

MAKING YOUR CALL AND ELECTION SURE

2 Peter 1:10-11

- **2 Peter 1:5-11** is a passage we appeal to occasionally.
We find therein steps that strengthen our faith
- But of equal importance is the results – **vs. 8-10**
- Of interest in this description is the phrase, “you will never stumble”
- A word that means to err, stumble or sin (LN 88.291), To trip, make a blunder, mistake (EDNT)
- found 5X in NT. Consider **James 2:10, 3:2**

- **2 Peter 1:5-11**

- This text tells us we can reach a point where we will never stumble, especially in a well-developed area.
- But the truth is, we all DO stumble – but the reason is because we have not perfected the traits Peter mentioned.

- **2 Peter 1:5-11**

- But of equal importance is the results –
vs. 8-10

- Today, I want to focus on the phrase,
“Make your call and election sure”

- What are some things we can do to
ensure our salvation?

Put on the armor of God

- We must never forget that we are at war with Satan. He is our enemy and trying to destroy us.
- **Ephesians 6:10-18**
 - Be strong in the Lord
 - Put on the WHOLE armor of God
 - We are in a spiritual war
 - The armor described – includes truth, righteousness, the gospel of peace, faith, hope, the “sword of the Spirit” (**Hebrew 4:12**)

Put on the armor of God

- As Paul wrote this letter, the Roman army was prevalent throughout the empire. Powerful and disciplined.
 - History records that in time they became more lax, lightened their armor, and failed to keep exercising. This contributed to the decline and fall of Rome.
- What can we learn? To make our “call and election sure”, we must NEVER let down our guard.

2 Corinthians 10:3-5, Jude 3

Love your neighbor as yourself

- **Matthew 22:37-39** – the first and second commandments.
 - The depth of our love for God and others will determine how serious we are about salvation.
- We will NOT make our “call and election sure” by hiding in a bunker somewhere.
- The essence of being a Christian is caring about others.

Love your neighbor as yourself

- **Luke 10:25-27** – “Who is my neighbor?” led to the Parable of the Good Samaritan (**10:29-37**)
- Conclusion: Your neighbor is whomever you have opportunity to help!

Love your neighbor as yourself

- We ought to be thinking about others
Mark 16:15
Matthew 7:12
Romans 12:18
1 Peter 1:22
- God is watching to see how we treat others.
We will be judged – **Matthew 25:31-46**
- Caring for others can help make your “call and election sure”, as God sees how you treat others.
Cf. Matthew 7:1-2, 6:14-15, 5:7

Choose who you associate with

- WE need someone that we can depend on and that will be there for us when we need them.

Proverbs 27:9, *Ointment and perfume delight the heart, And the sweetness of a man's friend gives delight by hearty counsel.*

Proverbs 17:17, *A friend loves at all times, And a brother is born for adversity.*

Choose who you associate with

- Often, who we associate with has a great bearing on the direction we go in life. WE need someone that we can depend on and that will be there for us when we need them.
- If you associate with the wicked
Proverbs 1:8-19
1 Corinthians 15:33
James 4:4, friendship with the world...

Choose who you associate with

- If need friends that are not only good, but good for us!

2 Timothy 1:3-5 – Paul and Timothy

Proverbs 18:22, *He who finds a wife finds a good thing, And obtains favor from the Lord.*

Proverbs 27:17, *As iron sharpens iron, So a man sharpens the countenance of his friend.*

Choose who you associate with

- Are your friends helping you get to heaven? When you choose your friends consider:
 - > Do they have good morals? Are they modest? Do they drink alcohol? How do they talk? Are they honest and respectable?
 - > Are they spiritual? Will they help you draw closer to God or hinder you? IF they see you erring, will they come to you about it? **Proverbs 27:6**

Use your talents wisely

- We all have abilities! God expects us to use our talents and resources wisely!
Matthew 25:14-30
- **Galatians 6:10**
- We all have different abilities –
Romans 12:3-9
- One day, we will stand before God in judgment – both the one who used his talents wisely and the one who did not have to answer. **James 4:17**

Use your talents wisely

- When we use our talents wisely, we are keeping busy doing good things.

We follow the example of Jesus – **Acts 10:38.**

Doing good means we have less time to do that which is evil

Colossians 3:23,
cf. Ecclesiastes 3:10

Keep growing every day

- Consider our opening context. It is about growing our faith!

2 Peter 1:3-7, with diligence we add to our faith:

Virtue – moral excellence, integrity

Knowledge – we have to know His will

Self-control – discipline to keep going

Patience – perseverance, stamina

Godliness – reverence for God

Brotherly kindness- closer to one another

Love – agape – we have to care!

Keep growing every day

- IF we develop these qualities, we will “make our call and election sure”

2 Peter 3:18, grow in grace and knowledge

Hebrews 5:12ff – for by this time...

Keep growing every day

- IF I want to grow as a Christian then every day I need to:
- Say something to God (prayer)
- Let God say something to me (study)
- Say something ABOUT God – tell others
- Do something righteously – if you are righteous, you will do righteous things
- Say something to encourage someone –
Hebrews 3:13, Galatians 6:1
- Bear my cross – **Luke 9:23, Matthew 10:38**

**If you do these things,
“So an entrance will be
supplied...”**

**Are you making your
“call and election
sure”?**

Let us pray!
