

1  **Be Diligent in Your Walk (i)**

2 Peter 1:10-11

2  **General Considerations**

- The Lord desires that you succeed
  - He makes sure to supply everything that is needed for your success
- In doing so, the Lord is helping us to be in a position to protect the truth
  - By embracing a right path
  - By providing comprehensive resources
  - By promoting growth

3  **General Considerations**

- In promoting growth
  - It is to become a 'well-rounded' Christian
    - So faith and character (virtue) and knowledge
    - Commitment to accomplish character
      - Self-control and perseverance
    - Response to the properly grand view of who God is
      - Godliness (expression of goodness of God)

4  **General Considerations**

- In promoting growth
  - It is to become a 'well-rounded' Christian
    - How we respond to others (in light of a properly grand view of what God did for us in Christ)
      - Brotherly kindness and love (expression of what God has done for us)

5  **General Considerations**

- So we are called upon to secure our gains
  - Principle:
    - If we are not moving ahead (gaining ground) then we are falling behind
  - Answer:
    - It is the constant application of these qualities into our lives that counts
    - It is important that these qualities increase that we may be fruitful in the knowledge of Jesus

6  **General Considerations**

- And we are given a caution:
  - Beware the pitfalls
    - The failure to develop these qualities means something serious in your life in practical terms
      - Short-sightedness
      - Blindness
      - More importantly, forgetfulness
        - What Christ has done on one's behalf

7  **General Considerations**

- Point:
  - You don't have to become blind or short-sighted
  - There is no need to become forgetful concerning the work of Christ
  - There is no need to forget about the implications of what Christ has done on our behalf

## 8 **General Considerations**

- Point:
  - But...
    - We must keep the great truth and promises of God in front of us
    - We must embrace them and live by them and rest on them and live in light of them

## 9 **We Must Be Diligent**

- We are charged with making every effort to not forget
  - It is not absent-mindedness
  - But that you have forgotten the great truth because you do not live according to that truth
  - So we are called to "further diligence"

## 10 **We Must Be Diligent**

- We are charged with making every effort to not forget
  - "therefore [because of the truth that one who lacks these qualities is blind or shortsighted, having forgotten his purification from his former sins (the work of Christ)], brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about his calling and choosing you" (2 Peter 1:10)

## 11 **We Must Be Diligent**

- Peter called us to diligence earlier when we bring these qualities into our lives (5)
  - He called us to due diligence because he understood the nature of applying the truth of God to our lives
  - And he understood that it was not contrary to faith to do so

## 12 **We Must Be Diligent**

- Now Peter calls us to greater diligence
  - But not apart from faith
  - The whole of the application of these biblical qualities began with our faith
  - Now we continue to live out that faith

## 13 **We Must Be Diligent**

- What does the word mean?
  - "To be especially conscientious in discharging an obligation"
  - To expend energy and effort with a sense of urgency
  - Inference:
    - You recognize the importance of something
    - You recognize the urgency of something

## 14 **We Must Be Diligent**

- What does the word mean?
  - "To be especially conscientious in discharging an obligation"
  - To expend energy and effort with a sense of urgency
  - Inference:
    - You will apply yourself to it with great energy and effort
    - Why?
      - So that the thing to which you give yourself might be accomplished

## 15 **We Must Be Diligent**

- Think of Israel
  - In Egypt, they were to be ready to march and eat the Passover meal in haste
    - For that very night, the Lord would go forth in judgment and strike the firstborn of man and beast

16  **We Must Be Diligent**

- Think of Israel
  - In Egypt, they were to be ready to march and eat the Passover meal in haste
    - They were to give themselves in all diligence to the instructions God had given them in regard to the sacrificial lamb in the application of the blood on the door posts and the lintel and in being ready to leave Egypt

17  **We Must Be Diligent**

- Think of Israel
  - In Egypt, they were to be ready to march and eat the Passover meal in haste
    - Nevertheless, Israel could never claim their own deliverance or that their diligence in any way contributed to God's salvation provided to them

18  **We Must Be Diligent**

- God had chosen Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and the sons of Israel as his inheritance
  - They were to understand that it was God's deliverance and that they were not delivering themselves
    - But, they were to act with a "diligent" faith (to borrow from Peter) as they followed the Lord out of Egypt

19  **We Must Be Diligent**

- So it is with Peter
  - He knows that it is God's calling and choosing that has come upon you without regard to your person
    - Without regard to your person and how much or how little you deserved his gracious call and choice (you did not)
  - Nevertheless, we are called to diligence (associated with faith)

20  **Final Thoughts**

- What it comes down to is how we respond to what our God has done on our behalf through Jesus Christ
  - How are you responding in faith to what God has done?
  - How will you respond in faith to what God has done?

21  **Final Thoughts**

- How do we maintain growth?
  - Faithful diligence
  - Not forgetting but continuing to apply what Christ has done
  - Keeping the great truth and promises of God ever in front of us that we never forget