

SECOND PETER CHAPTER 1

Lesson 10 GODLINESS

10 October, 2014

Verse 6: “--**And to patience—godliness;**

Godly: to be like God in the way we conduct ourselves. The life and character and attitudes of God should be evident in our life.

1 TIMOTHY 3:16 It is a great mystery that God was manifest in the flesh. He was justified in the Spirit (the Holy Spirit declared him righteous while in the body of flesh). He was observed by the heavenly host of angels.

- The mystery is how God can be manifested (seen, observed, noticed) in a body of flesh and continue to be righteous. This is something never seen before.
- This verse, in context with verses 14 and 15 instructs the believer “**how thou oughtest to behave THYSELF**” (vs.15). Believers are expected to behave themselves as “**God...manifest in the flesh**” (vs. 16).
 - This will not happen instantly at the point of salvation. You must first add to your faith virtue (the desire to do good), then knowledge (from the Bible), then temperance (self control), then patience (because godliness will take time).
 - Being like God is not the same as “ye shall be as gods” (Gen. 3:5). It means we choose to allow God to rule in our lives to the point that He is clearly manifest in us.

TITUS 1:1 If you’re truly seeking the truth, you’ll find godliness. Real truth leads to godliness.

1 TIMOTHY 6:2-11 Bible teaching is supposed to make you godly. Here are the characteristics of the person who doesn’t consent to the doctrine “**which is according to godliness**” (vs. 3).

- Pride (vs. 4)
 - Lack of knowledge (though probably boasting of much Bible knowledge)(vs. 4).
 - Doting (a foolish, excessive fondness) about questions and strifes of words. They like to major on the minors and ask foolish questions for which there are no answers.
 - These words lead to envy, strife, railings (abusive speech), evil surmising (guessing the worst of someone).
 - These are all categorized under “**Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute (in great need) of the truth.**”
 - Devoted to material pursuits. Name it and claim it ministries promote this, “**supposing that gain is godliness**” (vs. 5).
 - Christians are commanded to get away (“**withdraw,**” verse 5; “**flee**” verse 11) from such teachers/teachings and “**follow after...godliness**” (vs. 11).
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1 TIMOTHY 2:9-10 It does no good to dress yourself up real fancy and sparkly on the outside if you're not godly on the inside (Proverbs 11:22). Godliness includes "**good works**" (vs. 10).

1 TIMOTHY 4:7-8 Godliness includes refusing to spread fables (untrue stories). There are plenty of true stories we can teach instead. Godliness is more profitable than bodily exercise. Why?

- Bodily exercise only profits in this temporary life on earth. Its benefits are small.
- Godliness benefits us in all areas of "**the life that now is, and of that which is to come.**"

2 PETER 3:10-11 Because we know that everything we see "shall be dissolved," it should cause us to devote more time and effort on things that are eternally beneficial.

- The salvation of sinners.
- Strengthening and building up the saved.
 - Bible teaching, preaching, discipleship.

The Lord Jesus Christ lived 33 ½ years on earth as "**God manifest in the flesh**" so that His life could instruct us. His death, burial, and resurrection saves us, but His life shows us how to live in such a way that God can be seen in us. Jesus Christ showed us godliness.
