

Series: Add To Your Faith

REMEMBRANCE

2 PETER 1:12, 13 & OTHERS

Text: 2 Peter 1:13

2 Peter 1:12-13

¹² Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in **remembrance** of these things, though ye know *them*, and be established in the present truth. ¹³ Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, to stir you up by putting *you* in **remembrance**;

Introduction:

Our familiarity of biblical truths and principles make it necessary for us to often be reminded of them.

Quote:

“Familiarity of Robs of Research”

Some may say why is it necessary to be reminded so often of that which we already certain of?

The answer is simple – Because only if truths are living in our minds can they been influential on our heart and will then be seen in our conduct.

At the close of Peter's life the corrupt heresies of the second and third centuries was now challenging and threatening the sound doctrine of the churches.

It was against these heresies and false teaching that he addressed by making them mindful of the Word of God.

The degree to which a Christian or Church is able to resist the advancement of heresy, and false teaching and error is being established in sound doctrine.

Paul warned Timothy of this danger.

2 Timothy 4:1-4

¹ I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; ² Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. ³ For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; ⁴ And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

That's why Paul stated in his letter to the Ephesians and to Titus:

Ephesians 4:14-16

¹⁴ That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and **carried about with every wind of doctrine**, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; ¹⁵ But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: ¹⁶ From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

Titus 2:1

¹ But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine:

Note:

1. THE SUPREME IMPORTANCE OF BEING ESTABLISHED IN DIVINE TRUTH

In the same letter we read from a moment ago Paul warned Timothy of perilous times.

2 Timothy 3:1-5

¹ This know also, that in the last days **perilous times shall come**. ² For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, ³ Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers,

incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, ⁴ Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; ⁵ Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

The word perilous means dangerous or difficult times.

We are living in days that are dangerous and difficult.

Who could have ever imagined that we would see a day in the history of man when men are marrying men?

A day when women would be allowed to kill their own babies?

A day when truth has been set aside for fables and fables exalted over truth?

A day when premarital sex and promiscuity are considered as normal and expected?

A day when pornography can be piped right into our homes?

According to a recent Los Angeles Times poll, 51% of Americans believe it is morally acceptable to have children out of wedlock.

The root of America's steep moral decline can be traced back to the nation's apostate and compromised pulpits.

That's why he charged Timothy in 2 Timothy 4 to:

2 Timothy 4:1-5

¹ I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; ² Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. ³ For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; ⁴ And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. ⁵ But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.

Note what Paul charged Timothy to do.

A. Preach (vs. 2)

- Reprove
- Rebuke
- Exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine

B. Perceive (vs. 3-5)

2 Timothy 4:3-5

³ *For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;* ⁴ *And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.* ⁵ *But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.*

- Aware of the times (Time will come)
- Alert to the turning (But watch thou)
- Awaken to the truth (Do the work of an evangelist)

C. Practice (vs. 5-7)

2 Timothy 4:5-7

⁵ *But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.* ⁶ *For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand.* ⁷ *I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:*

- Commit (Endure affliction)
- Complete (Finish my course)

Note not only “**The Supreme Importance in Being Established in Divine Truth**” but also:

2. THE SAINT’S RESPONSIBILITY TO REMIND THOSE HE LOVES

- Peter Recognizes that Teaching is a Necessary Responsibility

God has made it incumbent on those who know the truth to teach it to others.

2 Timothy 2:1-4

¹ Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. ² And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also. ³

Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. ⁴ No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.

- Peter Recognizes the Reminding Must Be Continual as Long As Opportunity Lasts

"Ye know these things, and are established in the truth," he says, and yet he will not be negligent to put them always in remembrance; he knows that it is not so much the knowledge as the recollection of truth that is vital.

We think that because we know the truth we can dispense with the study of it. That is a great error, and full of evil. It is not the truths that are stored away in the memory which serve us in the battle of life, but those which can be grasped in a moment.

That is why we need to study Scripture day by day, if not that we may know it, at least that we may remember it.

That is why no doubt Paul told Timothy

2 Timothy 2:15

¹⁵ Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Now if this be true of us, how much more is it true of those we teach.

We must sow the same ground again and again if we would reap a harvest.

- Peter Recognized That the Teaching May Remain After Those Who Have Taught Have Gone

That is why we do invest all that we can while we can.

Note not only “**The Supreme Importance in Being Established in Divine Truth**” and “**The Saint’s Responsibility to Remind Those He Loves**” but also:

3. THE SENSE OF THE SHORTNESS OF OUR OPPORTUNITY

2 Peter 1:14

¹⁴ **Knowing that shortly I must put off this my tabernacle**, even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shewed me.

Read John 9:4

John 9:4

⁴ *I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.*

Note:

God has given us a limited amount of time to do what it is He has given us to do.

James reminds us that this life is brief at best.

James 4:14

¹⁴ *Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.*

The Psalmist said in Psalms 90:

Psalm 90:12

¹² So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

We must:

- Recognize the Time

These are perilous times

These are opportune times

We must:

- Redeem the Time

Recognizing the time should cause us to wisely redeem the time.

We must:

- Rejoice Through Time

Psalm 90:14

¹⁴ O satisfy us early with thy mercy; that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

By redeeming the time wisely we will be able to rejoice throughout our life.

Close:

Peter wanted to remind his readers of several things that they had already heard before.

Remember that we are the creatures of the one living and true God.

Remember that it's before God, to whom we are accountable; and we will one day stand before.

Remember only one life will soon be past only that which is done for Christ will last.

Remember this life is just a vapor that quickly passes.