

## SECOND PETER CHAPTER 1

### Lesson 18

#### ETERNAL DUTIES

05<sup>th</sup> December, 2014

**Verse 11:** “For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.”

Christians have varying hobbies, jobs, and other interests in this world. Those temporal things will not be of any interest in eternity. When we leave this world, the only thing that will matter is that which pertains to the Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, we ought to occupy our time in this world with things that matter for all eternity. Everything else is just a distraction from what is truly important.

Verse 11 indicates that if we diligently add to our faith, **virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness, and charity**—THEN we may enter “**ABUNDANTLY into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.**” You WILL enter the everlasting kingdom. Whether or not you enter empty handed is up to you.

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#### 1 Cor. 3:11-15

As Christians, we are building upon Jesus Christ, who is our foundation. We can use valuable, lasting materials that we can take with us to heaven—or we can use worthless, temporal materials that we’ll see burned up before our eyes.

Our society places more emphasis on the temporal things (wood, hay, and stubble) and plays down the eternal things (represented by gold, silver, and precious stones).

You will be rewarded based upon what SORT (vs. 13) of work you did; not how MUCH you did. We need to make sure we are serving for the right reasons and with pure motives.

We need to be interested in the things of Heaven today (look afar off; don’t be blind)—or else we’re going to be extremely uncomfortable when we get there.

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#### Luke 19:11-25

The Lord (the King) has given us eternal life, talents, and gifts to utilize for His glory and honor. It is our responsibility to try and use those things in a manner that would give back to the Lord a great return for His investment in us. You are bought with a price. Your life is not your own. (1 Cor. 6:19-20, 7:23).

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In eternity, the Lord will reward the “**good servant**” (vs. 17) for service performed in His absence here on earth. We need to maintain that long view so we can stay focused today on those things that are going to matter forever.

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The Lord will assign the FAITHFUL servants to be the leaders of the cities of this earth (vss. 17-18) during the thousand year period (Rev. 20:6) while He is ruling and reigning on the throne of David in Jerusalem.

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There are going to be some Christians who chose not to serve the Lord in this life—because they were afraid the Lord would take away the things they enjoy in this life (vs. 21). They weren't willing to lay down their life. They were blind and couldn't see afar off. The Lord calls this selfish Christian "**thou wicked servant**" (vs. 22).

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The Lord expects us to invest our efforts, talents, time, etc. into what He's given us (vs. 23). He expects to receive more back than what He gave.

The gifts that the Lord gave you that have gone to waste in this life are going to be taken away and given to someone who served faithfully (vs. 24). If you won't serve Him today, He knows you won't serve Him (or you don't deserve to serve Him) during the Millennium.

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**Romans 14:10-12**

If we spend our time judging other Christians and letting their actions and their lifestyle affect OUR service for the Lord, it's going to prevent us from correcting the things in our OWN lives.

When we stand before the Lord at the Judgment Seat, He's going to deal with US personally. Our lives and our service will be judged. He's not going to exempt you for non-service or wrong behavior because of somebody else's actions. You'll answer for your own choices in this life. Are you living for the Lord?

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**Mat. 25:19-23**

At the day of reckoning, some Christians will enter the kingdom with JOY—and some Christians will enter the kingdom WITHOUT joy.

Are you enjoying the Christian life today? If not, you probably won't enjoy it in the kingdom either.

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**Mark 4:24**

**"Take heed WHAT ye hear."**

**Luke 8:18**

**"Take heed HOW ye hear."**

It's important to make sure you're hearing all the right things: the truth in the Word of God. That's WHAT you hear.

THEN it's important to make sure that you APPLY the good things that you HEAR. HOW you hear ought to make some changes in your life as you RESPOND to what you hear.

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**WHAT ARE YOU DOING TODAY THAT WILL MATTER FOREVER?**