

Sunday November 11,2020

Our Verse for the day: 1 Peter 3:18 (KJV) For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:

Our devotion today is an outline of the message at Belfield Baptist Church for November 15, 2020.

II Peter 1:1-9 SOME CAN'T BE HAPPY IN THE LORD

The society that we are living in reveals to us many things, ideas, concepts, but in many cases, it leaves out the most important part of life. That is: HOW TO BE HAPPY.

Some people seek happiness in:

1. Family
2. Friends
3. Job
4. Recreation and the list go on.

1. A few look to the Lord and they find Grace and Peace through the knowledge of God and Jesus Christ (Verse 2).

Others look to the Lord and find nothing? Why? They do not find happiness because they refuse to become partakers of the DIVINE NATURE. They have never escaped the corruption that is in the world. The lust of the world is what they put their faith in as we discussed last week.

They are not ready or willing to trust in the Lord and give their lives to Him all the way. They cannot be happy, yet they think that all is ok with the Lord. No Faith.

2. What about the other group, the ones that are happy in the Lord?
II Peter 1:4-5 **Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. 5. And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith**

A. **Virtue.** (arête) Courage: (a) It is the characteristic that makes a man good and an effective citizen and friend. (b) Our virtue must lead us to a life that is effective in the service of God; (c) It will show or give us the courage to show who it is and whom we serve.

B. **Knowledge:** (gnosis) Practical knowledge (according to Barclay: It is the knowledge, which enables a man to act in the Christian way, day in and day out. Common sense in Christ.

C. **Temperance** (egkrateia) This is one of the greatest virtues of them all. Simply put it means self-control of all parts of the body.

D. **Patience:** (hupomone) Steadfastness. This is taking everything that the world can offer and do to us and us making it a step toward God. Our definition of patience is too superficial. It is being willing to put our lives on the line for the Lord. Doing what he wants us to do no matter how the devil try to stop us.

E. **Godliness: (Piety)** (eusebeia) Simply put this means being in the right relationship with God and man. This is the nearest Greek word for religion; and, whenever we begin to define it and to see what it means we see at once the intensely practical character of the Christian religion.

Whenever a man becomes a Christian, he acknowledges a double duty, a duty to God and a duty to his fellow men.

F. **Brotherly Kindness** (Philadelphia) Brotherly Love

A love for the brethren. The point is this: There is a religious devotion which separates a man from his fellowmen. The claims of his fellow men become an intrusion on his prayers, his study of God's work, and his meditation. The ordinary demands of human relationships become nothing other than a nuisance.

G. **Charity** (Christian Love) (Agape} The type of love that God has for us, we must have for Him and our fellow man. He died for us, what are we willing to do for him?

Are we happy in the Lord? Have we added Virtue, Knowledge, Temperance, Patience, Godliness, Brotherly Kindness and Love to our lives?

This is something that only God and each one of us individually knows about.

Too many people are out there thinking they are Christian, but they are unhappy. Unhappy with their self, their wife, children, fellow man, and worse with God.

As we move through COVID-19, let each one of us go hand in hand and be thankful for this special gift, and be happy in the Lord.

Today, November 14, as you pray, pray for the pastors that will be preaching the Bible tomorrow, November 15.

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