

“Spiritual Addition”

2 Pet. 1:1-11

Introduction

- I. One of the basics of mathematics is addition.
- II. Addition, as the root word implies, is the adding together of two or more things.
- III. While we may regularly use addition in certain aspects of our lives, it is important that we understand the need for “spiritual addition”.

Discussion

- I. Peter begins his letter (2 Pet. 1:1-2).
 - A. He identifies himself as a “servant” and an “apostle of Jesus Christ” (v. 1).
 - B. The recipients of the letter were “them that have obtained like precious faith” (v. 1).
 - C. Peter extends a common greeting for that day “Grace and peace” (v. 2).
- II. Peter wanted Christians to continue to develop spiritually.
 - A. God had done His part to make sure that spiritual maturation is possible.
 1. “Given unto us all things that *pertain* unto life and godliness” (v. 3).
 2. This is accomplished through “the knowledge of him” (v. 3; 2 Tim. 3:16-17).
 3. Christians are blessed with “exceeding great and precious promises” (v. 4).
 4. God wants us to be as much like Him as possible (v. 4).
 - B. After our obedience to the Gospel, Christians are to continue to grow diligently (2 Pet. 3:18).
 1. This is the process of spiritual addition.
 2. We are to add to our faith certain things (v. 5).
 - a. Virtue (“high morals”; Prov. 31:10-31; cf. John 12:42-43).
 - b. Knowledge (“understanding truth”; Hos. 4:6-8; Col. 1:10; cf. Rom. 10:1-3).
 - c. Temperance (“self control”; Gal. 5:23; 1 Cor. 9:27; Titus 2:12).
 - d. Patience (“endurance”; 1 Cor. 15:58; Heb. 10:35-39; cf. Matt. 13:20-22).
 - e. Godliness (“reverence; imitating God”; 1 Tim. 4:8; 6:6-8)
 - f. Brotherly kindness (“treating brethren well”; Matt. 7:12; Phil. 2:3-4).
 - g. Charity (“selfless love”; Col. 3:14; 1 Cor. 13:13; 1 Pet. 4:8).

Conclusion

- I. We will never be as God would have us to be if we stop growing.
- II. There is always room for improvement in the area of “spiritual addition”.