

Evening Lesson

Virtue

2 Peter 1:3-9

Patience is a _____.

What is virtue (2 Peter 1:5)?

- English: “moral excellence; conformity of one’s life and conduct to moral and ethical principles,” (dictionary.com).
- Greek ἀρετή: “a virtuous course of thought, feeling and action; any particular moral excellence, as modesty, purity,” (Thayer).

So, what is Christian Virtue?

- Its origin is Divine (1 Pt. 2:9; 2 Pt. 1:3)
- It is cultivated in the mind-heart of man (Philippians 4:8)
- It is evidenced by conduct (Philippians 4:9; 2 Peter 1:5)

“For this reason...”

- Our Lord, having defined and demonstrated excellence, has called us to that same virtue (v.3).
- The Lord’s virtue comes with the promise of partnership (v.4).
- His virtue has the power to free us from moral decay and selfish immoral desires (v.4).

“Make every effort... supplement... with virtue”

- Giving all zeal/earnestness/diligence/ care/haste (Mark 6:25; Luke 1:39 Rom. 12:8, 11; 2 Cor. 7:11, 12, 8:7, 8, 16; Heb. 6:11; 2 Pt. 1:10; Jude 1:3)
- Nourish/minster/richly provide (2 Cor. 9:10; Gal. 3:5; Col. 2:19; 2 Pt. 1:11).
- We are to intentionally feed and grow faith by producing moral integrity.

How is your faith?

- Without faith it is impossible (Hebrews 11:6)
- Do you believe the promises of Jesus? Do your actions show it?

Let us take our faith off maintenance mode and begin supplementing our faith, turning our belief into humble action.