

The Benefits of Reminders

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1. The New Testament emphasized the need of Christians to be reminded.
2. Consider the words of Peter in 2 Peter 3
3. **2 Peter 3:1-4** – “stir up your pure minds by way of reminder”
4. **2 Peter 3:17-18** – “since you know this beforehand”

Discussion: “What are the benefits of reminders?”

I. CAUSE US TO BEWARE

- A. **2 Pt. 3:17** - beware
- B. (**Heb. 3:7-15**) – beware of an evil heart of unbelief and the deceitfulness of sin – like the rebellion of Israel, don’t harden your hearts
- C. (**1 Pt. 5:8**) – reminders help us to be watchful for the devil
- D. (**Mark 8:15**) – “Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees” – error stands out when we are mindful of scripture

II. CAUSE US TO RECOGNIZE THE POWER OF ERROR

- A. **2 Pt. 3:17** – “being led away by the error of the wicked”
- B. (**1 Timothy 1:18-20**) – some have rejected and suffered shipwreck concerning the faith (put away – KJV; thrust from them made shipwreck – ASV)
- C. (**2 Pt. 2:1-3**) – false teachers who will secretly bring destructive heresies – many will follow their ways
- D. (**2 Timothy 2:16-18**) – increase to more ungodliness, their message will spread like cancer
- E. (**Book of Jude**) – contend earnestly for the faith (:**3-4**)
 1. This is nothing new (:**5-11**)
 2. They are clouds w/o water, raging waves (:**12-15**)
 3. Remember the warnings of the Apostles (:**16-19**)
 4. God is able to build/keep us from stumbling (:20-25)

III. CAUSE US TO WATCH FOR A FALL FROM STEADFASTNESS

- A. **2 Pt. 3:17** – “lest you also fall from your own steadfastness”
- B. (**1 Cor. 10:1-12**) – remember the example of Israel and make sure that we don’t fall like they did by forgetting God
- C. (**Heb. 6:4-6**) – fall away and crucify again the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame

IV. CAUSE US TO GO BACK TO THE STANDARD OF AUTHORITY

- A. **2 Pt. 3:18** – “grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord...”
- B. **2 Pt. 3:1-4** – “that you may be mindful of the words spoken before by the holy prophets... and the commandments of the apostles”
- C. (**1 Pt. 1:22-25**) – born again by the word of God – this word by which the Apostles preached
- D. (**1 Pt. 4:11**) – if ANYONE speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. – Don’t turn aside to ‘another’ Gospel (**Gal. 1:6-9**)

- E. **(2 Pt. 1:2-4, 12-21)** – The apostles and prophets spoke the inspired word of God – this is our standard of authority
- F. **(2 Timothy 3:14-17)** – grounded in the inspired word of God

Conclusion:

1. Let us understand the value of reminders and be reminded of God's Word
2. Reminders cause us to:
 - a. Beware
 - b. Recognize the Power of Error
 - c. Watch for a fall from our steadfastness
 - d. Return to the Standard of Authority
3. Let us continue to grow in grace and knowledge () and recognize the value of being reminded.