

11 - SPIRITUAL MATURITY (2 PETER 1:1-11)

I. Introduction (2 Peter 1:1-2)

A. The Writer (2 Peter 1:1a)

- Peter identifies himself as a slave and apostle of Jesus Christ.

B. The Recipients (2 Peter 1:1b)

- Peter writes those who have experienced salvation through faith alone in Jesus Christ.

C. The Greeting (2 Peter 1:2)

1. The Blessing (2 Peter 1:2a)

- Peter pronounces the standard blessing of grace and peace.

2. The Basis (2 Peter 1:2b)

- He points out that this comes through an intimate and personal knowledge of God.

II. The Divine Provision (2 Peter 1:3-4)

A. Divine Power (2 Peter 1:3)

1. The Nature of the Power

- Peter describes this power as coming from God.

2. The Purpose of the Power

- This power was given to provide us with everything for a godly life.

3. The Availability of the Power

- This power is available through an intimate knowledge of Christ.

B. Divine Promises (2 Peter 1:4a)

- Peter tells his readers that God has given us the precious promises of salvation.

C. Divine Participation (2 Peter 1:4b)

1. Partakers of the New Life

- Through His power and promises, we are able to participate in God's nature.

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2. Freed from the Old Life

- Through His power and promises, we are able to escape the world's corruption.

III. Growth in Spiritual Maturity (2 Peter 1:5-9)

A. The Call to Mature (2 Peter 1:5a)

- Therefore, we must make every effort to mature in our faith.

B. The Path of Maturity (2 Peter 1:5a-7)

- Spiritual maturity is a product of the character development.

C. The Results of Maturity (2 Peter 1:8)

- As we mature, our lives will be marked by spiritual fruit and intimacy.

D. The Neglect of Maturity (2 Peter 1:9)

- If we neglect to grow, we are spiritually blind and ignorant of salvation.

IV. The Exhortation (2 Peter 1:10-11)

A. Eager Determination (2 Peter 1:10)

- We are to eagerly live in such a way that we express our faith and salvation.

B. Future Reward (2 Peter 1:11)

- Growing in spiritual maturity will result in a glorious reward from Christ.