

SELF-CONTROL (See also "Control")

A. THE CONNECTION BETWEEN SELF-CONTROL AND SALVATION / SPIRITUAL GROWTH

1. An element of "faith in Jesus Christ." Acts 24:25 (compare to v. 24)
2. Taught to us by the grace [*saving kindness*] of God. Titus 2:12
3. Fruit of the Spirit. Galatians 5:23
4. Must be added to *faith* (and the other listed Christian virtues), in increasing measure. 2 Peter 1:6 (v. 5-7)

B. THE CONNECTION BETWEEN SELF-CONTROL AND OTHER THINGS

1. NOW: Things that are, or that should [i.e., must] be done.
 - Belonging to the "day." 1 Thessalonians 5:8 [*sober*]
 - Minds prepared for action. (Also: confident hope.) 1 Peter 1:13
 - Prayer. 1 Peter 4:7
 - Putting on faith/love/hope. 1 Thessalonians 5:8 [*sober*]
2. FUTURE: Things to come
 - Anticipation of "the end." 1 Peter 4:7
 - Waiting for Jesus Christ Titus 2:12 (& v. 13)
 - Minds focused on the grace/kindness you confidently hope for [look forward to] - (to be given/received when Jesus returns). 1 Peter 1:13
3. Opposition to evil
 - Saying "NO" to ungodliness and worldly passions. Titus 2:12
 - Resisting the Devil 1 Peter 5:8 (& v.9)

C. ADDITIONAL ATTITUDES & CHARACTER TRAITS THAT ARE REQUIRED (IN ADDITION TO SELF-CONTROL)

1. Proper use of the mind; attentiveness
 - "Alert and self-controlled." 1 Thessalonians 5:6 [*sober*], 1 Peter 5:8 [*sober*]
 - "Clear-minded and self-controlled." 1 Peter 4:7 [*both words translated various ways*]

2. Other Characteristics/qualities required in believer's lives.
 - List of qualifications for being an overseer. 1 Timothy 3:2, Titus 1:8 [*both verses: sober-minded, good judgment, sensible, etc.*]
 - List of virtues / character traits, that must be ever-increasing in the believer's life. 2 Peter 1:5-6
 - List of several things an older woman must teach younger women, regarding how to live their lives. Titus 2:5 [*self controlled, sensible, wise, discreet, etc.*]
 - One of the several characteristics required of older men Titus 2:2 [*sensible, wise, good judgment*]
 - How the grace of God teaches all of us to live: self-controlled, upright, and godly. Titus 2:12 [*sensibly, temperately, self-restrained*]

D. REQUIRED BY...

1. Overseers 1 Timothy 3:2, Titus 1:8 [*both verses: sober-minded, good judgment, sensible, etc.*]
2. Older men Titus 2:2 [*sensible, wise, good judgment, etc.*]
3. Younger men Titus 2:6 [*sensible, wise, good judgment, etc.*]
4. Older women are to teach it to younger women. [Implies that both must have it.] Titus 2:5 [*self controlled, sensible, wise, discreet, etc.*]
5. DIRECT COMMANDS APPLIED TO ALL - 1 Thessalonians 5:6,8; 1 Peter 1:13,5:8; 2 Peter 1:6; etc.

E. LACK OF SELF-CONTROL

1. General comments about it
 - Those without it are likened to a city with broken-down walls (= defenseless). Proverbs 25:28
 - A characteristic of people in the "Last Days." 2 Timothy 3:3 [*profligate*]
 - Lack of self-control in sexual matters is one of the reasons that a husband and wife should *not* avoid sexual relations for extended periods of time. 1 Corinthians 7:5
2. People who don't have self-control: what they are like
 - Nearsighted, blind, forgetful about being cleansed from past sins. 2 Peter 1:6+
 - Sleeping in darkness. 1 Thessalonians 5:6