

Declaration of Dependence

2 PETER: GOD'S POWER AND PROMISES, Part 1

2 Peter 1:1-11

Pastor Tony Shen

Fourth of July 2021

Del Rey Church

1. Our Sovereign King Promises and Provides (1:1-4)

Jesus is:

God
Savior
Christ
Lord

He grants to us everything pertaining to life and godliness (1:3)

He grants to us His precious and magnificent promises (1:4)

2. We Subjects Declare Our Dependence...and Diligence (1:5-7)

Diligence

Faith

Moral excellence

Knowledge

Self-control

Perseverance

Godliness

Brotherly kindness

Love

3. Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death (1:8-9)

4. Elections and Border Crossings (1:10-11)

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

You † Your Family † Your Friends † Your Community Group

Icebreaker: How did you spend Independence Day?

1. The letter of 2 Peter is short. Read the whole letter together, taking note of how Peter's theme of God's power flows through

- His supplying believers with everything we need
- His communicating to us through His word
- His punishment of past evil as a promise of future punishment of current evil
- His future fulfillment of prophecies He has given through His prophets

2. Why is important to recognize that God's gifts precede our actions – even one's faith, which is "received" (verse 1:1)?

3. Discuss the importance of the difference between simply knowing facts about God ("head knowledge") versus "true knowledge" (1:3) which is saving trust in God. What is "true knowledge" of and saving faith in God and Jesus Christ?

4. How does the fact that God "has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness" (1:3) and "has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises" (1:4) give you confidence to "partake in the divine nature" and "escape corruption" (1:4)?

5. Ask someone you know and trust to lovingly tell you where can you grow in diligence, faith, virtue, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love. What do you think? What will you do to grow in these things?

6. How does knowing and trusting that a promise will be fulfilled in the future affect your attitude and behavior in the present? Think of everyday examples as well as God-oriented ones.

7. Spend time in prayer thanking God for His precious and magnificent promises, His loving provision of our needs. Ask for a heart that truly believes His promises and lives life in diligence and glad anticipation that He will fulfill them.