

EAST JACKSON CHURCH OF CHRIST

Study Guide For Wednesday, January 17, 2024

We have been involved in a study entitled “Add To Your Faith” based upon 2 Peter 1:1-11. This series has encouraged us in the benefits of adding the “Christian graces” that Peter named and the dangers of neglecting these characteristics.

The final lesson is a discussion of “The Failure Of Faith”, which shows us that faith can “fail” and how we can prevent that from occurring.

- I. The text shows the _____ of being _____ to add these things
- A. V. 8, we will not be _____ or _____
 - B. v. 10a, we will make our _____ and election _____
 - C. v. 10b, we will not _____ (fall into misery, become _____)
 - D. V. 11, have an _____ into the everlasting kingdom
 - E. V. 12, we will be _____ in the present _____
- II. Additionally, there are some _____ when we are not diligent to add these graces
- A. V. 8, we will become barren and unfruitful
 - B. V. 9, we will become _____ or even _____ (to the salvation we have in Christ)
 - C. V. 10, we will stumble
 - D. V. 11 we will not enter in the kingdom of heaven
 - E. V. 12, we can _____ from the _____ (2:1-2).
- III. The premise here is that if we do not add to our faith, we will suffer a failure of faith.
- A. In Luke 22:31-32, Jesus indicates that in the midst of trial (_____ by _____), Peter would suffer a _____ in faith, but not a _____ (ekleipo = to leave out, to cease, to die) of faith. Failure of faith involves “annihilation to the point of _____).
- IV. The book of 2nd Timothy gives various descriptions of “failed faith”.
- A. 1 Timothy 1:19-20
 1. Hymenaeus and Alexander had suffered the _____ of their faith.
 - a. Shipwreck can occur if we _____ from the faith (Hebrews 1:2 nkjv).

- b. Allowing the rudder to guide the ship (James 3:4), keeps it safe. However, we are headed for shipwreck when the _____ and the _____ of God is no longer our rudder, as Hymenaeus and Alexander had done (2 Tim. 3:16-17 4:3-4);
- c. As we drift out into deep waters, we face some _____ (Acts 27:12-15).
- d. In the midst of the storm, a ship can be dashed against the _____ (Acts 27:29, 41), and therefore: shipwrecked.
2. More will be said about avoiding the failure of faith at the end of Lesson 13, but for now, notice what they did to try to save the ship in Acts 27.
- a. They navigated to a nearby _____ and moored the ship in a safe _____ in Acts 27:15-16.
- (1) We must stay moored to the _____ of God (Hebrews 2:1; cf. Psalm 1:2-3).
- (2) We must stay moored to the _____ of God (fellow Christians – Hebrews 10:24-25)
- b. Sometimes there is a need to _____ the boat because there is too much _____ keeping us from sailing successfully. The crew unloaded some things to save the ship in Acts. 27:18-19.
- (1) Hebrews 12:1-2 tells us to lay aside the _____ and _____ because these can _____ us. James 1:21 tells us that there are some things we must “lay aside”
- c. Many times, the best a ship can do in a storm is to “_____” and wait it out. That is what they did in Acts 27:29.
- (1) our anchor is _____ (Hebrews 6:18-19)
3. Don’t allow your faith to become shipwrecked!
- B. 1 Timothy 4:1-3
1. God warned through Paul that some will _____ the faith..
- a. From this word depart in the Greek language, we get our English word “apostatize”. It literally means to instigate a revolt, to _____ or _____.
- b. Notice that _____ and his demonic forces are instigators of doctrines that lead to departure. Remember that he is a _____ from the beginning (John 8:44).
- c. Paul warned the Ephesian _____ of the same principle in Acts 20:28-30

- d. This predicted departure is certainly demonstrated in the _____ development of _____
- e. Therefore, it is important to _____ the word, rightly divide the word and be students of the word of God and the _____ of Christ.

C. 1 Timothy 5:8

1. God's word (the faith once delivered to the saints, Jude 1:3) teaches that a man must care for and _____ for his family. The _____, including children and grandchildren were to care for their _____ and for family members who were _____ and/or aged (cf. v. 4).
2. Some had neglected this teaching and Paul shows that by their actions they had _____ (disavowed, rejected, refused) the faith. By doing so, they were _____ than an _____. Oh, what an indictment!!
3. When we _____ faith but don't _____ faith we are denying the faith. (cf. James 1:26-27; Titus 1:15-16)

D. 1 Timothy 5:11-12

1. Here, the Bible describes those who _____ their first faith.
2. As Paul gives commands about the care of widows, he teaches that the younger widows are not to be cared for by the church. The reason given is the fact that a younger woman may grow _____ or be drawn away from Christ by _____.
3. Paul is describing young widows who begin to _____ the fulfillment of sexual desires which God reserved for those who are _____ (cf. Hebrews 13:4; 1 Corinthians 7:1-4). These women decide to _____ the commands of God so that they can seek fulfillment of their _____ desires. They cast off the teaching of the word which is a restraining _____ to this _____.
4. P. S. God's rules apply to men as much as they do to the women.

Therefore, be diligent to add to your faith and abound in these Christian graces so that your faith will not fail either through the shipwreck of faith, the departing from the faith, the denial of faith or the casting off of faith!