

Peter said... **“And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith...”** (2Peter 1:5-7)



Introduction

As we have been studying Peters last words, we have taken a closer look at each of these key seven things we need to add to our faith. Faith is the foundation stone for every other stone we add as we grow. We are to be diligent to add to our Faith **virtue**, which is moral goodness and doing the right thing. To virtue **knowledge**, which is a clear perception of that which exists or of truth, and it is added for the purpose of doing that which is right. To knowledge **temperance**, which involves moderation and self-control. To temperance **patience**, which includes waiting and perseverance. To patience **godliness**, which we learned how important it is to be obedient to God with love and reverence. To godliness **brotherly kindness** which we learned that our motives for when we show brotherly kindness from hospitality to family or strangers to attentiveness in our relationships, our attitude is key. How we act is essential to our effectiveness in reaching the world for Jesus Christ! Tonight, we will look at adding to brotherly kindness **CHARITY**, which we will see is placed above all and kind of like the icing on the cake. The ultimate goal is that all these things abound in us, making us grow in our knowledge of the Lord. The result will make us fruitful in our reproduction for our Lord.

1. A biblical **DEFINITION** of charity.

✓ **Websters 1828 Dictionary definition**

- 1) In a general sense, love, benevolence, good will; that disposition of heart which inclines men to think favorably of their fellow man, and to do them good. In a theological sense, it includes supreme love to God, and universal good will to men.
- 2) In a more particular sense, love, kindness, affection, tenderness, springing from natural relations; as the charities of father, son and brother. (I'm adding spouse)

2. A biblical **STUDY** of charity

✓ The word "**charity**" is found 24 times in the KJV – all in the New Testament,

- 1) **1 Corinthians 8:1-3** – the 1st Mention of 9 times in 1 Corinthians alone.
- 2) **1 Corinthians 13:1-13** - Known as the Love chapter, since all the other versions use Love not charity, the word "**charity**" is found 6 of the 9 times in 1 Corinthians.14:1, 16:14 – Everything we do should be done with Charity.
- 3) **Colossians 3:12-14** – Above all these great things the elect of God should put on, Charity is Above them all. It is the Bond of Perfectness. *1 Thess 3:6, 2 Thess 1:3*

Peter said... **“And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith...”** (2Peter 1:5-7)

- 4) **1 Timothy 1:1-5** – Charity should come out of a pure heart, a good conscience, and of **FAITH UNFEIGNED!** 1 Timothy 2:15
- 5) **1 Timothy 4:12** – Even as younger believers, we are to be an example, in word, in conversation, in charity, in faith, in purity.
- 6) **2 Timothy 2:22** – We are to Flee youthful lusts and follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with other believers.
- 7) **2 Timothy 3:10** – Charity, along with Faith, longsuffering and patience are those Keystones we should be known of in our Doctrine and Manner of Life.
- 8) **Titus 2:2** – As aged believers we are again seeing the layers of cake together – temperance, sound in faith, our foundation, charity, and patience. The passage even goes on to explain how we as the aged believers should teach – disciple the younger believers! 3 John 1:6
- 9) **1 Peter 4:8** - charity covers a multitude of sins, 1 Peter 5:14, 2 Peter 1:7
- 10) **Jude 1:12** – living in the way of Cain and Balaam is like living selfishly, against God and Killing your heart – your core. Selfish living is the opposite of charitable living. We must live for Christ, not ourselves.

3. A practical **APPLICATION** of charity.

- ✓ Are you showing **Charity** in your relationships??
 - 1) Marriage
 - 2) Siblings
 - 3) Parents
 - 4) Co-workers
- ✓ Are you showing **Charity** to your fellow believers?
 - 1) By Showing them **LOVE** without any gain?
 - 2) By being an **EXAMPLE** of unyielding Faith?
 - 3) By **ENCOURAGING** through teaching them?
 - a) Discipleship of believer who is younger in the faith?
 - b) Do you need to be disciplined so you can grow in your faith – by adding virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness and charity?
 - c) Help with Sunday School?
- ✓ The Final 24th verse where **Charity** is found in the King James Bible.
 - 1) **Revelation 2:19** – Our Lord and Savior knows where we are when it comes to Biblical charity.
- ✓ **Final Thought to ponder**

When you stand before Jesus, your Lord and Savior, Will you hear, well done thou good and faithful servant? I pray we all take a close look and be honest with ourselves so we can grow in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and Reach the World for Him!