

God gives us a faith in Christ, resulting in sanctification and good works.

1. We are Both Tested and Sanctified through our Faith in Christ.

James

- a. Trials bring steadfastness, completeness; temptation is from one’s own desire and sin (1).
- b. Faith brings obedience, good works, wisdom, humility, and dependence on God (2-4).
- c. Faith brings hope in Christ, our salvation, prayer for others, and discernment of truth (5).

“Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing,” ... “Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted by God,” for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death,” James 1:2-4 ... 12-15

2. Faith in Christ Brings us Salvation, Sanctification, Submission, and Suffering.

1 Peter

- a. We are born again to a living hope enduring trials (1), being sanctified by His Word (2).
- b. We must submit to institutions, spouses, and all in life, following Christ’s example (2-3).
- c. Christians are stewards of God’s grace (4). Elders suffer with humility, resisting evil (5).

“you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ,” 1 Pet. 1:4b-7

3. Faith in Christ Builds Character, Condemns Heresy, and Gives Hope in His Return.

2 Peter

- a. In Christ we are sanctified. Practicing holiness, our calling and election is confirmed (1).
- b. Scripture is from God; prophecies from His Spirit (1). False prophets bring heresies (2).
- c. Scoffers distort the truth, but the Lord will return patiently—fulfilling His promise (3).

“supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ,” ... “But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. 2 Pet. 1:5b-8 ...

3:8-9

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