



VIRTUE

2 Peter 1:3-8

The Healing of America

Is there still hope?

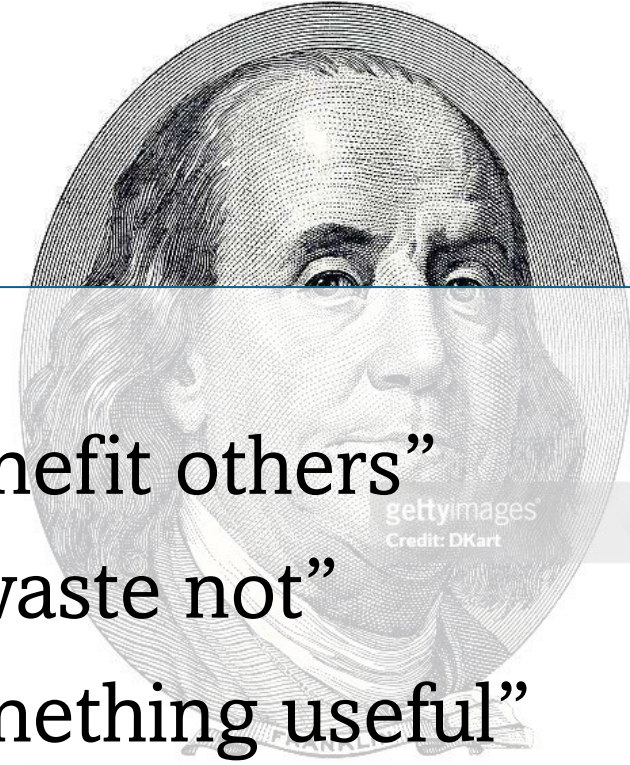
2 Chron 7:14 if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

Revelation 22:2 In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, *was* the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each *tree* yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree *were* for the healing of the nations.

Virtue (arete)

- Moral excellence, which procures preeminent estimation, to stand out as excellent
 - Inner quality which strives for excellence, demonstrated in life, fulfilling its purpose
 - Excellence and courage to excel in life, to stand for God, fulfilling one's purpose

Benjamin Franklin



Rules of virtue..

- Speech “speak not but what may benefit others”
- Frugality “no expense but to good, waste not”
- Industry “be always employed in something useful”
- Justice “wrong none by injuries or omitting duty”
- Tranquillity “be not disturbed by common accidents”
- Humility “imitate Jesus and men of wisdom like Socrates”

Divine Power

2 Peter 1:2-3 Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, ³ as His divine power has given to us all things that *pertain* to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue

Divine Promises

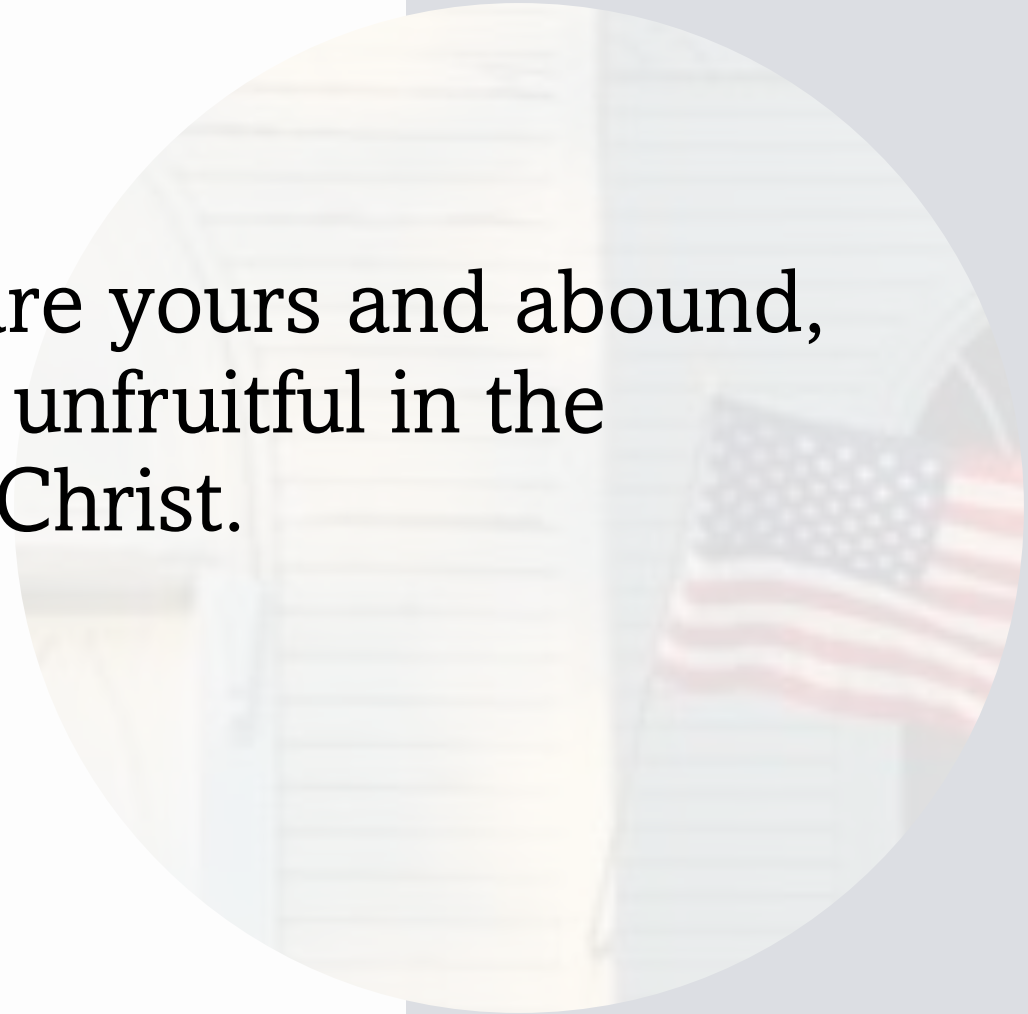
2 Pet 1:4 by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the [c]corruption *that is* in the world through lust.

Divine Progress

2 Pet 1:5-7 But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge,⁶ to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness,⁷ to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love.

Divine Productivity

2 Pet 1:8 For if these things are yours and abound, *you* will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.



America's problem is spiritual

We are mired in instability/incivility/immorality

- We've fallen for the enemy's lie "biblical virtue is outdated"
- Without virtue, America has no moral authority to survive
- Where will we turn to learn virtues?
- The only time tested source: the Bible





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