

The Christian Life of the Last Days (or for any day)

2 Peter 1:3

Elements of Christian Growth

2 Pet 1:2 = Greetings.

C.T./L.T. = May grace and peace be multiplied (PL8THUNW) to you in the full knowledge (EPIGNWSIS) of the God even Jesus our Lord;

2 Pet 1:3 = All We Need Is From God.

C.T./L.T. = since (HWS) His divine (THEIOS) power (DUNAMIS) has granted by decree (DWREOMAI) to us everything pertaining to life and godliness (EUSEBEIA), through the full knowledge (EPIGNWSIS) of Him who called us to His own glory and virtue (ARET8).

Full Knowledge: (EPIGNWSIS)

1. EPIGNOSIS (20x; verb EPIGNWSKW = 44x;) is a word that means knowledge upon knowledge. It is often translated as “full knowledge” or “true knowledge.” It is not inherently a “spiritual knowledge” since both unbelievers and Pharisees are said to possess it. Luke 23:7; Acts 4:13
2. An *unbeliever* can have an “EPIGNOSIS” of God and the consequences of sin. Rom 1:28-32; Rom 3:19-20
3. EPIGNOSIS is therefore a more extensive or fuller *knowledge* that can be accumulated by all of humanity.
4. Jesus’ “EPIGNOSIS” was guided by the Holy Spirit, so the issue for us is whether we are led by the *Spirit* or the *flesh*. Mark 2:8-9
5. God’s *will* is for all men to come to a full knowledge of the truth. 1 Tim 2:3-4
6. Jesus Christ is The Truth (John 14:6), so the full knowledge that comes from God concerns Christ *Himself* Col 2:1-3
7. Pray for the full knowledge of His will while seeking the full knowledge of His *Person*. Col 1:9-10
8. The full knowledge of the truth is grounded in *godliness*. Titus 1:1-3
9. Whatever “full knowledge” we have will not be *complete* until we are with the Lord Himself. 1 Cor 13:12-13
10. Only the Father and Son have a *complete* knowledge of each other, but they desire to share it with us. Matt 11:27-30
11. The full knowledge of the Son of God is one of the reasons that various *spiritual gifts* were given. Eph 4:11-13
12. *Wisdom* and *revelation* come through the full knowledge of the Lord. Eph 1:15-17
13. We should use the full knowledge of Christ:
 - A. To become _____ Him. Col 3:9-11
 - B. To determine _____ will. 1 Cor 14:37
 - C. To accurately examine _____. 2 Cor 13:5
 - D. To abound in _____. Php 1:9-11

- E. To have _____ with the saints. Phile 1:4-6
- 14. We should seek to fully know:
 - A. God's _____ grounded in truth. Col 1:3-6
 - B. The _____ we have in Christ. 1 Tim 4:1-3
 - C. God's _____. Rom 10:1-3
- 15. False teachers of the _____ are always learning but never coming to the full knowledge of the truth. 2 Tim 3:6-7
 - A. We will be able to identify false prophets by an EPIGNOSIS of their _____. Matt 7:15-20
 - B. To turn one's back on the full knowledge of the truth is to enter _____ territory. Heb 10:26-27
- 16. Seek to not turn away from the full knowledge of _____.
2 Pet 2:21
- 17. Seek to _____ those who have. 2 Tim 2:24-26

- 1. Greetings (1:1-2)
- 2. The Development or Cultivation of Christian Character (1:3-21)
 - A. The Christian's Growth. 1:3-11
 - 1). All We Need Is From God. 1:3
 - 2). He Has Invited Us To Partake. 1:4

C.T./L.T. = For by these (glory and virtue) He has granted by decree (DWREOMAI) to us the precious (TIMIOS) even greatest (MEGISTOS) resultant promises (EPAGGELMA) in order that by these (promises) you might become (GINOMAI) partakers (KOINWNOS) of the Divine Nature (THEIOS + PHUSIS), having fled (APOPHEUGW) from the corruption (PHTHORA) that is in the world by lust (EPITHUMIA).

Summary:

- 1. Heed the call to His glory and virtue through the full knowledge of Christ and receive _____ blessing.
- 2. The blessing involves a realization of the “_____” He has given us for life and godliness.
- 3. We are the recipients of the most precious and greatest promises to date.
 - A. “Precious” is a word that describes valuable _____.
1 Cor 3:12; Rev 17:4; 18:12,16; 21:11,19
 - B. And the _____ of Christ. 1 Pet 1:18-19
 - C. The greatest promises to date are for the _____ Family of God.
- 4. Accept them by faith and have _____ with God Himself.

Bearing One Another's Burdens

1. Introduction:

Gal 6:1 = Restoring One Who Has Abused Freedom.

C.T. = Brethren, even if a man (ANTHRWPOS) is caught (EAN + PROLAMBANW) in any trespass (EN + TIS + PARAPTWMA), you who are spiritual (PNEUMATIKOS), restore (KATARTIDZW) such a one in a spirit of selflessness (PRAUT8S); each one looking (SKOPEW) to yourself, lest you too may be tempted (PEIRADZW).

Gal 6:2 = A Principle of "Law."

C.T./L.T. = Bear one another's burdens and thus you shall fulfill the law of the Christ.

Gal 6:3 = The Pitfall of Self-Righteousness.

C.T. = for if anyone (TIS) thinks (DOKEW) to be something, being nothing, he deceives himself (PHRENAPATAW).

Gal 6:4 = Self-Analysis Not Self-Righteousness.

C.T. = but (DE) let each one examine (DOKIMADZW) his own work (ERGOS), and then he will have *reason* for the boast (TO KAUCH8MA) in regard to himself alone, and not in regard to another.

Gal 6:5 = Carry Your Own Load.

C.T. = For each one shall bear (BASTADZW) his own load (PHORTION).

Summary:

1. Believers are told to bear the weaknesses of others and not just please _____. Rom 15:1
2. Believers are also told to bear their _____ load if no one comes to help.
3. Not receiving help from other Believers is not a valid _____.
4. If we become legalistic, we shall bear our own _____. Gal 5:10
5. When we receive help from others it should not lead to _____ on them instead of the Lord.
6. As Believers, we may be privileged enough to get to carry some _____ - _____ of the Lord on your person. Gal 6:17
7. Taking on Christ's "yoke" makes the load _____. Matt 11:30
8. Beware of those who want to give you _____ to carry that they will not carry themselves. Matt 23:4
9. Remember, from the other side of the coin, you may complete your _____ with a heavy load of gold, silver and precious stones. 1 Cor 3:10-16

10. Solid Biblical relationships are based on getting our eyes off the sins of others while helping restore their _____ considering the grace given to us.

2. The Book of James addresses the role of the individual in the process of restoration. Jas 4:1-10

A. James asks a question and then answers it with a rhetorical question.

Jas 4:1

What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? Is not the source your pleasures that wage war in your members?

1). At issue is the desires of man.

2). This is central in the individual's role in the resolution of the Angelic Conflict.

B. He then lists four of the pleasures of humanity and the results of such pleasures. Jas 4:2-3

You lust and do not have; so you commit murder. And you are envious and cannot obtain; so you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask. 3 You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures.

1). Lust and not receive so one commits murder.

2). Envious and do not get so one fights and quarrels.

3). Desire to have but do not ask.

4). Ask—and do not receive because of wrong motives.

C. The result of these desires is a hostility toward God because one has become a friend of the world. Jas 4:4

You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

D. God desires the fellowship of relationship. Jas 4:5

Or do you think that the Scripture speaks to no purpose: "He jealously desires the Spirit which He has made to dwell in us"?

E. So He gives grace beyond salvation that is designed to bring down arrogance. Jas 4:6

But He gives a greater grace. Therefore it says, "God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble."