance of what Peter wrote here. When he writes saying, "as they also do to the rest of the Scriptures" he declares that the Apostle's writings Holy!

F. Since we know these things to be true (being told of this before hand), we must our.

1. We can ill-afford to let our guard down lest we allow the of unprincipled men to carried us away in sin and we "" from [our] own steadfastness." How awful it is to fall into error and in so doing, to have our certainty of the Lord’s calling and choosing of us to be! In that, our peace and joyful expectation of Christ’s soon return will suffer.

2. We would do well to take Gal 1:8 to heart. “But even though we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel to that which we have preached to you, let him be.”

G. We are to “ the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus .”

1. The preventative antidote to falling to false teaching is to be busy diligently in the true of Christ!

III. The divine .

A. The very for which Peter wrote this letter is the very reason for which we are adhere to the words of this letter; that the divine "Lord and Savior Jesus" would be in us, “both now and to the day of eternity.”

Conclusion: Church, it is for our Lord’s glorification that we live and breath! If we are the called and chosen, the holy and blameless, then live in the divine expectation of Christ’s imminent return and, in obedience to the Holy Scriptures as found in all the Scripture which includes the Apostolic teachings and this, to the glory of God alone, for it is by His divine power that we have been granted everything we need for life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence. Let us now Christ our Lord by diligently growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus.”

Heritage Christian Fellowship - 11104 Menaul Blvd. NE., Albuquerque, New Mexico 87112
505.323.0557 - maxwell_timothy@hotmail.com