

Commitment to Godliness – Part 1

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: 2 Peter 1.

B. There is good news for us.

II. God through his divine power has given us all we need for life and godliness. (2 Peter 1:3-4)

III. All is made available through knowledge of Jesus Christ as savior. Eternal life is a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. (John 17:3)

IV. We have been made partakers of the divine nature.

A. Through union with Jesus, we have become partakers of his nature. (John 15)

B. The objective truth is that we are in Christ when we receive him.

C. The subjective truth is that we must abide in him. We must experience and count on the union.

1. There is a renunciation of self-reliance.

2. There is an appropriation of the gift of eternal life.

V. Ways Christians try to live the Christian life.

A. By our own will power and discipline.

B. By passively assuming God is going to do everything through us.

C. By partial dependence upon God and partial dependence upon ourselves.

D. By abiding in Jesus Christ—the biblical approach. (John 15:5)

1. We need God's complete enablement not his sometimes help.

2. There will be work and growth in this, but it is enabled by God.

3. The good that comes out of this is that we learn we cannot do anything without Christ.

Application questions:

1. What kind of things have been made available to us through our relationship to Jesus?

2. What does it mean to be in union with Christ?

3. What are some things that you rely too much on yourself to accomplish? How can you depend more on God in this?
