

Add To Your Faith - L1 *"I Will Not Be Negligent"*

Introduction - Over the next several weeks, we will be looking at an **essential part of the Christian life**. In this letter, Peter the apostle is dealing with our fellowship with the Lord and our growth in the Christian life. His intention is to give these Christians an understanding of the **normal path** of the Christian life—and the pitfalls involved.



Text: 2 Peter 1:1–15

Peter is giving His final words in whatever time God had left for Him to encourage and exhort these Christians who would continue after He left this earth. In **verse 14**, we read *"14 Knowing that shortly I must put off this my tabernacle, even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shewed me."* (**2 Peter 1:14**) And so, under inspiration of the Holy Spirit, Peter takes pen in hand and gives these wonderful and necessary words for believers.

He says there in the **13th verse**, *"I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things...."*

I. Things We Ought Not To NEGLIGENT

The word used there in the twelfth verse gives us the idea of **taking lightly**—the things that God tells us we ought to **take seriously**. Peter says here, I have learned that there are things which God has committed to me, of which I will not be negligent. There are particular things in the Christian life that you and I ought to constantly attend to — And so, Peter here is going to give a list that provides a **divine direction for every child of God**. For every one of us, we understand first that there are things we ought not to neglect. For Peter, His Divine mission was to feed the people of God... He is supposed to strengthen the brethren... You and I likewise must also not be negligent of what God has given us to do—

II. Things We Ought To REMEMBER

It becomes evident to me that the more you study the Word of God, the more you see how God emphasizes the same things over and over again. This is good for you and I, because we need to keep in mind a certain truth.

A. The BLESSINGS Of The Christian Life **vs. 4**

Peter reminds us that to walk in God's ways we have been given *"exceeding great and precious promises."* A great motivator in the Christian is the blessings of the Christian life. The truth is—if we were to search the Scriptures, we would discover that, as one expositor put it, there is "promise for every need." (John Phillips)

The Bible says in 2 Corinthians 1:20 *"20 For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us."*

B. The BLOSSOMING Of The Christian Life vs. 5-8

In **verses 5-8**, we are given a list of **areas of growth in the Christian life**. These things must be added to the base of faith that we have in Christ. Notice it with me, **2 Peter 1:8** *“8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye **shall neither be barren nor unfruitful** in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.”*

I think the importance of this statement is seen in the design that God has for you and I as we sojourn in this world. That is fruit-bearing. Remember the Lord Jesus Christ stated in the book of **John 15:8** *“8 Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.”*

C. BATTLE Of The Christian Life vs. 9-10

Friend— let us be reminded tonight that there are **consequences for not growing in the Christian life**.

1. Danger Of BLINDNESS.

2 Peter 1:9 *“9 But he that lacketh these things **is blind**, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.”*

This blindness prevents one from seeing afar off. Peter reveals to us not only that someone is blind if they do not add to their faith, but also that there is the:

2. Danger Of INSECURITY.

Peter says not only do Christians experience blindness, but they even begin to doubt they have been purged from their own sins.

3. Danger Of INSTABILITY.

Verse 10 tells us that if we add to our faith, we are **protected from falling** in the Christian life. What is meant here by the term **falling**? It is not meant that we can lose our Salvation.

If that were possible, it would be terrible indeed... but that is impossible for our Salvation rests upon:

The **Word of God**—

The **Work of God**—

The **Will of God**.

D. BREVITY Of Life vs. 14-15

Peter reminds us that *“Knowing that shortly, I must put off this my tabernacle....”* (**vs. 13**). It is vitally important for us to remember that our time here on this earth **is just for a moment**.