

## PETER'S FAITH

(2 Pet. 1:1)

### INTRODUCTION:

1. Peter wrote that Christians can and should have faith that is equal to that of the apostles in its value and amount. That statement is one that ought to honor and inspire us.
2. Let us consider Peter's faith and see how it can help us with our like precious faith.

### DISCUSSION:

- I. Peter's faith began well.
  - A. Peter was told by his brother that the messiah they had been waiting for from the beginning had come and Peter did not quibble (John 1:40-42).
  - B. So too our faith must begin with an interest in and deep desire for truth (2 Thess. 2:10).
    1. We must have honest hearts (Ps. 51:17; Is. 66:2; Matt. 5:3-6).
    2. We must be willing to follow the truth no matter where it leads us (Matt. 5:10-12, 20, 44-48).
- II. Peter's faith guided his steps.
  - A. Peter left all to follow Jesus (Matt. 4:18-20, 19:27).
  - B. Peter walked on water (Matt. 14:22-33).
  - C. We must also allow Jesus to guide our steps despite our doubts (2 Tim. 1:12) and stumbles (2 Pet. 1:10).
- III. Peter's faith guided his tongue.
  - A. Peter confessed Jesus the Christ, the Son of the living God (Matt. 16:13-19).
  - B. This confession would earn him death at the hands of the Jewish leadership (John 8:59).
  - C. We too must come to a point in our faith where Jesus becomes both savior AND God (Titus 2:13; John 1:49; 20:28).
  - D. Then we must speak all according to our faith (Col. 3:17).
- IV. Peter's faith was genuine.
  - A. Peter was ready to die for Jesus (26:51-54; John 18:10, 11).
  - B. We too must have the faith to not only be willing to die for Jesus, but also to live for Him (Gal. 2:20).
- V. Peter's faith never stopped growing.
  - A. Peter still had his stumbling blocks (Gal. 2:11) but his faith enabled him to keep on growing in his faith via humility and love of the truth (2 Pet. 3:14-18).
  - B. We too must continue to grow unto salvation (2 Pet. 1:3-11) and the salvation of others (1 Tim. 4:12-16).

### CONCLUSION:

1. Peter's faith began with an honest and humble heart. He walked and talked from his faith, even though he did not do so perfectly. His faith was genuine and sincere, even though his sincerity was greater than his knowledge. His faith was always growing because of his willingness to continue to be taught.
2. We too must possess an honest and humble heart, and continue to possess it. We too must walk and talk as the truth of our God and Savior Jesus Christ would have us, that is, we must live by faith (Rom. 1:17). Our faith also must not be something we do but who we are (Col. 3:1-4). It ought to define us. And finally, we too must continue in our pursuit of Christ-likeness until we achieve our joy of joys, Christ-with-ness.
3. Invitation.