

# Remember What You Have

## 2 Peter 1

### A. The Christian Life Has a Great Beginning

1. Faith in Christ makes us partaker of the divine nature
2. The Holy Spirit enters our lives at the new birth (John 3:5-8)
3. Even so, some believers live barren i.e., not fulfilling their potential (2 Peter 1:8)
4. The tools for triumphant living come from God (1:5-8)
5. 2 Peter is a book of wisdom, & warnings, also promises, & precautions.
6. We'll pursue three precious possessions today; Faith; peace; & promises.

### B. Why Is Faith Precious?

1. The Christian life begins with faith (Acts 16:31)
2. Apart from faith there is no other way of salvation (Rom. 5:1)
3. We cannot work our way to heaven (Eph. 2:8-9)
4. Faith links us to Christ, starting an ever-widening flow of power.
5. Virtue and knowledge flow from faith (see (2 Tim. 2:15); (Ps. 119:9-11)
6. The normal Christian longs to be like Jesus; asking ourselves WWJD?
7. Faith in Christ brings justification to sinners (Rom. 5:1-10)
8. We are all sinners, & the law cannot justify us; only faith. (Rom. 3:10-26)
9. Faith brings forgiveness and eternal life (Rom. 10:9-13)
10. No wonder Peter calls faith precious!

### C. Why Is Peace Precious?

1. Lost people are on a constant quest for peace
2. We are by nature troubled people in a troubled world
3. Most try finding peace but discover counterfeits, preventing peace (Isa. 57:21)
4. We find peace through faith in Christ. Prince of Peace (Isa. 9:6), (Ps. 4:8)
5. Focusing our thoughts on Christ brings perfect peace (Isa. 26:3)
6. Full surrender to Christ brings peace beyond all understanding (Phil. 4:7)

### D. Why Are the Promises of God Precious? (v. 4)

1. They are precious because of the Giver, & because they are true
2. These precious promises expose the corruption of the world
3. These precious promises are eternal (2 Cor. 1:20)
4. Peter's purpose in life was to commit himself to their development.
5. He promises to keep repeating what they need to know to grow.
6. He will be faithful to those who have come to faith
7. He will keep instructing them in Christian growth with a lifetime guarantee.
8. He will keep reminding them of God's love, & the truths of the gospel
9. We need to follow Peter's example in building up believers
10. Do converts in our church know we care about their needs?

**E. Self-Control and Patience Flow from Knowledge (v. 6)**

1. The more we know about Jesus the more we become like Him.
2. Jesus personified self-control. His enemies couldn't find fault in Him.
3. Satan tried to get Him to yield to temptation but could not do so.
4. The closer we walk with Jesus the more we experience self-control

**F. Godliness, Kindness, and Love Flow from Patience (vv. 6-7)**

1. Patience or perseverance in difficult times makes us godly people
2. Consider the difficulties Jesus endured on His way to the cross
3. Remember His patience when He stood before Herod and Pilate
4. Remembering the kindness of Christ makes us kind to others (Acts 2-5)
5. People should know we are Christians by our love (Gal. 5:22-23)

**G. Peter Affirms His Message Is Built on Facts**

1. He declares the gospel was on a firm foundation, not cunningly devised fables.
2. The Transfiguration vindicated the mission of Christ (Matt. 17:1-6)
3. The voice from heaven silenced the voices of critics on earth.
4. How can we get in on mountaintop experiences?
5. We must follow Jesus (Matt. 17:1; 2 Peter 1:16)
6. Sometimes following means separating from others, to surrender to Him.
7. Are you willing to follow Jesus all the way?
8. We must keep our eyes open (Matt. 17:2; 2 Peter 1:16).
9. Peter became an eyewitness of the majesty of Christ.
10. He would never forget this miraculous moment.
11. He claimed this experience as proof of his authority to minister.
12. Peter remembered what he saw. Christ was transfigured before him.
13. This mountaintop experience was unforgettable to Peter.
14. We must seek God's will or we'll miss His plan for our lives.
15. We Must Listen to the Lord (Luke 9:31; 2 Peter 1:17-18)
16. What did Jesus, Moses, and Elijah talk about on that mountain? (Luke 9:31)
17. Focusing on the cross brings us to mountaintop experiences.
18. What did the Father say on the Mount of Transfiguration?
19. "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased"
20. We must be sensitive to what God says to us about His Son.
21. Have you claimed God's precious promise of salvation?

**H. What Mountaintop Experiences Do You Remember?**

1. Are you trusting God's precious promises today?
2. The committed Christian is delivered from barren living (v. 8)
3. Fruit flows from the life that is surrendered to Christ. How fruitful are you?
4. What are we doing to fulfill His Great Commission (Matt. 28:18-20)?

**I. Return to Those Sacred Heights and Serve Your Lord Again**