

McCoy Memorial Baptist Church

Date: July 26, 2020

Title: "Be All that You Can Be!" (Part 2)

Text: 2 Peter 1:3-11

#### INTRODUCTION:

1. New Series: "Growing Expectations". We'll be "unpacking" some of the key passages in the New T. about "changing and growing".
2. Our first passage is 2 Peter 1:3-11. Before we looked at the text, we established some "Ground Rules".
3. Mess. #1 was called, "Be All that You Can Be" (Part I). We looked closely at 2 Pet. 1:3-4. In these two verses, God (thru His apostle) tells us that all the . . .

#### RESOURCES FOR CHANGE & GROWTH ARE PROVIDED (vv. 3, 4)

"His divine power has given us ev'rything we need for life & godliness" (or, "everything we need for living a godly life" = NLT).

1. They are found in Jesus Christ, the Living Word (v. 3b)  
"Through our knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and goodness"
2. They are found in the Scriptures, the Written Word (v. 4a)  
"Through these He has given us His very great and precious promises"

These **resources** ("everything we need to live a godly life") enable us to "participate in (partake of; share in) the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires."

#### RESOLVE TO GROW IS REQUIRED (vv. 5-7)

There are two thoughts (ideas; concepts) to note in these three verses:

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ that is Prescribed (5a)  
"For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith."
  - A. "Change & Growth" requires strenuous involvement on the part of a believer. It does not come automatically or inevitably.  
See: **1 Cor.** 9:24-27; **2 Cor.** 7:1; **1 Tim.** 4:7-8; **Phil.** 2:12-13
  - B. "Change & Growth" is a "joint venture" (J. Bridges); a "divine cooperative" (D. Jeremiah) between God and the believer.

C. We Christians greatly enjoy talking about the provision of God, how Christ defeated sin on the cross, how He gave us the Holy Spirit to empower us to victory over sin. But we don't as readily talk about our own responsibility to walk in holiness. Why?

1) We are simply \_\_\_\_\_ to face up to our own responsibility.

2) We don't \_\_\_\_\_ the proper distinction bet. God's provision and our own responsibility for growth.

2. The \_\_\_\_\_ to be Pursued (vv. 5b-7)

A. The Christian life begins by "\_\_\_\_\_".

B. Now "add to your faith". The subject of the verb is \_\_\_\_\_!

1) "Goodness" (NASB: "moral excellence" or "virtue")

2) "Knowledge" - Study of the Word of God (3:18; Rom. 12:2)

3) "Self-control"

- It means the mastery of self

- It means controlling one's desires & passions (1 Cor. 9:24-27)

4) "Perseverance" (*hupomoné*) means to stay or remain under.

- *Hupomone* means to remain und. something such as a heavy load.

- Patient endurance of persecution and adversity.

- Perseverance is the art of bearing up & pressing on in the face of all that seems to be against us.

5) "Godliness" ... our behavior reflects the character of God.

There should be such a supernatural quality in our conduct that others will know we are children of the heavenly Father; the family likeness should be unmistakable

The first five virtues pertain to one's inner life and one's relationship to God. The last two relate to others.

6) "Brotherly kindness" (*φιλαδελφία* - brotherly kindness)

7) "Love" (*ἀγάπη*) - "God is love" (1 Jn. 4:7-12; 1 Cor. 13:4-7).