

God's Promises and Spiritual Success

Maurizio Mingardi
21/08/2011

Receiving the Promises

Partakers of the divine nature - **2Pet:1:2-8**

The Process of Spiritual Victory

- For all things – Grace and Peace - Glory and Virtue = honor (success) and strength
- We need diligence to start ruling and multiplying by believing God's promises: **OUR ATTITUDES**
 - **DILIGENCE** = Gk. Spoo-day' =eagerness, earnestness, speed, zeal
 - **FAITH** = Gk. Pistis – belief (in the Word) – Must study it, search it, question it, accept it, apply it
 - **VIRTUE** = Gk. A-ret-ai = manliness, excellence (strength)
 - **KNOWLEDGE** = Gk. Gnosis = understanding, how to know someone
 - **SELF-CONTROL** – People without self-control lack understanding and all the things before
 - **PERSEVERANCE** = Gk. Hupomomay; = cheerful endurance
 - **GODLINESS** = Gk. Yooseb'eia = reverence and worship

Starting Point to Get God's Promises

- **Motivated by DILIGENCE**
 - **Our Laziness** = Our tendency to follow the path of least resistance
 - Giving up too soon = **NEVER GIVE UP!** - **Heb.6:12**
 - The results are not good
 - Often only when we are faced with circumstances we cannot cope with do we learn to depend on the promises rather than on our abilities

Logos: All of God's promises are mine

Questions to Consider

1. How can 2Pet.1:2-8 help us to receive God's promises?
2. Please expand on the meaning and implications of the words: grace, peace, honor and virtue.
3. Why does the process of spiritual victory (explained in 2Pet.1:2-8) appears as hard work, but in reality it is natural and requires no work at all when it is understood?
4. Discuss how the process is not a series of sequential steps but the manifestation of concurrent and complementary experiences.
5. Please explain the importance of Heb.6:12 in a believers' life.