

Partakers Part 3: Assurance of a Partaker

2 Peter 1:8-11

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1. Our faith is not given in a lump sum; it's a life time progression. We are continuing to trust God deeper and build on what He's done.
2. Peter says if these qualities are yours, then you won't be idle, you won't be ineffective in the knowledge of Jesus Christ, you won't be useless, you will be contributing.
3. We have assurance that we're not wasting our time or our opportunities, we're participating with God.
4. We have assurance that we are IN relationship with Jesus when we are bearing fruit.
5. Your sin taints you and it eternally prevents you from being in God's presence. As a believer in Jesus, you were cleansed, purified, and brought back into proximity to God because of Jesus' blood.
6. It cost God something to cleanse us from our former sins. It cost us His very own Son, the one with whom He was well pleased. To live your life ignorant of that is the ultimate insult to God.
7. You're called to be a partaker of the divine nature, not cling to the corruption that defined who you were.
8. Peter gives us assurance - You will not fall; you will NEVER fall. We'll never lose our footing in our relationship with God. We'll never be separated from Him for eternity.
9. These qualities don't save us but they show we're on steady ground. They show that we're trusting in God's promises already.
10. You have been cleansed by the blood of Jesus TO DO the Will of the Father.
11. Peter doesn't want to scare his audience; he wants to give them assurance. That they DO have the true knowledge, they ARE following the right people, and that there WILL be an entrance that is richly provided for them.

GREEK & HEBREW WORDS

Argós = Ineffective, idle; unwilling to work.

Ákarpos = unfruitful; useless, unproductive

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. The book of II Peter was written to people who needed assurance due to false teachers who deviated from faith both in theology and in morals. Kyle states, “The result was living unapologetically sinful lives and trying to entice others to do the same.” What parallels can you make to current culture?
2. The passages today described qualities given to Christ followers that will keep them from being idle and ineffective with their knowledge of Jesus. Most people today describe themselves as “busy”. How can we guard against being busy but spiritually idle and ineffective?
3. Are you actively escaping corruption of this world or are you embracing it?
4. Have you thanked God for giving you assurance of salvation? If not, what would give you that assurance?

TODAY'S WORSHIP

How Deep the Fathers Love for Us
Mighty to Save
Awesome God
Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me