

Nearsighted Christians

Scripture: II Peter 1:1-12

Intro: There are some “Divine” things God has given us and for very good reason and purpose in life.

1. Divine power: Dynamite. (Ro. 1:16-17; Jn 1:12)
2. Divine nature: Partakers. Dedication. (II Pet. 1:4)
 - a. Precious faith (II Pet. 1:1)
 - b. Precious promises (II Pet. 1:4)
 - c. Precious Blood. (II Pet. 1:18-19)

There are things and qualities that determine whether you backslide, stalemate or go on.

HOW NEVER TO FALL

I. Have Faith That Is Real. (II Pet. 1:1; Heb. 11:6)

- A. Saving faith in Christ. (Eph. 2:8-9)
 1. Created in Christ Jesus. (Eph. 2:10)
 2. Creature that is new. (II Cor. 5:17)
- B. Sure faith in Christ. (I Jn. 5:13)
 1. You have Him, you have life. (I Jn. 5:11-12)
 2. You have Him, you have what will last. (Jn. 10:28; 6:37; Heb. 7:24-25)

II. How Falling Is Resisted. (II Pet. 1:10, 12)

- A. Simple arithmetic: “add”. (II Pet. 1:5-7)
 1. **Virtue:** Moral goodness word, deed, thought. (Pr. 4:23; Lk. 6:45; II Pet. 1:3)
 2. **Knowledge:** Clear certain perception of truth. (Col. 3:16; Isa. 1:17)
 3. **Temperance:** Moderation, discipline, cool, calm, collected. (Phil. 4:5; Gal. 5:22-24)
 4. **Patience:** Endurance, persevering, submission. (Heb. 12:1-2)
 5. **Godliness:** Careful observance of His laws and performance of religious duties. Obediance.
 6. **Brotherly Kindness:** Good will, hospitable, benevolent as brethren. (Gal. 6:10)
 7. **Charity:** Love, tenderness, interest in with desire to help others. (Jn. 13:34-35)
- B. Slightly attitude: Apt. (II Pet. 1:8)
 1. If you have these qualities: Faithfulness. (Col. 3:1-2)
 - a. They make you something. (II Pet. 1:8)
 - b. They take you somewhere. (II Pet. 1:11)
 2. If you lack these qualities: Unfaithfulness. (Heb. 2:2-3)
 - a. Fall short: Blind to far off things. Fall short of what God wants for you.
 - b. Forgotten: That past sins purged. Forgot where you came from. (I Tim. 1:15)

III. How Failing Is Resolved. (Heb. 12:15)

- A. Simple math: “subtract”
 - 1. Bitterness: Grudge, disagreeable, hatred, hateful, distress of mind. (Eph. 4:31)
 - 2. Babyness: Growthless. (II Pet. 2:2-3)
- B. Simply move on. (II Pet. 3:18)
 - 1. Lay aside these things. (I Pet. 2:1)
 - 2. Stay away from these things. (Col. 3:16)