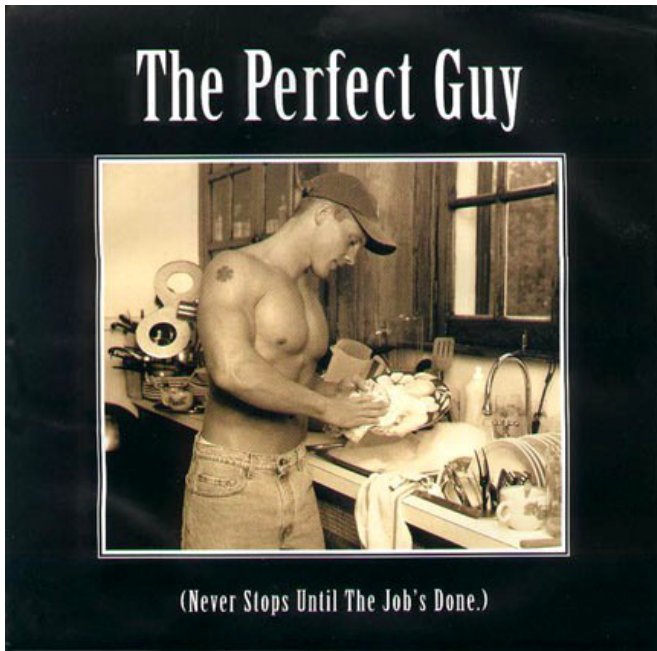
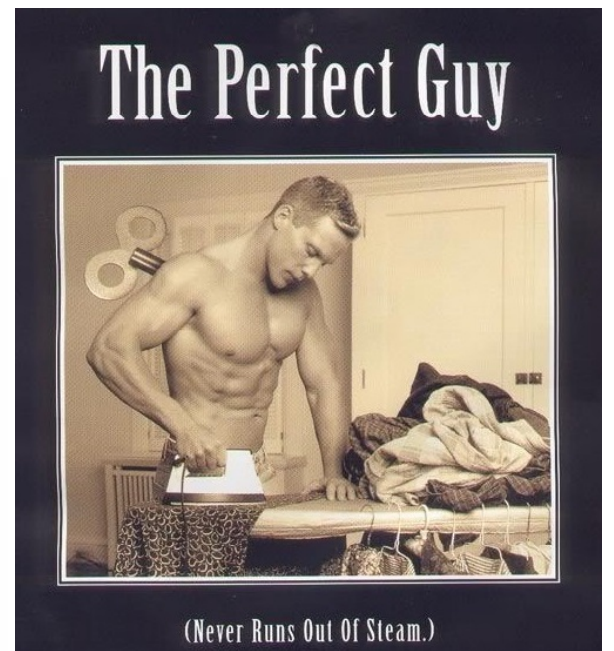


Process to Perfection

(KJV) Be ye therefore **perfect**, even as your Father which is in heaven is **perfect**



The Perfect Man
(He's quiet. He's sweet. And if he gives you grief you can bite his head off)

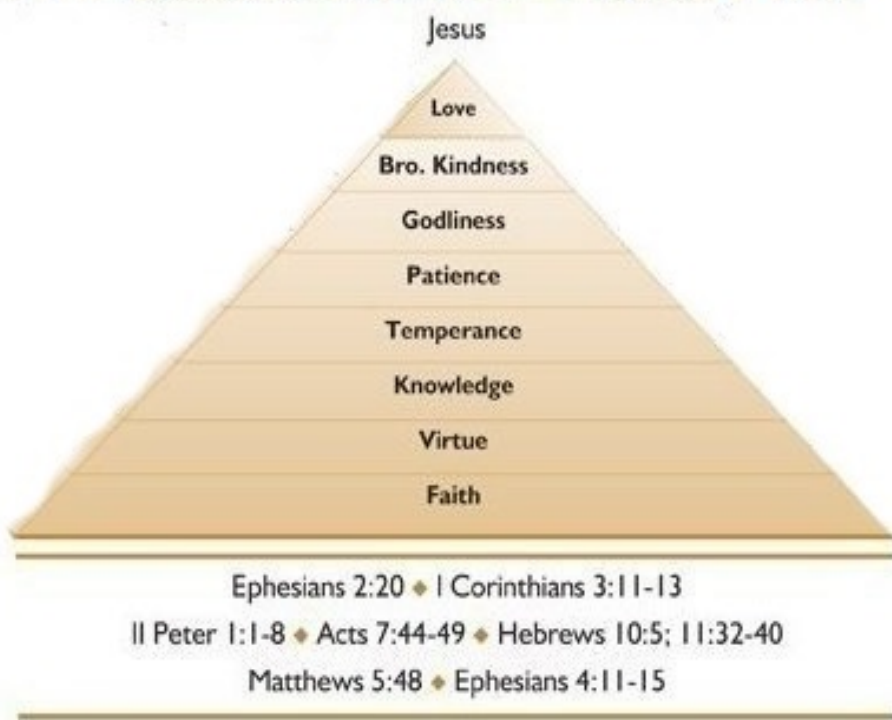


Becoming ... a Perfect Christian

At the Feast, Jan gave a message about our Salvation being a “process” that does not “end” at our Baptism ...

Today, I hope to begin to explore the idea of “What does God want of Christians He calls today?”

The Stature of a Perfect Man



2Pe 1:5 (KJV) ... giving all **diligence**, add to your **faith virtue**, to virtue **knowledge**, to knowledge **self-control**, to self-control **perseverance**, to perseverance **godliness**, to godliness **brotherly kindness**, and to brotherly kindness **love**. For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ

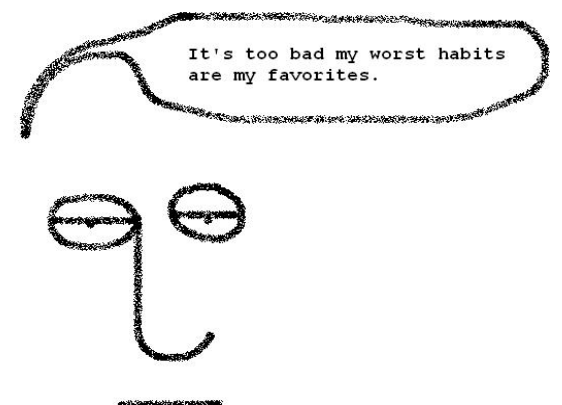
2Pe 1:5 (AMP) ... adding your diligence, employ every effort in exercising your faith to develop virtue (excellence, resolution, Christian energy), and in [exercising] virtue [develop] **knowledge (intelligence)**, And in [exercising] knowledge [develop] self-control, and in [exercising] self-control [develop] **steadfastness (patience, endurance)**, and in [exercising] steadfastness [develop] **godliness (piety ...quality of being religious or reverent)**, And in [exercising] godliness [develop] brotherly affection, and in [exercising] brotherly affection [develop] Christian love. For as these qualities are yours and increasingly abound in you, they will keep [you] from being idle or unfruitful unto the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2Pe 1:10 ... to make sure your calling and election; for if you do this, you will never stumble or fall.

The pyramid implies we build from the bottom to the top ...

Faith - Heb_11:6 But without faith it is **impossible** to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Virtue – One of my favorite subjects ... I have spoken of Christian virtues a couple times... (Php 4:8 ...if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things...)



Knowledge – What information does God want us to have to be a complete Christian? What should I be working on? What things do I learn best at Sabbath services? What things do I learn best via personal or home study?

(If I better understand what knowledge we want to work on together (at services via Sermons) it helps me to prepare and feed everyone most effectively).

Which items (knowledge areas) do I think will help me be a more effective Christian? ... take me further in my Christian walk?

<u>Doctrine (eg STP)</u> - God - Jesus - Baptism	<u>Bible Book Overview</u> - Genesis - Habukuk - Ruth	<u>Bible People</u> - Amos - Isaac - John	<u>Bible Places</u> - Jerusalem - Sodom - Egypt	<u>Events & Timelines</u> - Creation - End time - Life of Jesus
<u>Virtues & Vices</u> - Honesty - Longsuffering - Addictions	<u>Church Items review</u> - Booklets - Armor of God - Website / Webchats	<u>Prophecy</u> - 666 - Times of the gentiles - antichrist	<u>Christian Living</u> - at home (family,roles) - at work & - at play	<u>Corrective</u> - Sin - Wrong focus - Better choices
<u>In due Season</u> - Holy Days - holidays - life event (wed, death)	<u>Inspirational</u> - Vision - Work of God - Heros	<u>Comparative</u> - other religions - other doctrines - Guard from deception	<u>Religious topics,events</u> - Secularization - Freedom of speech - Current (Bible codes, Spiritual warfare)	<u>Other??</u> - - -

Which Sermons are most Effective with You??

Preaching is a verb which means the act of **proclaiming the gospel**.

It is interesting to see there are a variety of sermon Types available depending upon the subject and the need. All of the elements of a sermon can also exist in our personal Bible study ...

... but, in the case of a Sermon the whole congregation benefits from the **same message** so sometimes sermons are more “team oriented” to feed the whole congregation.

- **Expository Sermon** ... a comprehensive description and explanation of an idea or theory from one passage of scripture
Advantages

- Apostles seems to be using the same mode of preaching.
- It promotes solid Biblical foundation in one single context.
- It protects the preacher to be accused of preaching to individuals and using the pulpit for personal attacks or retaliation especially when conflict inside the church arises.
- It promotes solid exegesis because the message is just within the given passage.

Examples: Books of the Bible, Parables, Difficult scriptures
Adrian’s Weekly Bible Study,

- **Topical Sermon** ... focuses mainly on a particular topic, or a topic within the text.
Advantages

- It allows the preacher to have a liberty in composition and full treatment of any subject.
- It helps the preacher to be more creative and opens a wider door for rhetorical eloquence. (This opens up possibility of too secular subjects with too much personal views and prejudices)

Examples: Doctrines, Virtues & Vices
Jim’s series on the STP & Statement of Beliefs, David’s messages on English Bible, or Covenants

- **Biographical Sermon** ... A “topical sermon” focusing mainly on the life and example of a Biblical person
Advantages

- We can relate to human virtues and folly and can learn from powerful examples

Examples: Adam, Eve, Cain & Abel, Noah, Prophets Kings of Israel ... Apostle John
Murray spoke at the Feast about Nebuchadnezzar

- **Bible Story Sermon** ... is about telling Bible stories and then out of those Bible stories comes the sermon.
Advantages

- Purely Bible based
- It is more creative than that of traditional way of preaching.
- It is an eye opener that Bible stories are not only for kids but for all levels.
- It enhances our knowledge about the truths in Bible Stories.
- easy to plan ahead of time what Bible stories are you going to discuss since the Bible is composed of about 70-80% story form content

Examples: Every story in the Bible! Why is it included? What action occurs? Lessons for us?
The atonement message covered the Leviticus 16 ceremony

- **Narrative Sermon** ... uses experience and fictional stories and then quoting passages from the Bible to make a point
Advantages
 - Not purely Bible based, so it can cover topics not covered clearly in Scripture

Examples: Lessons from Disasters, Acts of kindness, courage, modern books or news stories & events
Mike James spoke about effectiveness of stories in learning, Adrian's recent message on Kung fu fighting

- **Other??** ... Did I miss any? When you think of "Favorite Sermons" what type were they?

Dangers ...

Isa_30:10 Who say to the seers, "Do not see," And to the prophets, "Do not prophesy to us **right** things; Speak to us **smooth things**, prophesy **deceits**."

1Co 14:38 But if anyone is ignorant, let him be ignorant.

Rev 22:10 And he said to me, "Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is at hand.

Rev 22:11 He who is **unjust**, let him be unjust still; he who is **filthy**, let him be filthy still; he who is **righteous**, let him be righteous still; he who is **holy**, let him be holy still."

Rev 22:12 "And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work.

You Must Be Ready

Luk 12:35 "Let your **waist be girded and your lamps burning**;

Luk 12:36 and you yourselves **be like men who wait for their master**, when he will return from the wedding, that when he comes and knocks they may open to him immediately.

Luk 12:37 **Blessed are those servants whom the master, when he comes, will find watching.** Assuredly, I say to you that he will gird himself and have them sit down to eat, and will come and serve them.

Luk 12:38 And if he should come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find them so, blessed are those servants.

Luk 12:39 But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into.

Luk 12:40 Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

Luk 12:41 Then Peter said to Him, "Lord, do You speak this parable only to us, or to all people?"

Luk 12:42 And the Lord said, "Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his master will make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of food in due season?"

Luk 12:43 Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes.

Luk 12:44 Truly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all that he has.

Luk 12:45 But if that servant says in his heart, '**My master is delaying his coming**,' and begins to beat the male and female servants, and to eat and drink and be drunk,

Luk 12:46 the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for him, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will **cut him in two and appoint him his portion with the unbelievers.**

Luk 12:47 And that servant **who knew his master's will, and did not prepare himself or do according to his will**, shall be beaten with many stripes.

Luk 12:48 But he who did not know, yet committed things deserving of stripes, shall be beaten with few. For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required; and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more.

