



MAIN SCRIPTURES

- II Peter 1:3
- Ephesians 1:19-20
- Romans 8:32; I Timothy 6:6

SENDING OUT AN S.O.S.

- Divine **S**ource
- Desired **O**utcome
- Definitive **S**ystem

FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURES:

“seeing that His **divine power** has **granted** to us **all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him** who called us **by His own glory and virtue,**” 2 Peter 1:3

“and what is **the exceeding greatness of His power toward us** who believe, according to that working of the strength of His might which He worked in Christ **when He raised Him from the dead...**”
Ephesians 1:19-20

“He who didn’t spare His own Son, but sacrifice Him, how would He not also with Him **freely give us all things?**” Rom. 8:32

“Jesus said, “**I am the resurrection and the life.** He who believes in Me **will still live,** even if he dies.” John 11:25

“**Godliness** with contentment is great gain.” 1 Timothy 6:6

“Thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and **reveals through us the sweet aroma of His knowledge** in every place.” 2 Corinthians 2:14

INTRODUCTION: Sending Out an S.O.S.

As we explore His precious and exceedingly great promises, maybe there is none more important on which to elaborate than from which all others originate. We see that it is His divine power that has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness. And this comes through the knowledge of Him, Jesus Christ, who called us by His own glory and virtue.

The source is His divine or resurrection power. That is the origin from which comes God's desired outcome for your life and ministry. One must imagine, understand, and then accept the magnitude and the purpose for which God has granted you access to such power. It's your destiny to receive everything God has promised to you and for what you were made in all areas of your life. But, to achieve such you must actively participate in His definitive system. There is one process or path to your true destiny and that is available only through Christ. You can come to experience His splendor, majesty, and excellence, as if your own. And you can come to know, like you know your name, what is right to God in every choice you make—in every arena of life. Along the path, as you progress through this process, you are capable of participating in such deep intimacy with God that you actually feel as if you are one with Him.

To me, making you aware of these things is beyond critical, so I am sending out an S.O.S.. Many have come to believe that the original interpretation of that distress signal was “save our souls” or “save our ship,” but it actually doesn’t translate to any specific meaning. S.O.S. is simply a Morse Code call for help. And this is my distress signal, my S.O.S., my desperate call for help today: come to know the divine Source; recognize His desired Outcome for your life; and His definitive System to achieve intimacy with God beyond your imagination. The alternative... God’s exceedingly great and precious promises will elude you all the days of your life.

IF THIS, THEN...

1. Divine power and all things that pertain to life and godliness...

A. Precious Promises

(1) Introduction

(a) Through these you may...

1. “by which he has granted to us his **precious and exceedingly great promises; that through these you may...**” 2 Peter 1:4 WEBUS

a) You **may**, not **will**, receive them, because...

- 1) **If...** “If these things are yours and abound...”
Then... “...you will not be idle or unfruitful...”

2 Peter 1:8

2) **If...** *“For if you do these things...”* **Then...** *“you will never stumble.”* 2 Peter 1:10

3) **So...** *“I will not be negligent to remind you of these things...”* 2 Peter 1:12

(2) A common theme in the Bible (If, Then)

(a) If you obey or disobey...

1. If you obey, then abundant blessings! (Deut. 28:1-14)

2. If you don't, then horrific curses! (Deut. 28:15-68)

(b) If you wish to be His disciple...

1. *“...disregard your own [family], and your own life... and **renounce all** that you have..”* (Luke 14:26-33)

(c) You are His disciple, if...

1. *“...you remain in His word...”* (John 8:31)

2. *“...you have love for one another.”* (John 13:35)

(d) You are His friend, if...

1. *“...you do what He commands.”* (John 15:14)

(3) Precious and exceedingly great promises...

(a) *“...**through these you may...** (2 Peter 1:4) **if these things are yours and abound...**”* (2 Peter 1:8)

1. You can... experience the fullness of God's

Provisional Promises #4, 5, & 6: **divine power and all things that pertain to life and godliness...**

- a) *“seeing that his **divine power** has granted to us **all things that pertain to life and godliness**, through the **knowledge of him** who called us **by his own glory and virtue**,” 2 Peter 1:3 WEBUS*
- b) Sending Out an **S.O.S.**: this is my distress signal or call for help today: come to know the divine Source, His desired Outcome, and His definitive System, or God’s exceedingly great and precious promises will elude you all the days of your life.
- 1) Divine **Source**: His divine power or resurrection power is the origin from which comes the...
 - 2) Desired **Outcome**: Your destiny is to receive and experience everything God has promised to you and for what you were made in every area of your life. But, to achieve such you must actively participate in the...
 - 3) Definitive **System**: There is one process or path to your true destiny and that is available only through Christ. You can come to experience His splendor, majesty, and excellence as if your own, and come to know what is His mind on all things. In the process you can develop such

deep intimacy with God that you feel as if you are one with Him.

- c) We studied knowledge of and intimacy with God in our last message [Appreciating Knowledge](#).
 - 1) “...**Christ in you, the hope of glory.**” Col. 1:27
 - 2) Christ is in you and you are in Christ, the most intimate of all knowledge.

DIVINE SOURCE

2. Access to Resurrection Power

A. What is the origin?

(1) Power

(a) The source is His divine or resurrection power.

1. “seeing that **his divine power has granted to us** all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and virtue,” 2 Peter 1:3 WEBUS

a) That is the origin from which comes God’s desired outcome for your life and ministry. One must imagine, understand, and then accept the magnitude and the purpose for which God has granted you access to such power.

b) Source (Origin):

1) Divine Power: Access to Resurrection Power and Grace!

(b) Resurrection Power

1. “and what is **the exceeding greatness of his power** toward us who believe, according to that working of the strength of his might which he worked in Christ **when he raised him from the dead** and made him to sit at his right hand in the heavenly places,”

Ephesians 1:19-20 WEBUS

a) You have been offered access to the same power that God use to raise Christ from the grave!

b) Peter calls it divine power; Paul introduces it as resurrection power.

c) This power resurrected Christ from the dead and it resurrected you into a new life as a new creation!

1) “*We were buried therefore with him through baptism into death, that **just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life.** For if we have become united with him in the likeness of his death, **we will also be part of his resurrection;**” Romans 6:4-5 WEBUS*

2) *“Therefore if anyone is in Christ, **he is a new creation.** The old things have passed away. Behold, all things have become new.”* 2 Corinthians 5:17 WEBUS

(c) Stay here and wait for power...

1. “Behold, I send out the **promise** of my Father on you. But wait in the city of Jerusalem **until you are clothed with power from on high.**” Luke 24:49 WEBUS

a) Y’shua instructed His disciples to be prepared for the PROMISE of the POWER that was coming (A hint at Pentecost and the power coming from the Holy Spirit).

(d) Power, love, and a sound mind

1. “For God didn’t give us **a spirit of fear**, but of **power**, love, and self-control.” 2 Timothy 1:7 WEBUS

a) The power comes from the Holy Spirit.

(2) Grace

(a) Grace and Power

1. **“My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”** Most gladly therefore I will rather glory in my weaknesses, **that the power of Christ may rest on me.**” 2 Corinthians 12:9 WEBUS

- a) God's power presents itself as His grace—His supernatural empowerment!
2. "that in the ages to come he might show **the exceeding riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus**; for **by grace you have been saved through faith**, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, that no one would boast. For we are his workmanship, **created in Christ Jesus for good works**, which God prepared before that we would walk in them." Ephesians 2:7-10 WEBUS
- a) God's grace comes to us through the person of Jesus Christ.
 - b) Grace first changes your heart and you able to become person of faith in Christ.
 - c) But you were made for something more—something beyond being saved...
3. "Being therefore justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ; through whom **we also have our access by faith into this grace in which we stand**. We rejoice in hope of the glory of God." Romans 5:1-2 WEBUS
- a) You can continue to purposely access that same grace, by practicing your faith.

- b) As a Christian, you have the supernatural power of God at your disposal to animate your life.

(3) Two Spirits

- (a) Christians have two spirits by which they can be animated!

1. “But to us, God revealed them through **the Spirit**. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. **For who among men knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man** which is in him? Even so, no one knows the things of God **except God’s Spirit**. But we received not the **spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is from God**, that we might know the things that were freely given to us by God.”

1 Corinthians 2:10-12 WEBUS

- a) Before you were born again you had access to only the spirit of the man.
- b) However, once you were saved by grace through faith, you gained access to the Holy Spirit as well.
- c) The Holy Spirit gives you the ability to know what is now available to you as a Christian—the amazing promises of God; the mysteries of God; and even to learn to think like God!

- 1) *“by which he has granted to us **his precious and exceedingly great promises**; that through these you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world by lust.”* 2 Peter 1:4 WEBUS
- 2) *“**But we speak God’s wisdom in a mystery**, the wisdom that has been hidden, which God foreordained before the worlds for our glory,”* 1 Corinthians 2:7 WEBUS
- 3) *““For who has known the mind of the Lord that he should instruct him?” But **we have Christ’s mind.**”* 1 Corinthians 2:16 WEBUS

(b) However, the Holy Spirit does not replace the human spirit. As a Christian, you instead have access to both—you must decide, at any given moment, which you will allow to animate your life!

1. “What shall we say then? **Shall we continue in sin**, that **grace** may abound? May it never be! **We who died to sin, how could we live in it any longer?**”

Romans 6:1-2 WEBUS

- a) Because it remains that you have access to the human spirit, it is possible to misconstrue the

purpose of God's grace and to thus abuse its power.

- b) Even as a Christian, your human spirit can deceive you into believing that willful sin might be a good strategy to potentiate God's grace.
 - c) Only someone who still has access to the human spirit would think such a thing. In reality, if one insists on such, it indicates that they really have no access to God's grace.
2. "knowing this, that **our old man was crucified with him**, that **the body of sin might be done away with**, so that we would no longer be in bondage to sin."

Romans 6:6 WEBUS

- a) Your old man must be put to death. You simply can't resurrect as a new man if your old man does not die first.
- b) Why is this so critical to understand? Because you must acknowledge that, *"you are no longer a slave of sin. For you have been freed from sin."*
- c) Engaging in sinful behaviors is no longer a forgone conclusion; no longer is sin the absolute state of the born again Christian—it is now voluntary.

- d) You now have access to both the Holy Spirit and the human spirit, so you are no longer forced to volunteer—you now have a choice! Said plainly, your new man is no longer destined to sin.
 - e) Your old man, animated only by the spirit of a man, was destined to sin, but he has died.
 - f) The new man, animated by the Holy Spirit, is *“no longer a slave of sin.”*
 - g) But you must make the choice at each moment!
3. **“Don’t you know that when you present yourselves as servants and obey someone, you are the servants of whomever you obey, whether of **sin to death, or of obedience to righteousness?**”** Romans 6:16 WEBUS
- a) Whatever it is that you habitually desire to obey, to follow, to emulate, to embrace, to promote, and to represent, it is to those things to which you become a slave. Pick the master whom you will serve.
 - b) Will it be your own lawless behavior animated by the human spirit, or radical obedience to God animated by the Holy Spirit?

(c) Even though Paul had access to the power of the Holy Spirit, he still recognized that at any given moment he could allow his human spirit to empower his choices.

1. “But **if what I don’t desire, that I do**, I consent to the law that it is good. So now **it is no more I that do it, but sin which dwells in me.**” Romans 7:16-17

WEBUS

- a) There has to be a viable explanation for how and why it is possible for someone to have died to sin, been freed from the bondage of Satan, and then united with righteousness, to still struggle by making the wrong choices.
- b) The answer lies in understanding what occurred at your born-again moment. And maybe equally important, what did not occur.
- c) The moment you surrendered your life to Christ you were given access to the Spirit of God and to His grace.
- d) But what didn’t happen is a complete disconnect from your access to the spirit of man, with which you were born.

- e) It still has the power to animate your flesh, should you choose. And that is the rub; you have to make a choice!
2. “For **I know that in me, that is, in my flesh, dwells no good thing**. For desire is present with me, but I don’t find it doing that which is good.” Romans 7:18

WEBUS

- a) Equally as critical is the understanding of your new identity.
 - b) Sure you maintain access to your old flesh nature, and nothing good can come of that. But you must also recognize that your old nature is no longer who you are.
 - c) When you practice evil contrary to the will of your new identity, it is literally not you who performs the dirty deed, but the sin that still dwells in your flesh, being animated by the human spirit.
3. “For **I delight in God’s law after the inward person, but I see a different law in my members, warring against** the law of my mind, and **bringing me into captivity** under the law of sin which is in my members.” Romans 7:22-23 WEBUS

- a) As a born-again Christian, two spirits dwell within you and each animates its own set of rules.
 - b) One will animate the evil that remains in you and that sinful nature will enjoy every ounce of debauchery. Let's call this the law of sin.
 - c) Then there is the one which desires to be righteous; the born-again inner man that delights in God's laws. This spirit is aligned with the mind of Christ.
 - d) As you can see, these two spirits align with two different sets of laws. One spirit is married to the law of God and the other is in a constant battle with it, and remains in bondage to the law of sin and death.
- (d) The options become glaringly obvious in Romans 8!
1. "There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who don't walk **according to the flesh**, but **according to the Spirit**." Romans 8:1
- WEBUS
- a) You must choose to be animated by the Holy Spirit and not inspired by your fleshly desires.

- b) That does not mean you must live a mistake-free life, but instead that you are obligated to feel horrified by your sin.
 - c) If you find yourself bathing in deliberate sin, and violation after violation of God's ways yields no conviction, then you most assuredly are not even in the family of faith.
 - d) But, if you hate your sin, God will erase your sin. If you don't, He won't!
 - e) And, if you love your sin long enough, God will eventually turn you over to your own lustful passions.
2. "For **those who live according to the flesh** set their minds on the things of the flesh, but **those who live according to the Spirit**, the things of the Spirit."
- Romans 8:5 WEBUS
- a) When a man's heart is determined to satisfy his lustful passions, his attitude, priorities, and actions—his entire life puts this on full display.
 - b) Conversely, when a man is dedicated to a life animated by the Holy Spirit, that too is on full display—no one lights a lamp and puts it under a basket.

3. “But **you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if it is so that the Spirit of God dwells in you.** But if any man doesn’t have the Spirit of Christ, he is not his.”

Romans 8:9 WEBUS

- a) Let’s get personal. What about you? Are you the type who desires to enjoy every ounce of lewdness, depravity, and lust right now?
- b) If the Spirit of God dwells in you that is simply not possible.
- c) When you were born again, the Holy Spirit took up residence in your heart, which means that if the Spirit is not present, then you are simply not a Christian.
- d) And if you are a Christian, then the old you who was infected with sin and death is dead, and the new you is filled with Christ’s righteousness, a life empowered by grace, truth and the Holy Spirit!
- e) So, don’t abuse your access to Resurrection Power by resurrecting your old nature with its sinful passions!

4. “For **you didn’t receive the spirit of bondage again** to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!””Romans 8:15 WEBUS

- a) You gained access to a new Spirit when Christ came into your life, separate and distinct from the human spirit with which you were born.
- b) The human spirit is actually a spirit of bondage because it has no allegiance to anything other than its sinful passions, nor has it the ability to choose God.
- c) Again—don't abuse your access to Resurrection Power by resurrecting your old nature with its sinful passions!

DESIRED OUTCOME

3. All things regarding life and godliness

A. Where is the destination?

(1) Destiny

(a) It's your destiny to receive everything God has promised and for what you were made in all areas of your life.

1. "seeing that his divine power has granted to us **all things that pertain to life and godliness**, through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and virtue," 2 Peter 1:3 WEBUS

a) You can come to experience His splendor, majesty, and excellence, as if your own.

- b) And you can come to know, like you know your name, what is right to God in every choice you make—in every arena of life.
 - c) Desired Outcome: your Destiny; your Destination
 - 1) All Things: Lacking Nothing
 - 2) Life: More Abundantly
 - 3) Godliness: Absolute Contentment
- (2) All Things: Lacking Nothing
- (a) His divine power has granted to us **all things!**
 - 1. “We know that **all things** work together for good for those who love God, for those who are called according to his purpose.” Romans 8:28 WEBUS
 - a) All things will work to your advantage if you dedicate your love and life to God.
 - 2. “What then shall we say **about these things?** If God is for us, who can be against us?” Romans 8:31 WEBUS
 - a) Regardless of what challenges you face, nothing that comes against you can outpace the advantages of God being on your side.
 - 3. “He who didn’t spare his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, **how would he not also with him freely give us all things?**” Romans 8:32 WEBUS

- a) When you consider the price God paid to make you His child by sacrificing His Son, how could you possibly believe He would not also provide everything you need to achieve what He called you to do in this life?
 - b) *"...You are not your own, for you were bought with a price..."* 1 Corinthians 6:19-20
- (b) What to do to obtain all things!
1. "But **seek first God's Kingdom** and his righteousness; and **all these things** will be given to you as well."
Matthew 6:33 WEBUS
 - a) Seek first everything that will make your more like Jesus
 - b) **Don't chase the things of the world!** *"Don't love the world or **the things that are in the world**. If anyone loves the world, the Father's love isn't in him."* 1 John 2:15 WEBUS
 2. "Let endurance have its perfect work, that you may be **perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.**" James 1:4 WEBUS
 - a) **Endure every trial that comes your way...**
*"Blessed is a person who endures temptation, for when he has been approved, **he will receive the***

crown of life which the Lord promised to those who love him.” James 1:12 WEBUS

(c) What you can expect with access to divine power!

1. “Now to him who is able to do **exceedingly abundantly above** all that we ask or think, according to **the power** that works in us,” Ephesians 3:20

WEBUS

- a) **Use your imagination:** the faculty or action of forming new ideas, images, or concepts of external objects, not present to the senses. The ability of your mind to be creative or resourceful. Your creative power, vision, inspiration, insight, inventiveness, resourcefulness, initiative, ingenuity, originality, innovation, passion, and curiosity.
- b) Now consider this: whatever you can possibly imagine that available because you love God, is LESS THAN what is truly available!
- c) It’s more than you can imagine. You have total access to the power of creation—to resurrection power!
- d) Can you Imagine? More than...

- 1) **Conquerors...** *“No, in all these things we are **more than** conquerors through him who loved us.”* Romans 8:37 WEBUS
- 2) **Knowledge...** *“For I desire mercy, and not sacrifice; and the **knowledge of God more than** burnt offerings.”* Hosea 6:6 WEBUS
- 3) **Provision...** *“Life is **more than** food, and the body is **more than** clothing.”* Luke 12:23
WEBUS
- 4) **Understanding...** *“I understand **more than** the aged, because I have kept your precepts.”*
Psalms 119:100 WEBUS
- 5) **Promises...** *“How sweet are your promises to my taste, **more than** honey to my mouth!”*
Psalms 119:103 WEBUS
- 6) **Riches...** *“Therefore I love your commandments **more than** gold, yes, **more than** pure gold.”*
Psalms 119:127 WEBUS
- 7) **Safety...** *“My soul longs for the Lord **more than** watchmen long for the morning, **more than** watchmen for the morning.”* Psalms 130:6
WEBUS

8) **Life...** *“He who loves father or mother **more than** me is not worthy of me; and he who loves son or daughter **more than** me isn’t worthy of me. He who doesn’t take his cross and follow after me isn’t worthy of me. **He who seeks his life will lose it; and he who loses his life for my sake will find it.**”* Matthew 10:37-39 WEBUS

9) **Everything...** *“So therefore, whoever of you who **doesn’t renounce all** that he has, he can’t be my disciple.”* Luke 14:33 WEBUS

e) **The Opposite...** to love what man thinks more than your love for God!

1) *“Nevertheless, even many of the rulers believed in him, but because of the Pharisees they didn’t confess it, so that they wouldn’t be put out of the synagogue, **for they loved men’s praise more than God’s praise.**”* John 12:42-43

WEBUS

(3) Life: More Abundantly

(a) He is food for your body, soul, and Spirit!

1. “I am the bread of **life.**” John 6:48 WEBUS

a) He is your source of life!

2. "The thief only comes to steal, kill, and destroy. **I came that they may have life, and may have it abundantly.**" John 10:10 WEBUS
 - a) He is your source for an abundant life!
3. "Jesus said to her, "**I am the resurrection and the life.** He who believes in me will still live, even if he dies." John 11:25 WEBUS
 - a) He is your source for a resurrected life!
4. "Jesus said to him, "**I am the way, the truth, and the life.** No one comes to the Father, except through me." John 14:6 WEBUS
 - a) He is life!
5. "I have been crucified with Christ, and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. **That life which I now live** in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself up for me." Galatians 2:20 WEBUS
 - a) His life **MUST** be the life you now live!

(4) Godliness: Absolute Contentment

(a) Godliness is holistic integrity: when all aspects of your **spirit, soul, and body** align with God's will.

1. "May the God of peace himself sanctify you completely. May your whole **spirit, soul, and body** be

preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.” 1 Thessalonians 5:23 WEBUS

- a) “For ***this is the will of God: your sanctification, that you abstain from sexual immorality,***” 1 Thessalonians 4:3 WEBUS

(b) Remember, you now have access to two spirits...

- 1. “that the ordinance of the law might be fulfilled in us **who don’t walk according to the flesh [*the body and mind being empowered by the human spirit*], but according to the Spirit.** For **those who live according to the flesh** set **their minds** on the things of the flesh, but **those who live according to the Spirit**, the things of the Spirit. For **the mind of the flesh** is death, but **the mind of the Spirit** is life and peace;” Romans 8:4-6 WEBUS

- a) Godliness demands that your human spirit align with the Holy Spirit!

(c) Soul (the mind, heart, will, emotions, intentions, inspirations, passions, personality, etc.)

- 1. “The good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings out that which is good, and the evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings out that which is

evil, **for out of the abundance of the heart, his mouth speaks.**" Luke 6:45 WEBUS

a) Thoughts and intents come from the heart!

2. "But the **things which proceed out of the mouth come out of the heart,** and they defile the man."

Matthew 15:18 WEBUS

a) What comes out of the mouth comes from the heart!

3. "**For out of the heart come evil thoughts,** murders, adulteries, sexual sins, thefts, false testimony, and blasphemies." Matthew 15:19 WEBUS

a) What comes from the mind comes from the heart!

4. "The **heart of the righteous weighs answers,** but the mouth of the wicked gushes out evil." Proverbs 15:28

WEBUS

a) What comes from the mouth indicates if a man's heart is righteous or wicked!

b) Godliness demands that your human soul align with righteousness!

(d) Body: health, purity, and every sort of function for the physical life, etc.

1. "Don't you know that you are God's temple and **that God's Spirit lives in you?** If anyone destroys God's

temple, God will destroy him; **for God's temple is holy, which you are.**" 1 Corinthians 3:16-17 WEBUS

2. "Or don't you know that **your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you**, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. **Therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.**" 1 Corinthians 6:19-20
WEBUS

- a) Your body is the domicile in which the Holy Spirit resides.
- b) Godliness demands that your human body align with purity!

(e) Godliness is holistic integrity: when all aspects of your **spirit, soul, and body** align with God's will.

1. "I exhort therefore, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercessions, and givings of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in high places, **that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and reverence.** For this is **good and acceptable** in the sight of God our Savior," 1 Timothy 2:1-3 WEBUS

- a) You are called to live a life of godliness.
2. "These things I write to you, hoping to come to you shortly, but if I wait long, that you may know how

men ought to behave themselves in God's house, which is the assembly of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth. **Without controversy, the mystery of godliness is great: God was revealed in the flesh, justified in the spirit, seen by angels, preached among the nations, believed on in the world, and received up in glory.**" 1 Timothy 3:14-16
WEBUS

- a) There is no debating the facts... Godliness involves your spirit, soul, and body!
- b) Don't deny it... *"holding a form of godliness but having **denied its power**. Turn away from these, also."* 2 Timothy 3:5 WEBUS

3. "But **godliness with contentment** is great gain." 1 Timothy 6:6 WEBUS

- a) Godliness is not perfection; godliness, instead, is the pursuit of perfection!
- b) Godliness is to seek God's will in all things.
- c) Godliness is the pursuit of God as your only source of true satisfaction.
 - 1) ***"For we brought nothing into the world, and we certainly can't carry anything out. But having food and clothing, we will be content***

with that. But those who are determined to be rich fall into a temptation, a snare, and many foolish and harmful lusts, such as drown men in ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some have been led astray from the faith in their greed, and have pierced themselves through with many sorrows.” 1 Timothy 6:7-10 WEBUS

(f) Godliness is a practice!

1. “If you instruct the brothers of these things, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, nourished in the words of the faith and of the good doctrine which you have followed. But refuse profane and old wives’ fables. **Exercise yourself toward godliness.** For **bodily exercise** has some value, but **godliness has value in all things**, having the promise of the life which is now and of that which is to come.” 1 Timothy 4:6-8

WEBUS

- a) As physical exercise is beneficial, so too is exercise in Godliness, but with a much greater benefit!
2. “...[add to] perseverance, godliness;” 2 Peter 1:6
 - a) The practice of godliness is indeed the 5th stage of your development as a disciple: to your faith add,

virtue, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness... thus how should you be living?

- 1) *“Therefore, since all these things will be destroyed like this, **what kind of people ought you to be in holy living and godliness,**”* 2 Peter 3:11 WEBUS

DEFINITIVE SYSTEM

4. A path to intimate knowledge of God

A. What is the process?

- (1) How do you get there?
 - (a) There is one process or path to your true destiny and that is available only through Christ.
 1. *“seeing that his divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, **through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and virtue,**”* 2 Peter 1:3 WEBUS
 - a) Along the path, as you progress through this process, you are capable of participating in such deep intimacy with God that you actually feel as if you are one with Him.
 - b) Definitive System (Process):
 - 1) The path to intimate knowledge of God.

(2) What does true knowledge look like?

(a) **A:** Intimacy with God

1. “I want to know Christ—yes, **to know** the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, **becoming like him** in his death, and so, somehow, **attaining to the resurrection** from the dead.”

Philippians 3:10-11 NIV

a) Conforming to His death, burial, and resurrection!

(b) How do you gain **Knowledge**?

1. “Now **thanks be to God** who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and **reveals through us the sweet aroma of his knowledge** in every place.” 2

Corinthians 2:14 WEBUS

a) By revelation in Christ!

b) We studied knowledge of and intimacy with God in our last message [Appreciating Knowledge](#).

(3) Now make a choice!

(a) Use God’s resurrection power and live a life for God, or resurrect your old nature and go back to your old life!

(b) Coming soon: “*For he who lacks these things is blind, seeing only what is near, **having forgotten the cleansing from his old sins.***” 2 Peter 1:9 WEBUS

QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

1. What does it mean to have access to divine power?

A. How might divine power be related to resurrection power?

(See: Ephesians 1:19-20; Romans 6:4-5)

B. How might divine power be related to God's grace?

(See: 2 Corinthians 12:9; Ephesians 2:7-10; Romans 5:1-2)

2. Write a comprehensive essay describing the two spirits that can animate the life of a Christian.

A. Use the following chapters to assist you in your answer:

1 Corinthians 2 and Romans 6-8.

3. What does Peter mean when he writes that you have been granted "all things" in 2 Peter 1:3?

A. Review the sermon notes pages 20-24 to aide your answer.

B. Be sure to include what it means to lack nothing.

C. Be sure to include what to do to obtain all things.

D. Be sure to include what you can expect from God when you use your imagination.

4. What does it mean to have life more abundantly?

A. Use the following passages to help: John 10:10; 11:25; 14:6;

Galatians 2:20.

5. Write a comprehensive essay describing godliness.

A. Refer to the sermon notes pages 25-34 for help.

B. Be sure to include a working definition of godliness.