

February 20, 2022

Transformed

"His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires..."

"For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly-kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ."

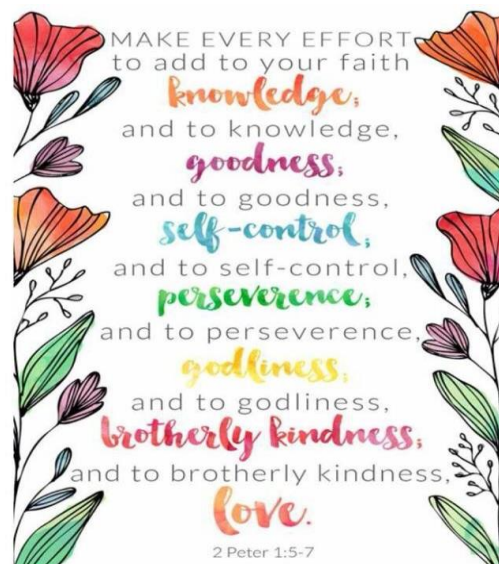
"Therefore, my brothers, be all the more eager to make your calling and election sure. For if you do these things, you will never fail, and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

II Peter 1:1-12

One of the words that Peter uses in this second letter to draw out his message is 'knowledge'. He begins by showing us that everything we need to live the life that we are called to as believers comes through our knowledge of Jesus our Savior. The term knowledge, as Peter uses it, does not refer to the accumulation of facts, but instead to a deep and intimate knowledge of someone we know exceedingly well.

It will be through this deep and intimate knowledge of our Lord and Savior that we will find everything that we need to live a godly life. This intimate knowledge will also help us to experience the great promises Jesus has made to us. If we visited the last few chapters of John's gospel we would, I think, understand that among these promises are our home in heaven and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit who will guide us to that home.

So, Peter would challenge us, to add these qualities to our faith in the grace of God...



And the Apostle tells us that our growth through these qualities will ensure that we are effective and productive as those who follow Jesus. In turn these things our faith will not fail and we will enjoy our Savior's welcome into his eternal kingdom.

Saving faith is not a matter of simply accepting Jesus, but demands that we intentionally grow in that faith constantly striving to become those who love perfectly like God loves. Our calling and election to the family of God demands that we be transformed into the image of our Heavenly Father as demonstrated for us in the life of his Son. This transformation is intensely demanding, requiring a life-time of devotion and always and only requires our individual effort.

**His divine power has given us
everything required for life
and godliness**

2 Peter 1:3



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