

# ARISE AND BUILD

Neh. 2:20

“...we his servants will arise and build...”

*“Arise and Build Your Faith”*

2 Pet. 1:1-4

2 Pet. 1:1 Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, **to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:**

2 Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,

3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that *pertain* unto life and godliness, **through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:**

4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be **partakers of the divine nature**, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

The last few weeks we have focused upon the home and unlikely sources that the Lord changed, who were instrumental and influential in affecting their families and friends for the glory of God. One very unlikely source was Rahab the harlot. Notice Heb. 11:31...

Heb. 11:31 **By faith the harlot Rahab** perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.

The key for Rahab, as well as for each of us is...FAITH. A dynamic faith will produce dynamic results in any family.

This morning, we will begin a new series from 2 Peter...

*“Arise and Build Your Faith”*

Faith in Christ is the beginning, but, according to the Holy Spirit’s moving upon the Apostle, faith needs to grow, and believers are commanded to develop a growing faith:

2 Pet. 1:5 And beside this, **giving all diligence, add to your faith...**”

Our text this morning prepares us for this command by giving us “the secret of commencing well.” Let’s review verse one (2 Pet. 1:1.)

2 Pet. 1:1 Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, **to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:**

When the Holy Spirit moved the Apostle Peter to pen this epistle, the believers were living under the constant threat of persecution. They were scared, discouraged, and were fighting emotions from within, as well as the challenges from without. This epistle is one of great encouragement for believers that were facing a myriad of challenges, instructing them to *add to their faith*.

Let's begin by looking at Faith's Convictions:

## I. FAITH'S CONVICTIONS, 1:1-21

### A. As to the walk with God, 1:1-15

## 1. The secret of commencing well, 1:1-4

2 Pet. 1:1 Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, **to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:**

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a. How to be saved, 1:1-3b

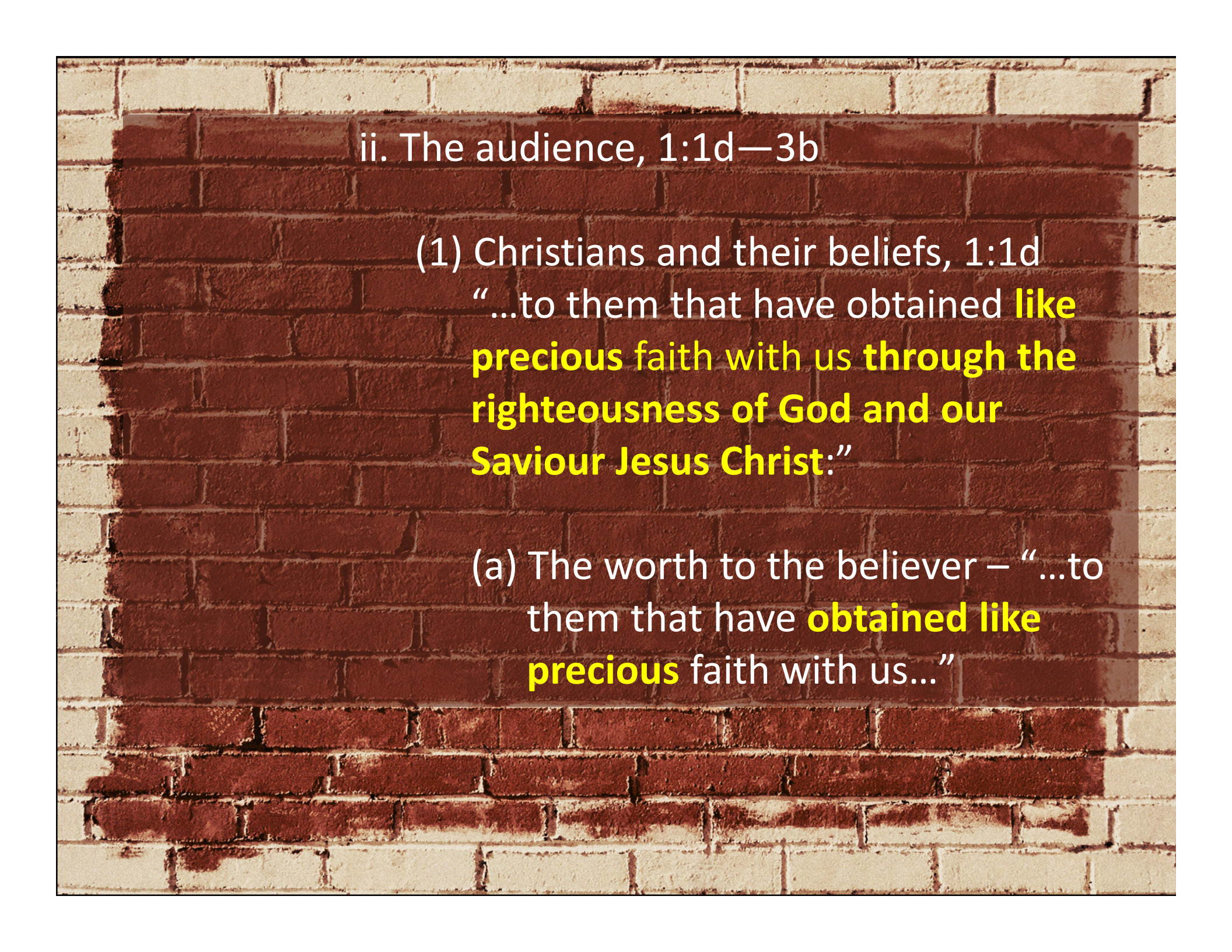
i. The author, 1:1a-c

(1) His signature, 1:1a “Simon Peter...”

(2) His status, 1:1b-c

(a) His lowly status, 1:1b “...a servant...”

(b) His lofty status, 1:1c “...and an apostle of Jesus Christ...”



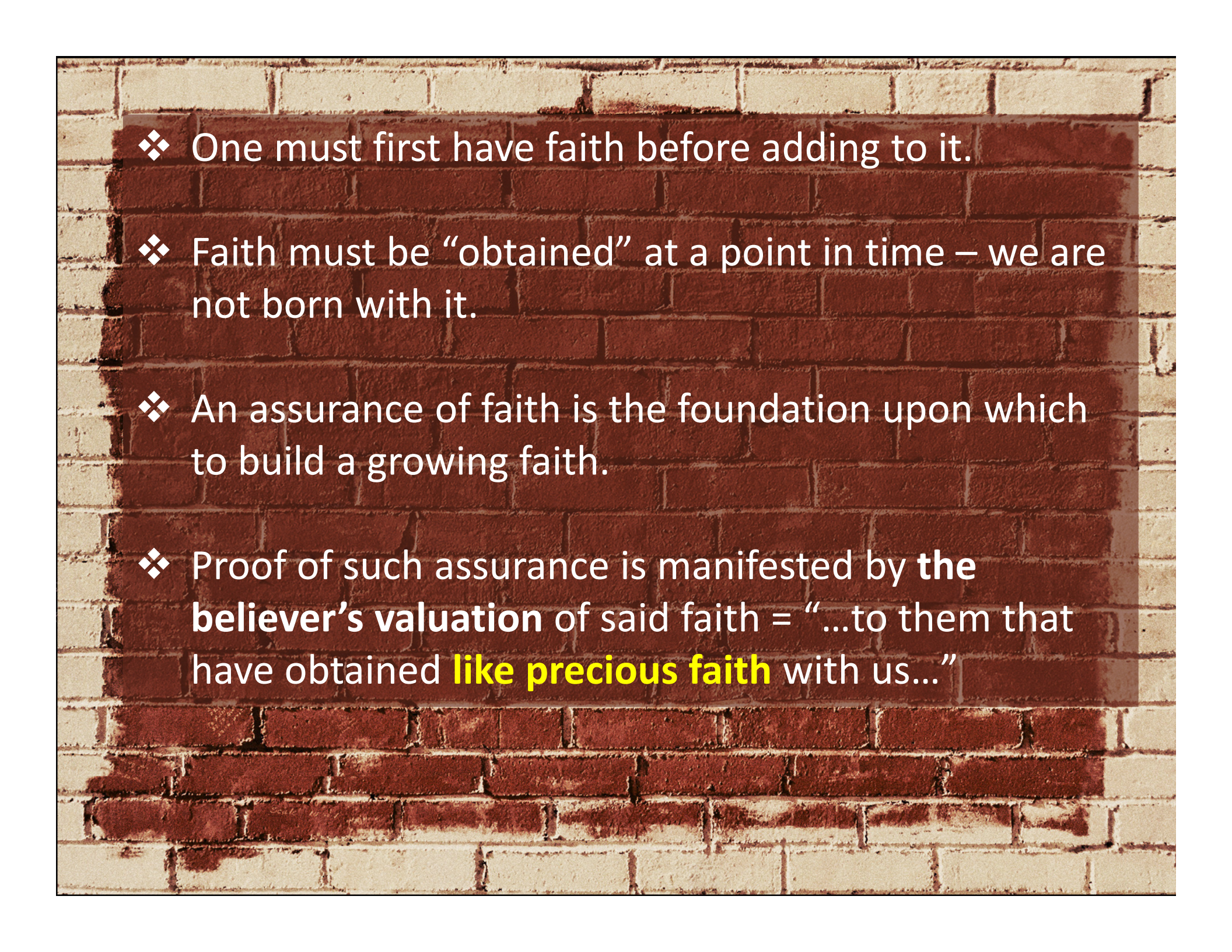
ii. The audience, 1:1d—3b

(1) Christians and their beliefs, 1:1d

“...to them that have obtained **like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:**”

(a) The worth to the believer – “...to them that have **obtained like precious** faith with us...”



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- ❖ One must first have faith before adding to it.
  - ❖ Faith must be “obtained” at a point in time – we are not born with it.
  - ❖ An assurance of faith is the foundation upon which to build a growing faith.
  - ❖ Proof of such assurance is manifested by **the believer’s valuation** of said faith = “...to them that have obtained **like precious faith** with us...”

**Original Word:** ἰσότημος

**Transliteration:** isotimos

**Usage:** equally privileged, equal in honor.

*isótimos* (from *ísos*, "equivalent, equal" and *timé*, "assigned price, value") – **properly, having the same (equal) value**; "*equally privileged, held in equal honor*" (*Abbott-Smith*); of consistent value (preciousness, make-up) and therefore deserving *equal respect (recognition)*. (*isótimos*) is **only used in 2 Pet 1:1**)

<https://biblehub.com/greek/2472.htm>

❖ The faith of a believer today is **of the same equality of faith of the Apostle Peter.**

❖ Seven times in Peter's epistles the Holy Spirit moved him to describe something as "precious."

1 Pet. 1:7 That the trial of your faith, being much more **precious** than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: ...

19 But with the **precious** blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

1 Pet. 2:4 To whom coming, *as unto* a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, *and* **precious**, ...

6 Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, **precious**: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.

7 Unto you therefore which believe *he is* **precious**: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,

2 Pet. 1:1 Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like **precious** faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ: ...

4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and **precious** promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

❖ The value of faith is increased as one understands the WAY of salvation.

(b) The way for the believer – “...**through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ...**”

Psa. 32:2 **Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity**, and in whose spirit *there is* no guile.

Rom. 4:6 Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom **God imputeth righteousness without works**, ...

22 And therefore it was **imputed to him for righteousness**.

23 Now it was not written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him;

24 But **for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead;**

Jas. 2:23 And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, **Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness**: and he was called the Friend of God.

❖ Salvation, correctly understood, places the emphasis upon the Lord Jesus Christ.

Jn. 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, **I am** the way, the truth, and the life: **no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.**

❖ In order to “build our faith” we must begin by having assurance of salvation.

2 Tim. 1:12 For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for **I know whom I have believed**, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.

1 Jn. 5:13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; **that ye may know that ye have eternal life**, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

## (2) Christians and their blessings, 1:2

2 Pet. 1:2 Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,

❖ “Grace and peace...” are a result of imputed righteousness.

Psa. 85:10 Mercy and truth are met together; **righteousness and peace have kissed each other.**

Isa. 32:17 And **the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever.**

Rom. 14:17 For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but **righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.**

Heb. 7:2 To whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all; first being by interpretation **King of righteousness**, and after that also King of Salem, which is, **King of peace**;

Jas. 3:18 And **the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace** of them that make peace.

❖ “...be multiplied...” = the multiplication that is derived from the “knowledge.”

**Original Word:** πληθύνω

**Transliteration:** pléthunó

**Usage:** I increase, multiply.

*plēthýnō* – **properly, made full, especially to maximum capacity (potential);** <https://biblehub.com/greek/4129.htm>



❖ Such knowledge is an intimate and personal relationship with Christ that is experiential in total submission of the believer to know and do God's will.

**Original Word:** ἐπίγνωσις

**Transliteration:** epignōsis

**Usage:** knowledge of a particular point (directed towards a particular object); perception, discernment, recognition, intuition.

*epígnōsis* ("knowledge gained through first-hand relationship")

– properly, "contact-knowledge" that is appropriate ("apt, fitting") to first-hand, experiential knowing.

<https://biblehub.com/greek/1922.htm>

❖ Assurance of salvation enlightens a believer to possess a thankful heart:

Psa. 103:1 **Bless the LORD, O my soul:** and all that is within me, *bless* his holy name.

2 **Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:**

1 Cor. 15:57 But **thanks *be* to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

2 Cor. 2:14 Now **thanks *be* unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ,** and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place.

2 Cor. 9:15 **Thanks *be* unto God for his unspeakable gift.**

Col. 1:12 **Giving thanks unto the Father,** which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:

## Conclusion

In order to “add to your faith,” a believer must have assurance of being born again, knowing what salvation is and having knowledge of spiritual truth that substantiates genuine spiritual fellowship with the Lord Jesus Christ.

In order for us “*To Arise and Build our Faith,*” we need to know “Whom we have believed” and then serve Him because we love, and we love Him because He first loved us.

1 Jn. 4:19 **We love him**, because he first loved us.

Rom. 5:8 But God **commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.**

1 Jn. 3:1 **Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God:** therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

2 Cor. 5:14 For **the love of Christ constraineth us;** because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead:

15 And **that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.**

16 Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we *him* no more.

17 Therefore **if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature**: old things are passed away; **behold, all things are become new.**

18 And all things *are* of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the **ministry** of reconciliation;

19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; **and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.**

20 **Now then we are ambassadors for Christ**, as though God did beseech *you* by us: we pray *you* in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

21 For **he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin**; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.