

SECOND PETER CHAPTER 1

Lesson 7

DUE DILIGENCE

19 September, 2014

- Verse 5:** Christians are commanded to DILIGENTLY ADD several qualities to their faith.
- Virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness, and charity.
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- Verse 8:** If these qualities are added, the Christian is given a promise that they will be fruitful and productive in the knowledge that they have of the Lord Jesus Christ.
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- Verse 9:** If a Christian fails to add these things, he'll become spiritually blind. The blind Christian can function in the church and in the presence of Christian brethren who can assist them, but they can't live for God outside of a Christian atmosphere (at work, at home, in public places).
- Their vocabulary is different outside of church.
 - Their attitude is different outside of church.
 - They fall into old sinful habits; drinking, gossip, tale bearing, badmouthing, telling dirty jokes, using profanity.
 - God set you free from those things. Don't live like you're blind. We can have perfect Christian eyesight if we heed God's command in this passage.
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- Verse 10:** It is every Christians' calling and election to live in the glory and virtue of Jesus Christ in this present life. That is what we should DILIGENTLY pursue.
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- Diligence:** 1) *"To love earnestly and to choose."* When you love something, you choose to devote all your time and effort to whatever it is. What you love earnestly is what you choose to spend lots of time pursuing. It's strictly a matter of choice:
- You could have more virtue, Scriptural knowledge, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness, etc. But you have to want those things.
 - If you love the Lord, you'll want those things.
 - Diligence is the key to success in any endeavor.
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- 2) *"steady application in business of any kind. Constant effort to accomplish what is undertaken. Exertion of body or mind without delay. Due attention."*
- You will have to exert yourself to accomplish your goals and desires.
 - God will not simply wave a magic wand and make you patient, knowledgeable, kind, and temperate. It takes continuous effort on your part.
 - If you truly want these things, you'll overcome every obstacle to get them.
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Proverbs 4:23 Man has a responsibility to keep his own heart with ALL DILIGENCE. Being saved doesn't guarantee that you'll always live for God's glory. You've got to keep your heart.

- You'll have to choose to live a victorious Christian life and diligently pursue it.
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Hebrews 6:10-12 God wants every Christian to labor for Him because we love Him. Christian ministry is not limited to a gifted few. Every Christian is to diligently serve the Lord.

- Do something with your life that is going to count after you're gone. Don't waste your life! Be diligent about something that matters.
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Conclusion: God wants us to be fruitful. The Holy Spirit is the one who brings about fruit in your life, but you've got to diligently take action and do the things necessary so that He can do it.

- Like driving a car, you've got to do your part to get where you want to go.
 - If you want to live a proper Christian life that will mean something in eternity, it is there for you to acquire. You've just got to do your part, devote the time and effort to accomplish that goal—with all diligence.
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