

## 2 Peter 1:3-4

### Verse 3

*Seeing that His divine power* – “His” refers to Jesus (verse 2). The word for “power” is *dynamis* from which we get the English word dynamite! Notice that Peter uses this word again in 1:16 to describe Jesus.

*Has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness* – God gives every believer everything he needs in relation to life and godliness. Life is freely given the moment we believe in Jesus. The Holy Spirit is given to each of us to give us the power to be godly!

*Through the true knowledge of Him* – The word for “true knowledge” is *epignosis* which means a full or complete knowledge. This is the same word Peter used in verse two and also uses in verse 8. It is a key word in 2 Peter. Note Paul’s use of this word in Philippians 1:9 and Colossians 1:9-10.

*Who called us by His own glory and excellence* - The “Who” refers to Jesus. Note carefully the parallel between John 17:5 and Isaiah 42:8 and 48:11-12. God does not share His glory yet Jesus says He shares God’s glory. Clearly Jesus is God! Also compare Isaiah 48:12 with Revelation 1:17-18.

The glory of Christ:

Titus 2:11-14

Hebrews 1:3

Hebrews 2:7-10, etc.

The word “excellence” refers to moral excellence or virtue. When people begin to understand Christ’s glory and His moral virtue they are attracted to Him. There has never been a man like Jesus. When He is lifted up people are drawn to Him (John 12:32).

### Verse 4

*For by these* – His divine power and the true knowledge of Him as seen in His glory and excellence.

*He has granted to us* – The word “granted” means to “grant or bestow as a gift”. The word stresses the great worth of what God has given.

*His precious and magnificent promises* – Peter used this word for “precious” in 1 Peter 1:19 to describe the blood of Christ which was shed for us. The spiritual riches involved in Christ’s promises are of such great worth that it is beyond calculation. The word “magnificent”, Greek *meegas*, emphasizes that there is nothing greater. Note John 10:29, 1 Corinthians 13:13, Hebrews 4:14, 1 John 4:4, etc. The promises of God are contained in His Word. They are great because they come from a great God. They are precious because their value is beyond calculation. God never breaks His promises! Notice Peter’s use in 3:4, 9, and 13.

1 John 2:25 – *And this is the promise which He Himself made to us: eternal life!*

John 6:47 – *Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has eternal life.*

John 10:28 – *And I give eternal life to them, and they shall never perish...*

*In order that by them you might become partakers of the divine nature* – When we have faith in His promises we participate in God’s divine nature. As we rely on the promises of God we experience or become more like Christ. As we feed our New Man the Word of God we grow and become greater partakers of God’s nature.

*Having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust* – God’s nature within us gives us the power to escape the temptations of lust that result in corruption (Galatians 5:16-17). Peter spoke of *having escaped* in the past tense. Our justification has already assured our escape and given us all we need to live godly lives.

**Because of Christ’s divine power, glory and excellence and as we grow and understand who He is we can become more like Him. We accomplish this more and more as we stand upon the promises of God.**