

Preparation for Glory

2 Peter 1:1-11

Introduction

2 Peter 1: 1-11 talks about entering heaven abundantly. How do we prepare ourselves now to enter heaven abundantly and keep an eternal perspective in mind? It takes our understanding and participation. 2 Peter 1:10-11 puts it this way, "Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble; ¹¹ for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied to you."

Jesus Christ is the provider for this journey. All believers have been given what they need to enter heaven victoriously. In verses 1-2 of our text, we find that we have been provided righteousness through Jesus. He also has provided us grace and peace for this journey. Believers can experience abundant provision as they grow in their experiential knowledge of Jesus Christ. We also need to do our part to remain connected to Him by actively seeking to grow spiritually as we become like Christ.

Verse 3 outlines the provision that we have been given for this journey, which is divine power to live the Christian life victoriously. We have also been given divine resources to live the Christian life in such a way that we can activate the divine promises available to us in Scripture.

Lastly, the divine nature of God is the product that every believer is equipped with to journey well through this life to the next (vs. 4). Believers are to partner with the divine nature for living the Christian life. We have to be connected properly to the new nature that we already have in Christ (the nature of the Spirit vs. the flesh, Galatians 5:16-17). This connection with the new nature will enable us to escape the corruption of this world. However, that new nature has to be developed. As that new nature grows within us, the divine nature that empowers us to grow spiritually will give us the ability to overcome the pull of the world.

Getting Started

1. Why do you think so many people don't feel prepared for eternity? Why do you think it's so hard to get and maintain a focus on the inevitable trip to eternity that we all must make?

Let's Get Personal

1. Do you consider yourself currently motivated to pursue your spiritual growth? Why or why not?
2. How does it make you feel to know that God has provided you everything you need pertaining to life and godliness? If you aren't experiencing the provision of God's divine power to live well, what steps do you need to take?
3. What worldly desires do you need to overcome? Share with your group one area in which you need accountability for overcoming worldly desire or influence?
4. What do you look to, outside of God's provision, to find victory? What resources are you dependent on for information, motivation, or power to live your life? Is your dependence on God and His words.

Take the Next Step

1. What can you do this week to shift your dependence to God and the provision available through relationship with Jesus Christ and the Scriptures?
2. Want to dig deeper? Take a look at 2 Corinthians 9:8, Colossians 2:8-10, Ephesians 3:20, and 1 Peter 5:10.

Renew Your Mind

"... seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence."

2 Peter 1:3