

The Epistle of 2 Peter

- ▶ This letter is written to teach Christians that we must grow in order to make our calling and election sure. This will guard against false teaching that is so prevalent.

1:5-7 What we must supply to develop and grow

“But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love.”

- ▶ In what manner are we to add these to our character?
 - ▶ “giving all diligence”
- ▶ Growth as Christian begins from this foundation:
 - ▶ Faith
- ▶ Let us consider each
 - ▶ Virtue
 - ▶ Knowledge
 - ▶ Self-control
 - ▶ Perseverance
 - ▶ Godliness
 - ▶ Brotherly kindness
 - ▶ Love

1:8-9 Result of adding and result of lacking

“For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins.”

- ▶ These need to be “yours” and “abounding”
- ▶ This comes with a promise
 - ▶ “you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ”
- ▶ Can we have knowledge and yet be useless and unfruitful?
 - ▶ Yes
- ▶ If we lack these things, what are we?
 - ▶ “shortsighted, even to blindness”
 - ▶ “has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins”