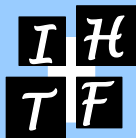


INTERNATIONAL HOUSE OF
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BEING RIGHTEOUS

1 - Seed of Righteousness

2 Peter 1:1-8 (New International Version)

1 Simon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who through the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ have received a faith as precious as ours: 2 Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. 3 His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. 4 Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires. 5 For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; 6 and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; 7 and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love. 8 For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The seed of righteousness refers to the act of doing what is right in the sight of God. The Holy Spirit enables the true believer to live a life that glorifies God. Out of the seed of righteousness that God sows into the believer comes the fruit of the Spirit. As one bears the fruit of the Spirit, God gives an increase in the harvest of righteousness. It is God who increases our faith, goodness, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, mutual affection and love in increasing measure. This is what keeps us from falling or being ineffective and unproductive in our Christian life. Without this harvest or increase we cannot please God.

2 - Harvest of Righteousness

2 Corinthians 9:10-11 (New International Version)

10 Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. 11 You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

Matthew 5:16

16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

A harvest of righteousness implies an increase in godly character. This passage implies it is God who enables a believer to be more like Jesus, who is the embodiment of righteousness. It is a growth in spirituality towards the divine nature and it comes only from God. He is our enabler. We become more and more like Jesus when God has supplied and equipped us with the seed of righteousness and we have received this by faith and exercised it. Then our light will shine before others, and they will see and acknowledge our good deeds and glorify God.

3 - Take Away

May we be enriched in every way so we can bear the fruit of the Spirit and have an increase in the harvest of acts that please God always. May we be generous in every way on every occasion, as this generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. We are encouraged to let our light shine before others, that they may see our good deeds of righteousness and glorify our Father in heaven. For it is God who will enlarge our harvest of righteousness. Amen!