

Spiritual Sight in the Last Days 2 Pet 1:8-10

Pet 1:8 = The Results of These Qualities.

C.T./L.T. = For if these things are beginning to exist (HUPARCHW) in you and are increasing (PLEONADZW), they establish you (KATHIST8MI) neither useless (ARGOS) nor unfruitful (AKARPOS) in the true knowledge (EPIGNWSIS) of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Pet 1:9 = The Results of Lack Of These Qualities.

C.T./L.T. = For to the one to whom these things are not present (M8 + PAREIMI) is blindness (TUPHLOS) or short-sightedness (MUWPADZW), having received forgetfulness (LAMBANW + L8PH8) of the purification (KATHARISMOS) from his former sins.

Summary:

1. Lack of these qualities denotes spiritual blindness because one has drunk from the river of forgetfulness.
2. Specifically in view is forgetting one's purification from former sins.
3. So if these qualities are not growing in us we have forgotten what the Lord did for us, and the cost.
4. Forgetting what the Lord has done for us renders us blind in the spiritual darkness of the world. 1 John 2:9-11
5. This blindness is the desire of Satan. 2 Cor 4:1-6
6. Jesus is in the business of healing blindness. Matthew 11:5
7. What is spiritual blindness?
8. Blindness is often manifested in arrogance. Matt 15:13-14
9. This blind arrogance _____ God and harms the Christian witness. Rom 2:17-24
10. A spiritually short-sighted person is one who lacks divine _____ in life, as they can only see what is near.
11. This type of person is controlled by the circumstances of life and makes decisions that lack _____.
12. It lends itself to a life of _____, not faith.
13. Some advice to the church of the _____ days. Rev 3:15-19

2 Pet 1:10 = The Conclusion.

C.T./L.T. = Therefore (DIO), brethren, be all the more diligent (SPOUDADZW) to make firm (BEBAIOS) His calling and choosing you; for as long as you are doing these things, you will never stumble (OU + M8 + PTAIW) *and fall*;

Summary:

1. The bottom line of this paragraph is to be _____ to become firm in our salvation.
 - A. The reality of the _____ of our salvation in our own life is an issue of faith. Rom 4:16-17; Col 2:6-7
 - B. The issue is made firm by His _____. Heb 13:9
 - C. In believing His _____ promises. Heb 6:17-20
 - D. Jesus Himself _____ the promises of God. Rom 15:8-9
 - E. This firmness is also an issue of _____. Heb 3:5-6
 - F. And of partaking of _____ Himself. Heb 3:14-15
2. In context, this is done by _____ the qualities listed in 1:5-7.
3. Which the Lord has _____ given us, so they just need to blossom and grow. 1:3-4
4. So it is a matter of offering back to Him what He has given us for the purpose of being _____ to the image of Jesus Christ. Rom 12:2
5. The promise is that if we continue to grow in these things we will not stumble and fall.
 - A. Violation of _____ part of the Mosaic Law made one guilty of all. Jas 2:10-11
 - B. It is true that we all _____ in many ways. Jas 3:1-2
 - C. But Peter says that while we are _____ these qualities we will not stumble and fall.
 - D. Conversely, if we are not practicing these qualities then we have _____ stumbled and fallen.
 - E. The answer to “what think ye of Christ?” is the basis for the fall and rise of many, so it is where we _____. Luke 2:32-35
 - F. If we fail to see these qualities as _____ we have actually built a foundation upon sand and not on The Rock. Matt 7:24-27
6. Jesus can keep us from falling and He _____ to help. Jude 24-25

Encouraging One Another

1. Introduction:
2. We Must Meet Together
3. The Great Encourager:

4. Barnabas' First Example:

- A. The historical setting for this first example is _____. Acts 1
- B. The Holy Spirit has just been _____. Acts 2
- C. A tremendous _____ had begun. Acts 4:1-31
- D. The Christians responded to the persecution by _____ together in every way. Acts 4:32-35
- E. Barnabas was the _____. Acts 4:36-37
 1. This is not saying that Christians are to live in a communal society or that spiritual unity depends upon economic _____.
 2. Without question though, the Holy Spirit wanted Barnabas to be a _____ for us.
 3. Christians who share their material resources with others in order to meet human needs have a _____ of Encouragement.
 4. An Encourager is a person of _____, who has an eternal _____ and functions in _____.
 5. The needs of _____ become more important than one's own personal needs. Php 2:3 cf Heb 10:25
- F. Lessons for the 21st-Century Christian.
 1. From Barnabas we see that those who _____ themselves, including their material possessions, are Encouragers. 1 John 3:16-18
 2. Encouragers encourage others to do the _____, namely, walk the walk as well as talk the talk.
 3. An Encourager understands the difference between _____ and _____.
 4. For Personal Evaluation:
 - a. As a Christian, am I characterized more by _____ or _____? 2 Cor 9:5-8
 - b. Am I seeking _____ the Kingdom of God? Matt 6:33
 - c. Do the needs of others _____ me? Php 2:1-5

5. Barnabas' Second Example:

- A. In Jerusalem, orders were issued and carried by a man named _____ to bring back to Jerusalem all those who had become Christians. Acts 9:1-3
- B. On the road to _____, Saul was confronted by the Lord Jesus Christ Himself. Acts 9:4-9
- C. Saul's entire life _____. Acts 9:10-20
- D. This man then began to preach _____ and he himself came under persecution. Acts 9:21-25
- E. No one in the Christian community believed that Saul had converted, except _____, who stood up for him. Acts 9:26-31
- F. Some observations:
1. Barnabas received his name because of his encouraging _____.
 2. Barnabas had a basic concern for people, especially when they were being _____ by others.
 3. He was willing to _____ them when others would not.
 4. His actions were rooted in unselfishness and made him _____ to attack.
- G. Lessons for 21st-Century Christians:
1. An Encourager exemplifies Jesus Christ by his willingness to believe in people and to act on that belief by helping them, even when there is a personal _____.
 2. Remember that someone experiencing the pain of _____ probably needs some Encouragement.
 3. In spite of our hesitancy to trust others and defend them, we need to pray for a willingness to become _____ in the lives of others and the wisdom to know how.
 4. We must not let our own _____ of rejection from those we love and trust hinder our Encouragement of others.
 5. We may not trust people because we are unwilling to take a _____.
- H. An Encourager is a person of Faith in the Lord who functions in the power of the Holy Spirit to give others the benefit of the _____.
- I. Barnabas eternally touched Paul's ministry with his words of grace according to the need of the _____. Eph 4:29-30