

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

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
 - 3). Becoming A Partaker-Parts 1-2. 1:5

C.T./L.T. = Now for this very reason also, having added (PAREISPHERW) all diligence (SPOUD8), in your faith abundantly supply (EPICHOR8GEW) the virtue (ARET8), and in the virtue, the knowledge (GNOSIS),

Summary:

1. Because He has given us all His precious and greatest promises, we are to let them come to fruition in our lives.
2. To begin, we must eagerly seek to let these principles become part of our lives.
3. Diligence means that one has a consistent, sincere and energetic attitude about accomplishing a given task, dedicated
 - A. Diligence is required to fully appreciate and inherit God's promises.
Heb 6:10-12
 - B. We are to be diligent about our love for one another. Rom 12:10-11
 - C. We should rejoice over those who become diligent about the _____ of God. 2 Cor 7:11-12
 - D. We should rejoice over those who diligently extend their _____ to others. 2 Cor 8:16-17
 - E. Our diligence is displayed by keeping our _____. 2 Cor 8:7-9
 - F. Leaders are to be diligent in their _____. Rom 12:6-9
4. That diligent attitude is to supply some things, meaning that we _____ in bringing God's desires to pass in our lives. By faith we are to use those things which God has already given us. Cf 1:3
 - A. We are supplied with the _____. Gal 3:3-5
 - B. We are supplied so we can _____. Col 2:18-19
 - C. We are supplied with " _____ " to sow. 2 Cor 9:10-11
 - D. We are supplied so that we can abundantly _____ His kingdom.
2 Pet 1:10-11

5. The Christian life begins and ends with _____.
- 1 John 5:4-5; Col 2:6; Heb 11:6
- A. Faith in the right object is the means of _____ from the penalty for sins. Eph 2:8-10
 - B. Faith is the means of Christ's _____. Eph 3:14-19
 - C. Faith is the means of _____. Rom 3:28
 - D. Faith is the means of _____. Rom 5:1-2
 - E. Faith is the means of Growth and the expression of _____.
Rom 1:17
 - F. Our Faith will be _____. Jas 1:2-4
 - G. Only by Faith can we correctly _____ the battles of life. 1 Tim 6:12
 - H. Faith is our _____ in the day of battle. 1 Thes 5:8
 - I. Faith is where godly good Works begins and is the measure of a _____ church. 1Thes 1:3
 - J. Faith is an _____ tool. 1Thes 1:6-8
 - K. Our Faith should be an _____ to others. 1 Tim 4:12

Bearing One Another's Burdens

1. Introduction: Gal 6:1-5
2. The Book of James addresses the role of the individual in the process of restoration. Jas 4:1-10
3. People Are Emotional Beings: How Did Jesus Handle His Emotions?
4. What Triggers Our Emotions?
 - A. Some simplistic theories that offer quick relief are easy to be found:
 - B. The strength of the urge to keep things simple partly reflects our abhorrence of confusion
 - C. There are two categories of emotions:
 - D. Pleasant-unpleasant emotions: God made us to be reactive beings.
 - E. Constructive-destructive emotions: Most of us are far more concerned with whether we like the way we feel than the value of our feelings.
 - F. What makes an emotion constructive or destructive?
 - G. Let us consider an unpleasant event: a family member is caught in a trespass. You feel bad.
 - H. Now begin with the same unpleasant event and trace what develops when the internal response to that event is foolish
 - 1). Perhaps an individual believes that their hope for joy is in their family (Response 1) and that others must produce that joy for them (Response 2).
 - 2). With this sort of thinking, the unpleasant event will be perceived as a threat to survival.
 - 3). The immediate emotion then is not disappointment but _____.
 - 4). When the core of our being is threatened, the panic we feel strengthens our commitment to _____.
 - 5). The path to _____ emotions has been entered.
 - 6). If the demand that things change is realized, the panic softens into relief but with a hint of _____ that it will happen again.
 - 7). If the demand is blocked, the feeling of panicky demand becomes _____. This response usually further alienates.
 - 8). If the demanded objective remains uncertain, the panic turns into _____ worry.
 - 9). If things change in a way that makes it impossible for the demand to be realized, the emotion deepens into an overwhelming sense of angry, guilty _____.
 - I. Notice that the same unpleasant event that necessarily generates unpleasant emotions leads to either constructive or destructive emotions depending on the _____ of the internal response to that event.
 - J. Pleasant events generate pleasant emotions, but even pleasant emotions can be twisted into destructive ones depending on our deeply internal evaluative _____.

- 1). If there is a wise response, the event is regarded as satisfaction of a perfectly valid desire and thus a _____ is sensed.
- 2). This often leads to a desire for a _____ relationship.
- 3). If the desire is realized, the feeling will be a warm _____.
- 4). If the closer relationship is not pursued, then there is a feeling of being _____ and possibly angry.
- 5). If the relationship goes up and down, there will be an _____ concern.
- 6). If the hope of a closer relationship is blocked then the result is a _____ productive sadness.

K. Suppose the pleasant event is interpreted through the eyes of _____. Perhaps one spouse has operated under the belief that he/she is undesirable (Response 1) or unwanted (Response 2).

- 1). This person operates in self-protection and thus develops strategies for _____ hurt in relationships.
- 2). What this person desires, unconditional love, is yet _____ because of the belief that he/she is undesirable or unwanted.
- 3). Through the eyes of foolishness, it is quite easy to set ones sights on being the _____ of other nice things-since they brought with them good feelings.
- 4). This will bring with it a plan of action to keep the gifts coming—the gifts have to be "earned" since the "belief" of unwantedness must be held on to for protection. Gifts become a " _____ goal."
- 5). Thus when a gift is received with foolishness driving the emotions, there is an _____ appreciation because of a fear that this may be the last.
- 6). If the strategies (manipulations) are successful, the result is more of a _____ than a loving gratitude.
- 7). If the strategies fail, the response will often be _____ to one degree or another.
- 8). If the strategies are partly successful, then the result will be _____ and anxiety.
- 9). If there is no hope of success, the result will be a _____ inadequacy.

L. The _____ of our emotions depends entirely on the nature of the events that take place in our lives; the _____ of our emotions depends entirely on the wisdom with which we view the events in our lives.

M. A commitment to self-protection rooted in foolish thinking has the power to _____ every emotion, whether pleasant or unpleasant, and make them all destructive. A commitment to trust the Lord deeply with the core of our being can turn every emotion, even the most painful, into _____ avenues for more fully pursuing God.