

Sermon Notes – August 20, 2023

Our Diligent Pursuit (*2 Peter 1:5-7*)

- I. Pursue an Understanding of God's Sovereignty and Human Responsibility. (*Vs. 5a*)
 - A. Regeneration precedes faith. (*John 3, 6:44, 15:16, Philippians 1:29*)
 - B. Grace precedes demand. (*Ephesians 2:8-9, Titus 2:11-14*)
 - C. Holiness (suffering) precedes Heaven. (*Matthew 5:8, Hebrews 6:9-12, 12:14*)

- II. Pursue an Understanding of God's Priorities. (*Vss. 5b-7*)
 - A. God's definition of success is Counter-cultural.
 - 1. Success is living out the fruit of the Spirit. (*Galatians 5:22,23*)
 - 2. Success is working out your salvation. (*Philippians 2:12-13*)
 - 3. Success is the pursuit of God. (*Colossians 2:1-4*) (*Matthew 6:33*)
 - B. God's standards for success are not always easy to measure.
 - 1. Moral virtue: Virtuosity in the midst of sinfulness.
 - 2. Knowledge: (gnosis) Practical wisdom based on biblical principles. (*Proverbs 1:7; 8:13*)
 - 3. Self-control: Getting a grip on oneself.
 - 4. Perseverance: Steadfastness, endurance to the end. (*I Corinthians 15:58*)
 - 5. Godliness: Holiness. (*Revelation 4:8*)
 - 6. Kindness: (Phileo) brotherly kindness towards the saints.
 - 7. Love: The sacrificial love of God. (agape)