Sermon Notes for April 6, 2014

Everything We Need

II Peter 1:1-4

Introduction

God has given us everything we need for life and godliness.

I. We have a faith equal to the Apostles. Verse 1

Peter identifies himself with 2 names and 2 titles.

- Simon – Simeon, his Hebrew name.
- Peter – Petros (Rock), the name given him by Jesus.
- A servant of Christ. He is my Lord.
- An apostle – a specially chosen messenger of Christ.

He is writing to all who have come to know Christ.

We have received a faith as precious as the Apostles.

“There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.” Ephesians 4:4-6

“There is neither Jew nor Gentile, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.” Galatians 3:28

The key to an apostolic faith is to hold on to Jesus.

II. We have a personal relationship with God. Verses 2-3

Peter expresses his wish for all of us. “May grace and peace be yours in abundance.”

His grace comes to us through knowing God and his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Peter isn’t talking about the knowledge of God as an abstract thing. Peter is talking about knowing God personally.

“What were we made for? To know God. What aim should we set ourselves in life? To know God. What is the eternal life that Jesus gives? Knowledge of God.” J.I. Packer

“Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.” John 17:3
“This is what the LORD says: “Let not the wise man boast of his wisdom or the strong man boast of his strength or the rich man boast of his riches, but let him who boasts boast about this: that he understands and knows me.” Jeremiah 9:23-24a

When we know God, all the resources of heaven are available to us.

III. We have the promises of God’s Word. Verse 4

“He has given us his very great and precious promises.”

It is all here in his Word.

More than anything this book was written to change your life.

Participating in the divine nature does not mean that we become divine. It means that when we place our faith in Christ, God comes to dwell in us. Acts 1:8 and Galatians 2:20

The Holy Spirit produces his fruit in us. Galatians 5:22-23

“O give me that Book! At any price, give me the book of God!” John Wesley

How precious is God’s book to you?

Conclusion

God has given us everything we need for life and godliness.

- A faith that is equal to the Apostles.
- A personal relationship with God.
- His very great and precious promises.