

*Faith Doesn't Stand Around With Its Hands In Its Pockets!*  
*Game Plan 2016: Everything We Need For Life And Godliness!*

**Pt.3**

2 Peter 1:5-9  
January 24, 2016

**God's Part: His Power And Promises - 2 Peter 1:1-4**

**2 Peter 1:1**, Simon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who through the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ have received a faith as precious as ours: <sup>2</sup>Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. <sup>3</sup>His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and goodness. <sup>4</sup>Through these He has given us His very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

- **God Has Given Us A Priceless Faith; Grace And Peace Multiplied; Everything We Need For Life And Godliness; And Priceless Promises.**

**Our Part: Faith And Diligence - 2 Peter 1:5-9**

**2 Peter 1:5**, For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; <sup>6</sup>and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; <sup>7</sup>and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love. <sup>8</sup>For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>But whoever does not have them is nearsighted and blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their past sins.

- **The First Virtue Of Genuine Faith Is Moral Goodness**

**2 Peter 1:5**, For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness...

**Micah 6:8**, He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

**Colossians 3:1**, Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup>Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things... <sup>5</sup>Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry... <sup>7</sup>You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. <sup>8</sup>But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. <sup>9</sup>Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices <sup>10</sup>and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator... <sup>12</sup>Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. <sup>13</sup>Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. <sup>14</sup>And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

- **The Second Virtue Of Genuine Faith Is Increasing KNOWLEDGE**

**2 Peter 1:5**, For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge...

**Thought:** Knowledge refers to divine truth that is properly applied and is the foundation of spiritual truth and wisdom.

**Colossians 1:9**, *For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of His will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives,<sup>10</sup> so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please Him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God...*

**Romans 15:14**, *I myself am convinced, my brothers and sisters, that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with knowledge and competent to instruct one another.*

- **The Third Virtue Of Genuine Faith Is SELF-CONTROL**

**2 Peter 1:5**, *For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge;<sup>6</sup> and to knowledge, self-control...*

**Thought:** The Greek word “*egkrateia*” literally means “holding oneself in.” It was originally used of Greek athletes who trained hard, had self-discipline, abstained from unhealthy foods and habits in order to focus all their attention on the training regimen. The self-controlled athlete never divorced commitment from conduct.

**1 Corinthians 9:24**, *Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize.<sup>25</sup> Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.<sup>26</sup> Therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air.<sup>27</sup> No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.*

**2 Peter 2:1**, *But there were also false prophets among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will secretly introduce destructive heresies...<sup>2</sup> Many will follow their depraved conduct and will bring the way of truth into disrepute...<sup>10</sup> This is especially true of those who follow the corrupt desire of the flesh and despise authority....<sup>13</sup> ... Their idea of pleasure is to carouse in broad daylight. They are blots and blemishes, reveling in their pleasures while they feast with you.<sup>14</sup> With eyes full of adultery, they never stop sinning; they seduce the unstable; they are experts in greed—an accursed brood! ...<sup>18</sup> For their mouth empty, boastful words and, by appealing to the lustful desires of the flesh, they entice people who are just escaping from those who live in error.<sup>19</sup> They promise them freedom, while they themselves are slaves of depravity—for “people are slaves to whatever has mastered them.” ...<sup>22</sup> Of them the proverbs are true: “A dog returns to its vomit,” and, “A sow that is washed returns to her wallowing in the mud.”*

- **The Fourth Virtue Of Genuine Faith Is PERSEVERANCE**

**2 Peter 1:5**, *For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge;<sup>6</sup> and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance*

**Barclay Quote:** *Hupomone* is usually translated patience, but patience is too passive a word... *Hupomone* does not simply accept and endure; there is always a forward look in it.

**Hebrews 12:1**, *Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us,<sup>2</sup> fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before Him He endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.*

**Concluding Thought:** Genuine faith is a right belief that results in right behavior.

**Biblical Formula: Faith + Effort = Success**

- 1) Look at the 7 Keys to Spiritual Growth: Choose at least one to focus on.
- 2) Read the 77 Days to Easter Devotional provided in the Creek Guide or online at [cottonwoodcreek.org/reading-plan](http://cottonwoodcreek.org/reading-plan), on Twitter: [@cottonwoodfam](https://twitter.com/cottonwoodfam), [@johnmarkcaton](https://twitter.com/johnmarkcaton) or on Facebook: John Mark Caton.