

How's Your Eyesight and Your Memory These Days?¹

2 Peter 1:9–12

Blind and confused! That's what happens when you don't keep up with your spiritual workout.

⁹ For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind,

having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins.

Keep up the hard work! It's worth it!

¹⁰ Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election,

for if you practice these qualities you will never fall.

¹¹ For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Here's why we keep going over the same old stuff over and over again.

¹² Therefore I intend always to remind you of these qualities,

though you know them and are established in the truth that you have.

¹³ I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to stir you up by way of reminder,

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Peter's sense of urgency, and mine! (*Hey! I'm not getting any younger myself*)

¹⁴ since I know that the putting off of my body will be soon,
as our Lord Jesus Christ made clear to me.

¹⁵ And I will make every effort
so that after my departure you may be able
at any time to recall these things.

The point is your relationship with your Creator through faith in his Son needs to be the focal point in your life. You came to Him with nothing and He has given you everything. Don't squander it! Don't allow yourself to get distracted from that precious relationship and his calling and purpose for your life. Stay tuned! Stay in touch! Keep working! Keep growing! Read! Study! Rehearse! Execute! Evaluate! Listen! Pray! Plead! Wait! Congregate! Serve! Love! Worship! Repent! Confess! Witness! Rest! Rejoice! Give thanks!

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, ¹³ for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. ¹⁴ Do all things without grumbling or disputing, ¹⁵ that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶ holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. **Philippians 2:12–16**

¹Message prepared for and shared with the congregation of West Salem Baptist Church and others, by Dr. Paul Null, Sunday, August 23, 2020. Citations from Scripture are from the English Standard Version of the Bible.