

Peter's Second Letter

2 Peter 1:3-4

August 11, 2020

INTRO: Of all things in the Scriptures, Peter says some of the most remarkable things about our life in Jesus Christ. These verses, three and four, are amazing almost beyond belief. Were they not written in the Scriptures we could scarcely believe that they are true. Let us examine the remarkable things that are true of us according to Peter:

I. His Divine Power

- A. The word is *dunamis*, from which our word dynamite comes. It is explosive power arising from God in Christ.
- B. The divine power is able to accomplish all things purposed by God.

II. The Focus of the Divine Power

- A. All things that pertain to life—whatever we need for life and wise living God has provided for us by His power.
- B. All things we need pertaining to godliness God has also provided for us. He has not called us to live in a way that is impossible, but has Himself provided the power for us to live godly lives in Christ Jesus. (Therefore we have no excuse for carnality.)

III. Through the Knowledge of Him Who Called Us

- A. Again Peter's favorite word for knowledge and understanding—the more we come to know Jesus in a personal way, the more we understand His mighty power that enables us to live well and righteously.
- B. It is through this deep and personal knowledge of Jesus that God has given us all things pertaining to life and godliness.
- C. It is by His own glory and excellence He has called us—not by our merit or by our goodness, but by His glory He has called us to Himself. What a wonderful thing to be loved, desired, and called by Jesus to walk with Him.

IV. Through His Promises We Are Partakers of the Divine Nature

- A. Peter calls these promises *very great and precious*. These are an odd choice of words for a once rough fisherman. Precious: of great worth and value, priceless, amazing!
- B. Through these promises we have been made partakers of the Divine Nature! Think of it . . . we share the nature of God Himself; we are born of Him and members of His divine family having, as it were, His genes in our lives. Remarkable!
- C. Hence, as partakers of the Divine Nature and members of His holy family, we are no longer part of the corrupt world filled with sinful desire. We have come into the kingdom of God and been translated out of the kingdom of darkness.

CONC.: Can you contemplate what it means to be partakers of the Divine Nature? Do you see how this enables you to live apart from worldly corruption and sinful passion? Are you motivated to holy living by the dynamic power of God at work in you? What God has called us to become He has enabled us to be.

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