

I want to begin this article by making one clear, easy to understand statement. I love sweet tea! There is nothing quite like it or any better in my opinion. It makes cornbread taste better. It is, for lack of a better term and in my opinion, the greatest drink this side of the Mason Dixon Line. I can say that because I firmly believe and have proof that once one rises above that imaginary line, tea takes on an entirely new flavor. I have been a sweet tea connoisseur for some time now and have seen people attempt to change it into something called "fruit tea" or "orange tea", or some other fruity concoction that should, now in my opinion, never be allowed in tea. Now I know that some of you prefer your "green tea" in a bottle from a store, but for me its tea (boiled on the stove), water, and lots of the greatest supplement in the world—SUGAR! It's hard to have sweet tea without sugar. In fact, it's not the real thing without it. Once again, I realize some cannot have sugar and the only thing you can do is use artificial sweeteners. For those with this malady, I hold no contempt, however, it is for those who for some reason knowingly choose some other device to sweeten their tea or mind blowing to me—drink it in an unheard of way—UN-SWEET!

Now good friends, don't take this tea thing to seriously. You drink your tea anyway you want to. I bring up the supplements we use for tea as an example. In our lives here on earth we supplement our lives with many things, Some are good and some are very harmful for our bodies and even our souls. We should always take heed to the supplements we add to ourselves, whether it be through our tea or our lifestyles. In II Peter 1: 3-11(**ESV**), we are told what to supplement our lives with and the wonderful hope that resides within us when we apply them to our lives.

**I Peter 1:3-11**, "3His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, 4by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire. 5For this very reason, make every effort to **supplement your faith** with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, 6and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, 7and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. 8For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, **they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.** 9For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins. 10**Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to make your calling and election sure, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall.** 11**For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."**