

When I was in college one time I had a very brief experience as a book salesman in the oil fields in California. I went about in those hot days, going from door to door trying to sell an atlas and almost everywhere I went having someone point out a mistake in it. So I got more and more disgusted and I quit rather soon. But it's not the sort of work I enjoy doing. It was blazing hot. I used to enjoy when someone showed a rather friendly attitude. I found quite a few on some occasions; other times very few! I carried certain tracts with me about the Loveliness of Jesus. I would occasionally hand them to people. I came to one door. A woman answered the door. I told her about the atlas. She had a very sour look on her face, looked very unhappy, and disgusted. But she let me go on and give my whole talk. And when I finished she very positively said, No. And I thought here is a woman who certainly needs this tract! The Loveliness of Jesus. And I handed it to her. It was the most amazing thing to see that woman as she lifted that tract. Her whole countenance, her whole manner changed. She said, Why are you a Christian young man? She was so happy that a Christian young man would come to the door. I talked with her and we discussed the things of the Lord for a time. Then after we had done so she said, Now let me see that book again. I said, No indeed; you're not going to see that book again. I said, I think it's a good book and I'm trying to sell as many as I can, but I'm not selling a book to anyone simply because they want to help a Christian young man! Well, I think you can see why I wasn't much of a ~~SUCCESSFUL~~ salesman!

But it impressed me that if we truly know the Lord, the peace of God should shine out through our face. People should see a glory in our face and they should realize we have something the people in the world don't have. No matter what the difficulties are God may send to us, He sends them for His purpose in our lives and it is for our good and we should rejoice as the Scripture says, Rejoice in everything.

So grace and peace Peter says, should keep multiplying in us and through us as we know more about God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

In v. 3 he says this is to happen according to His divine power. He has given us all things that pertain to life and godliness. If he has done all that for us why should we ever be sorrowful or gloomy? We look ahead to millions of years of joy with the Lord Jesus Christ. Joy beyond anything we can imagine in this life. Why should we have anything but peace and joy in our hearts? But we find it hard sometimes to have. We find it very difficult. The reason is we do not have enough knowledge of God and of our Saviour Jesus Christ. It is not enough to study the Word to gain that knowledge. We need the divine power to make it living and real to us. The power that raised His Christ from the dead. That power is available to every one of us, to give us the peace in our hearts God wants us to have through our ~~KNOWING~~ knowing the One who has called us to glory and virtue.

He says, By which are given to us exceeding great and precious promises that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature! Just imagine that! Partakers of the divine nature! That we are actually to be partakers of the nature of God Himself. Yet we grovel about on this earth and worry about the little things. I think really God must be disgusted as he looks at our nation and sees the people of our country