



Berean Family Worship Center

One Church In Two Cities

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Tuesday-Wednesday, 04/02/19—04/03/19 - Group Studies

Lesson Series: Partakers of His Divine Nature

Lesson Series Text: (2 Peter 1:1-4)

Lesson (1): Like Precious Faith

Lesson (1) Text: (2 Peter 1:1)

All Scriptures are KJV; unless otherwise noted.

Prepared By: Dr. Walter Henderson III

- I. Man was made in the image of God. (*Gen. 1:26-28*)
 - A. God purpose was to create a species of beings in His image (*a representative figure*) and likeness (*a resemblance*) like unto himself.
 - B. They were to have dominion—subjugate, prevail against, reign, rule, to cause to dominate—the earth.
 - C. They were to have dominion over the works of God hands and all things were placed under their feet. (*Psa. 8:6 -Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet:)*
 - D. Man was to rule and govern the earth on behalf of God.

- II. Mankind was created Sons of God. (*Luke 3:38*)
 - A. A Son of God is a being that received his spirit and nature directly from God.
 - B. Adam was the first of mankind to be born as a Son of God.
 - C. Eve was the second of mankind to be born as a Son of God.
 - D. Mankind that are born again of God's Spirit are Sons of God. (*John 1:12; Php. 2:15; 1 Joh. 3:1-2*)

- III. Mankind after the fall. (*Genesis Chapter 3*)
 - A. When Adam rebelled against the commandment of God, mankind lost his Godlikeness, his moral and spiritual likeness of God.
 - B. Mankind received a new nature and began to function in the likeness of his new god and father, Satan. (*John 8:44 - Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him.*)

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When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.)

- C. Man became the servant and slave to Satan and to sin.
 - D. He no longer had the ability to fellowship with God.
 - E. He no longer had the ability to dwell in the presence of God.
- IV. Jesus came into the world as the Son of God and as a son of man; to deliver man from the power of darkness into the Kingdom of Light. *(Col. 1:12-13)*
- A. Jesus demonstrated what it was like to be a son of man and a son of God.
 - B. Jesus said that He couldn't do anything of himself. *(John 5:19)*
 - C. Jesus said that the Father that dwelleth in Him was doing the works. *(John 14:10)*
 - D. Jesus said, *(Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.) John (14:12)*
 - E. Jesus said that in order for us to produce the fruit of heaven, we must abide in Him; because we can't produce the fruit of heaven by ourselves. *(John 15:4-5)*
- V. The analogy of the vine and the branch. *(John 15:1-7)*
- A. The branch partakes of the nature of the vine.
 - B. The life source that flows through the vine, also flows through the branches.
 - C. As long as the branches are in the vine, they produce the fruit of the vine; they are one with the vine.
 - D. If the branch disconnects from the vine, it will stop producing fruit, because it can't bear fruit of itself.
 - E. The life-source comes from the vine and flows into the branch.
- VI. The analogy of the Wild Olive Tree. *(Rom. 11:16-23)*
- A. When believers are grafted into Christ, we become partakers of the root and fatness (*nature*) of the olive tree.
 - B. The graft must be made, so as not to allow anything between the new wild branch and the olive tree.

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- C. Nothing must hinder the life source (*nature*) flowing from the root, to the new branch.
 - D. When the graft is successful, the new branch will begin to look like and act like the tree that it was grafted into.
- VII. We are made partakers of our Lord's Nature by His promises. (*2 Pet. 1:3-4*)
- A. We must have faith in these promises to experience what they promise to us.
 - B. The Lord's divine power has already given unto us all things that pertain to life (*Zoe-the God kind of life*) and godliness (*God likeness and holiness*).
 - C. We can only receive the fulness of these promises according to the proportion of our faith. (*Rom. 12:6; Heb. 11:6*)
 - D. Let us not let one of these promises escape us. (*Heb. 4:1-3*)

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