

God's Precious Gifts to You (*Part 2*)

2 Peter 1:1-2

Thought for the Day: Because of our faith in Jesus Christ as the Savior of our soul and the Lord of our life, God has blessed us with a number of precious spiritual gifts that are worthy of our careful consideration.

Peter considered at least five things to be especially "precious." What things do we consider to be precious and highly valued?

I. The Greeting / Introduction (1:1-2)

A. The Author (vs. 1a)

1. His Identity

1 Simeon Peter...

- As we spend time in the presence of Jesus, through the Word and Prayer, God the Holy Spirit transforms us into the men and women that He wants us to be.

2. His Credentials

...a servant...

- We have the privilege of being the willing, devoted servants of the Lord Jesus Christ for time and all eternity.

...and apostle of Jesus Christ.

- We have the privilege of being Christ's ambassadors and representatives to the world.

B. The Readers (vs. 1b)

1. Their Status

***ESV* – To those who have obtained a faith of equal standing with ours...**

- Every believer in Jesus Christ is a first class citizen in the kingdom of God.
- We are sinners saved by the grace of God.
- Through Christ, we have equal access to God.
- We are members of the body of Christ and each member is just as important as every other member.

***NKJV / NIV* – To those who have received a faith as precious as ours...**

- Precious: A word that was very meaningful to Peter.
- What are the things that are truly precious to us?
- 1 Peter 1:3-7 – Our faith in Jesus Christ is precious to the Lord.
 - Mercy: God does not treat us as our sins deserve.
 - God took the initiative in our salvation.
 - We are born again to a living hope.
 - Our inheritance in heaven is guaranteed.

- God's power guards us for eternal salvation.
- 1 Peter 1:17-20 – We are saved by the precious blood of Christ.
 - Christ paid the debt in order that we might be set free from the penalty of our sins.
 - "We owed a debt we could not pay; He paid a debt He did not owe."
(Unknown Source)
- 1 Peter 2:4-6 – Jesus Christ: rejected by men but precious in the sight of God.
 - Our faith in Christ is not misplaced; He will fulfill His promises to us.
 - He is the precious foundation upon which our faith is built.
- 1 Peter 3:1-4 – Godly character is precious in God's sight.
 - God can and will use our character to draw others to Himself.
- 2 Peter 1:1 – Our faith in Jesus Christ that brings us salvation is precious.

My Faith Has Found a Resting Place *by Lidie H. Edmunds*

My faith has found a resting place,
Not in device nor creed;
I trust the Ever living One,
His wounds for me shall plead.

Refrain:

I need no other argument,
I need no other plea;
It is enough that Jesus died,
And that He died for me.

Enough for me that Jesus saves,
This ends my fear and doubt;
A sinful soul I come to Him,
He'll never cast me out.

My heart is leaning on the Word,
The written Word of God,
Salvation by my Savior's name,
Salvation through His blood.

My great Physician heals the sick,
The lost He came to save;
For me His precious blood He shed,
For me His life He gave.