

Jude - half-brother of Jesus -

21 Epistles

{
13 by Paul
1 by James
1 by Jude
2 by Peter
3 by John
Hebrews.
}

{
James - "works"
Peter - "hope"
John - "love"
Jude - "faith"
}

Peter imprisoned & persecuted -

to give hope & courage to scattered Christians
to help meet daily problems -

Be {strong
brave
happy}

{
"Honor all men"
"Love the brethren"
"Fear God"
"Honor the king"
}

{
Precious Faith
Precious promises
Great growth
Precious entrance
Precious blood of Christ
}

Cathedrals

Milan .. more than 500 yrs in building -

follows self-control - Exercise of self-control develops patience
Patience - Steadfastness - endurance without murmuring -

in the home - school - business - church -

→ God supplies best example -

It is thru patience we acquire the possession
of character.

Godliness - Godlikeness - unselfish - pure - noble -
forgiveness - patience -
this quality of soul comes through worship -

Brotherly kindness - How we need it! Kindness -
When we ~~are~~ like God we will be kind to one another
Considerate - thoughtful -

Love - agape - climax - the crown of character - the ^{supreme} virtue
highest love - crown of graces - ^{Capstone}

Paul says: "And above all these things put on love,
which is the bond of perfectness". (Col. 3:14)

The Christian possessed divine nature ∴ he must
engage in a strenuous struggle to maintain
his purity & increase effectiveness of his piety

3
God's part in building - { furnishes the plan
supplies the incentive
Provides the wisdom + power
Places his resources at man's disposal - extends the encouragement of
His approving presence

Man's part in building -

{ Man must use them -
must prove his faith by obedient building.
make good use of God's investment of grace in us.

The value of Christian character -

"that ye neither be barren nor unfruitful"

"we are created in Christ Jesus unto good works"

"Here in is my Father glorified that ye bear much fruit, so shall ye be my disciples"

Faith, virtue, knowledge, self-control, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness, + love are worth striving for in this life because they will add blessings to life throughout eternity. —

How to build Christian Character -

1. Remember -

Jesus -

His wonderful words -

His sacrifice -

His presence in our souls -

His intercession for us -

2. Grow -

Involves a process - begin as "babes" -

The most beautiful temple in the world is a saved person who makes himself a worthy temple of the Holy Spirit -

3. Pray - The Holy Spirit is our partner in prayer

4. "Keep yourself in the love of God" -

- accept his love - love him in return -

- Live in joyful obedience -

5. "Look for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ" -

'Kept by the Power of God' -

Able to keep ~~up~~ from falling -

Motto Text -

"Keep yourselves in the love of God."