

## 2 Peter

### (Lesson 7)

#### Introduction:

1. In 2 Peter 1:1-11, some special blessings are revealed that God has provided for the benefit of His people.
  - a. According to vs.3-4, He has provided what we need so we can be "*partakers of the divine nature*," including:
    - 1) "*all things that pertain unto life and godliness*"
    - 2) "*exceeding great and precious promises.*"
  - b. We learn from vs.5-11 that He has provided "the Christian graces" to prevent His people from falling.
2. The 7 graces listed in vs.5-7 are to be added with "*all diligence.*"
3. Review:
  - a. "*Faith*" is the foundation upon which these graces are to be added.
  - b. "*Virtue*" [courage, the determination to do what is right] is the first grace.
  - c. "*Knowledge*" [moral wisdom, such as seen in right living] is the second grace.
  - d. "*Temperance*" [self-control, self-discipline, the ability to control one's own life] is the third grace.
  - e. "*Patience*" [endurance, perseverance, steadfastness, the ability to bear up under trials] is the fourth grace.
4. In this lesson we are concentrating on the fifth of the Christian graces: "*godliness.*"

#### Discussion:

- I. LET US DEFINE "*GODLINESS*"
  - A. Godliness: reverence or respect toward God, piety
  - B. Illustration: Cornelius (Acts 10:1-2, 22).
  - C. "*Godliness*" is an essential quality for the Christian because it is possible for a person to be good who has no reverence for God.
  - D. However, to be accepted by God we must develop "*godliness*" (Ecclesiastes 12:13).
- II. MANY SCRIPTURES TEACH US TO DEVELOP "*GODLINESS*"
  - A. (1 Timothy 4:7) We are to exercise ourselves unto "*godliness.*"
  - B. (1 Timothy 6:11) We are to follow after "*godliness.*"
  - C. (Titus 2:11-14) We are to live "*godly*" in this present world.
  - D. Thankfully, God has given us "*all things that pertain unto life and godliness*" (2 Peter 1:3).
  - E. Activities such as Bible study, prayer, meditation, worship, and service are essential for the development of "*godliness.*"
- III. THE BIBLE CONTAINS WARNINGS THAT RELATE TO "*GODLINESS*"
  - A. God is not pleased with those who only have "*a form of godliness*" (2 Timothy 3:1-5).
  - B. Those who profess true "*godliness*" will be adorned with good works (1 Timothy 2:9-10).
  - C. We are to serve God "*with reverence and godly fear*" because He is a consuming fire (Hebrews 12:28-29).
  - D. To be prepared for the Lord's return we must develop "*godliness*" (2 Peter 3:10-12).
- IV. BLESSINGS ARE IN STORE FOR THOSE WHO DEVELOP "*GODLINESS*"
  - A. "*Godliness is profitable unto all things*" (1 Timothy 4:8).
  - B. "*Godliness with contentment is great gain*" (1 Timothy 6:6).
  - C. "*The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations*" (2 Peter 2:9).