

“Perseverance”

2 Peter 2:17-22; 3:17, 18

A Study of 2 Peter and Jude

Theme:

Persevering / continuing in faith is the natural and inevitable outcome of having faith in Christ.

Introduction:

The Bible often speaks of the need to persevere in the faith. It presents falsehood as a threat to continuing in the faith. Because it calls us to persevere or continue, the threat of falling away must be genuine. How are we to hear the call to continue?

Outline:

1. **First**, the Seed Promise has intrinsic or embedded conflict (Gen. 3:15).
2. **Second**, the serpent and his seed actively and persistently war against the promised Seed and His offspring (1 Peter 5:8-10).
3. **Third**, despite the devil’s attempt to overthrow, God always wins (1 Thess. 5:23, 24; Romans 8:28-39; John 16:33).
4. **Fourth**, even though the end is certain and inevitable, the people of God are warned to guard against falling away (2 Peter 2:2, 3; 14, 15).
5. **Fifth**, Scripture speaks of those who appear as churchgoers, as followers of Christ, falling away (2 Pet. 2:19-22).
6. **Sixth**, the issue in perseverance is seed (2 Peter 1:3, 4).
7. **Seventh**, for us, our assurance is in believing, not in doing. Moreover, it is because we believe, we do. The opposite is not equally true.
8. **Eighth**, although the threat is real, the believing can never fall away (Matt. 24:22-24).

Shepherding the Sheep: (What is the NEXT STEP?)

1. Today, I am not asking you if you believed, but do you believe.
2. Do not put your trust or confidence in a faith you had as a child or teenager, if that same faith is currently inoperative.
3. If you find yourself outside the Christian faith yet believing you once were, then today I invite you to believe anew. Come to Jesus and reunite with His Church.
4. Finally, as a believer rest in the finished work of Jesus Christ for He alone is our only means of rescue from sin and death.

Waukesha Bible Church is a family of families seeking to live in **the Storyline of the Bible**. She is determined by design to have a **God-centered, Christ-exalting worship; a Word-centered teaching** focused on personal **discipleship** through intentional and systematic instruction; a **Global-impacting mission** that resolves to be a **church planting church**; and a **Grace-based fellowship** where disciples are invited to live under a **reigning grace** characterized by a **Gospel-driven sanctification** that celebrates a divine **monergism** to the Christian life.