

The Christian "Graces" **2 Peter 1.5-10**

Introduction:

1. Jesus came into the world to save sinners – verse 9
2. Peter was a sinner, as all of us are – Romans 3.23; Matthew 26.74
3. Peter knew what he was talking about, by this time an old man and about to be sacrificed himself – verse 14
4. His purpose – verse 15
5. We are to give all diligence to add these things to our faith – Verse 5; Philippians 2.12
6. Why? Because of their importance – verses 9-10

The graces

1. Faith – by hearing, not just believing and doing nothing – Romans 10.17; James 2.19; 1 Peter 1.22
2. Virtue – strength, moral strength, manliness – the thing to which God called us – Verse 3; 1 Thessalonians 4.1-7
3. Knowledge – of the Word, of Christ, from experience in Christ – 2 Peter 3.17-18; John 8.31
4. Self-control – to master the flesh, the tongue, the mind, to control one's self – scares some people – Acts 24.25
5. Patience or perseverance – stick-to-it-tiveness, endurance, steadfastness, constancy – Hebrews 10.36
6. Godliness – likeness to God, the attributes of God, Jesus Christ – Ephesians 4.15; 5.1
7. Brotherly kindness – love of the brethren (Philadelphia) – John 13.35; 1 Peter 1.22
8. Love – agape, selfless love, love that seeks the good of its object – John 3.16 kind of love, willing to give of self for others

Conclusion:

Outcome if these are in us: We are useful and able to bear fruit

Outcome if these are not in us: Useless and unfruitful – short-sighted, blind, forgetting our purification from sins