



The Epistles of Peter  
2 Peter 1:5-11  
From Sermon 3.22. 26

Read *2 Peter 1:5-11*

Overview from Sunday's sermon: As some of the final words Peter will pen, he is building the foundation of sound doctrine to prepare his readers for the dangers of false doctrine. The beginning of the chapter focused on salvation. These next verses focus on sanctification—or becoming increasingly holy. If God has provided, by grace, all that's needed for justification, He certainly has supplied all things necessary for growth and discipleship in this remaining time on earth. We must learn them and practice them.

1. What is monergism and how does it relate to salvation? It simply means "the work of one". God is the sole source of grace, faith, and salvation. We bring nothing to the table. See *Ephesians 2:8-9*

1a. What is synergism and how does it relate to sanctification? It means the work of two or more. In sanctification, we cooperate through obedience and service—dying to the old self and following Christ.

2. In Peter's analogy, our cooperative sanctification looks like stairs, each building one upon another. What words or terms from the key text support that view? Supply (add to), increasing, not useless, never stumble...



2a. Now read *Galatians 5:22-23*. God the Holy Spirit has Paul describe the same virtues as FRUIT. The analogy is that of a tree with all the fruit (although unripe/immature) present at conversion.



2b. So, which is it—stairs or a tree? Yes.

2c. Whether viewed as the stairs or the tree, what does it always begin with—what is the foundation or the trunk with roots? Faith.

3. What did Peter say is the consequence of growing stagnant or stuck or complacent in our spiritual growth and knowledge? Blind, nearsighted, still living in our former sins. (guilt, victim mentality)

4. What do we then become even more vulnerable to? False teachers & doctrine. See also *Ephesians 5:6-13*

5. List the 7-character traits Peter said to build upon in discipleship. Moral excellence, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, & love (agape love).

5a. Which of these do you need to improve or increase? What is a good action plan to get started? Various Personal Answers. Prayer. Research Bible passages that include that virtue. See *Psalms 139:23-24*