

Who Are You?

2 Peter 1: 3-11

Let's Review. We have looked at Who God is.

Because of who God is we know who we are.

Consider....

- The Divine _____
- The Divine _____
- The Divine _____
- The Divine _____

Who are you?

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Message Application

Today the message looked at who we are because of who God is. When we look at 2 Peter we see the Apostle teaching about our powerful God, Yahweh. Author Ron Graham gives us a great way of learning what these verses mean. He writes, *"This passage is structured like a sandwich, two pieces of bread with meat in between. First there are verses 3-4 (the top piece of bread) about What God's power does for us.*

Next there are verses 5-10 (the meat) about what God's power helps us do for God, then there are verses 9-11 (the bottom piece of bread) with more about what God's power does for us."

<https://www.simplybible.com/fo32-2pet-ch1-christian-growth.htm>

We have been studying about God's power for weeks through examining the truth in the names God reveals or that His servants attribute to Him.

This week I think we should focus on the "*meat of the sandwich.*" What does Yahweh's power help us do.

The Apostle says, "*5 In view of all this, make every effort to respond to God's promises.*" I like the way the NLT translates our effort as a response. Truly we are saved by faith alone. Paul makes this clear in Ephesians 2: 8, "*8 God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God.*"

Yet we need to know what to do after God has saved us? What is our response to the gift?

Peter makes this clear. "*Supplement your faith with a generous provision of moral excellence, and moral excellence with knowledge, 6 and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with patient endurance, and patient endurance with godliness, 7 and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love for everyone.*"

2 Peter 5b-7

There is a lot of work for us to do, isn't there? Moral excellence, knowledge, self-control and all the traits listed reveal to us a life of growth. Remember, this growth only comes from sharing in God's nature. Partnering with Yahweh! There is a sense of intentional actions on our part; but it is done in God's power.

Peter isn't the only Bible author that spurs us on to be action in our Christian Growth. All the writers give us the viewpoint that because God (Jesus) does **this** for us, we should do **that** for him. Therein lays the key to being "*productive*" or "*shortsighted*" (verses 8 and 9)

This week let's evaluate our intention of being a Christ-follower. Is our intention to receive our "*get out of Hell free card*" or is our intention to become like Jesus? Ask yourself, "What am I doing to supplement my growth in Christ?" Is Yahweh's power being wasted on a shortsighted servant or is His power being manifested in a growing servant partner?

Answering these questions and changing our effort can lead to our being everything Jesus wants us to be.

Grace & Peace,

Wm. Lyons