

How To Confirm Your Election

2 Peter 1:5-11

For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love.

For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins.

Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

**For this very reason, make
every effort to supplement your
faith with virtue**

**His divine power has granted
to us all things that pertain to life
and godliness**

The indicative of God's gift precedes and undergirds the imperative that calls for human exertion. Peter did not lapse, therefore, into works righteousness here since he grounded his exhortations in God's merciful gifts.

- Thomas Schreiner

Philippians 2:12-13

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, **work out your own salvation** with fear and trembling

for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Luke 1:39

In those days Mary arose and went with **haste** into the hill country, to a town in Judah

Romans 12:11

Do not be slothful in **zeal**, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.

For we cannot expect to go to heaven
asleep. We are not taken there
against our wills. It is not our will that
accomplishes our salvation; but still,
grace saves no man to make him like
a log of wood or a block of stone;
grace makes man active.

– Charles Spurgeon

For this very reason, make every effort to **supplement your faith with virtue**

James 2:18-19

But someone will say, “You have faith and I have works.” Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder!

through the knowledge of him who
called us to **his own** glory and
excellence,

Philippians 4:8

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is **any excellence**, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

1 Peter 2:1

But **false prophets** also arose
among the people, just as there
will be **false teachers** among you

For praise they supply disgrace; for
knowledge, blindness; for self-
control, license; for perseverance in
good, perseverance in evil; for
godliness, ungodliness; for fraternal
friendliness, dislike for God's children;
for genuine love, its terrible absence.

– R. C. Lenski

and virtue with **knowledge**

Romans 2:19-20

and if you are sure that you yourself
are a guide to the blind, a light to
those who are in darkness, an
instructor of the foolish, a teacher of
children, having in the law the
embodiment of **knowledge** and truth

He means information about Jesus Christ and what pleases him. It is the kind of knowledge that comes from reading, thinking and discussing as a Christian.

– R. C. Lucas and Christopher Green

and knowledge with **self-control**

Proverbs 16:32

Whoever is slow to anger is better
than the mighty, and **he who
rules his spirit** than he who
takes a city.

and self-control with **steadfastness**

Hebrews 12:1

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with **endurance** the race that is set before us

and steadfastness with **godliness**

Nearness to God brings
likeness to God. The more you
see God the more of God will
be seen in you.

– Charles Spurgeon

and godliness with **brotherly affection**

Romans 12:10

Love one another with **brotherly
affection.**

and brotherly affection with **love**

1 John 4:21

And this commandment we have
from him: whoever loves God
must also **love his brother.**

For if these qualities are yours and
are **increasing**, they keep you
from being **ineffective** or
unfruitful in the knowledge of our
Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 3:18

And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are **being transformed** into the same image **from one degree of glory to another**. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins.

Romans 6:1-2

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it?

Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to **confirm your calling and election**, for if **you practice these qualities** you will never fall.

For in this way there will be richly provided for **you an entrance into the eternal kingdom** of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 6:11

And we desire each one of you to
show the same earnestness to
have the full assurance of hope
until the end

The dominant biblical pattern is neither 'let go and let God' nor 'God has done his bit, and now it's all up to you,' but rather, 'since God is powerfully at work in you, you yourself must make every effort.

– D. A. Carson

