



For Further Study



Read and meditate on the passage below:

17 Therefore, dear friends, since you have been forewarned, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of the lawless and fall from your secure position. 18 But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen. (2 Peter 3:18-19)

These verses come from a letter attributed to the apostle, Peter. In the previous verses, Peter speaks about being careful to not get misled by false teaching that God leaves us to our own destruction. Instead, Peter reminds us that God is near and that he will bring about equity and justice.

In the above verses, we are warned about being on guard or watchful so that we are not carried away by the erroneous thinking of lawlessness. There is danger in the extremes. Paul oftentimes cautioned about being too centered on the Law (being obedient) as a means of pleasing God; Peter cautions about the opposite extreme--being too free-spirited and not striving to follow the guidance and instruction of God, which leads to us falling into false notions about what provides meaningful and lasting fulfillment.

Peter encourages us to grow, which takes time and intentionality. He is concerned that we grow in both grace and knowledge. The biblical idea of knowledge is experiential; we know more as we spend time with the subject, which in this case is “the Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.” So, if we want to live a life that has value and influence, resulting in joy and fullness, we need to focus on knowing Jesus and understanding his grace for us and others.



REFLECTION:

How well do I know Jesus and his grace?

PRACTICE:

Spend time doing something to help you get to know Jesus better this week.