

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **2Peter 1:12-16**.
- B. This weekend (Memorial Day) is a time of remembrance.
- C. Many times in the Scriptures things are told and retold for our remembrance.
- D. Paul told Timothy to "remember Jesus Christ" (2Tim. 2:8).
- E. Our lesson today is from 2Peter, and shows the importance of remembering.

I. **FIRST, REMEMBER TO BE ESTABLISHED IN THE TRUTH (2Peter 1:12).**

- A. As Xians we have been given all things that pertain to life and godliness. The truth is ours to know, believe in, and obey (2Pet. 1:3).
- B. The apostles did not give in to cleverly devised tales. We have through them the prophetic word made more sure. The prophets preached it, and the apostles confirmed it (2Pet. 1:16,19).
- C. The Bible is not a matter of individual interpretation, that is, we are not reading the opinions of the authors, but divinely inspired truth (2Pet. 1:20-21).
- D. The untaught and unstable distort the truth, we must remember it to be established in it (2Pet. 3:16).
- E. Take time to remember JC, as to be established in the truth.

II. **SECOND, REMEMBER TO BE STIRRED UP (2Peter 1:13).**

- A. The way to be stirred up is to continually add to your faith. Notice in the list how each one builds on the previous one. We are to move and grow from one quality right into another (2Pet. 1:5-9).
 - 1. Virtue (moral excellence).
 - 2. Knowledge.
 - 3. Self-control.
 - 4. Perseverance.
 - 5. Godliness.
 - 6. Kindness.
 - 7. Love.
- B. Be on guard that you do not lose or fall from your steadfastness (2Pet. 3:17).
- C. It is possible to fall away from the faith, if we do not take time to remember (2Pet. 2:20).
- D. Take time to remember JC, to be stirred up to good works.

III. **THIRD, REMEMBER TO BE DILIGENT (2Peter 1:15).**

- A. This is the second time that Peter has said to be diligent (see 1:5). In these verses there are two blessings, two actions, and two rewards (2Pet. 1:10-11).
 - 1. Two blessings: God's calling and choosing you.
 - 2. Two actions: Practicing and not stumbling.
 - 3. Two rewards: Entrance into the eternal kingdom, which is abundantly supplied.
- B. Remember and be diligent because God will NOT spare the guilty (2Pet. 2:4-8).
- C. Remember and be diligent because God DOES KNOW how to rescue the godly (2Pet. 2:9).
- D. Take time to remember JC, to be diligent in doing right.

IV. **FOURTH, REMEMBER TO BE PURE (2Peter 3:1).**

- A. Sincere in the NAS; wholesome in the NIV).
- B. False teachers promise freedom but are slaves of corruption themselves (2Pet. 2:18-19).
- C. Remember the words of the prophets and the words of X spoken by the apostles (2Pet. 3:2).
- D. Remember that this world will be destroyed. Since it is only temporary, what kind of people should we be? (2Pet. 3:11-12).
- E. Take time to remember JC, because we are to be pure in God's sight.

CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. It is good that we pause as a nation to remember those who have gone on before us.
- B. Remember JC and His word every day.
- C. From 2Peter, four reasons to remember:
 - 1. To be established in the truth.
 - 2. To be stirred up.
 - 3. To be diligent.
 - 4. To be pure, sincere, and wholesome.
- D. Remember that Jesus died so that we might spiritually live.
- E. Plan of salvation for non-Xians, erring Xians.