

Growing & Glorifying

Growing in Christ and Glorifying Christ While Awaiting the Second Coming of Christ
Maturing and Worshipping in Anticipation of Christ's Return 2 Peter 3:18 Chris Mueller 4-11-2021

Introduction:

Anticipation of Christ's return results in sanctification and exaltation

1-10

11-18

11 Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness

#1 Living for ETERNITY; *Longingly* 12 looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat! 13 But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.

#2 Living with sweet internal PEACE; *Diligently* 14 Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace

#3 Living for Christ-like PURITY; *Genuinely* 14 spotless and blameless.

#4 Living for faithful gospel PROCLAMATION; *Evangelistically* 15a and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation;

#5 Living for doctrinal CLARITY; *Wisely* 15b just as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given him, wrote to you, 16 as also in all his letters, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which the untaught and unstable distort, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction.

#6 Living for biblical DISCERNMENT; *Guardedly* 17 You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, be on your guard so that you are not carried away by the error of unprincipled men and fall from your own steadfastness

#7 Living for spiritual _____; *Progressively*
18a but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

1st CONTRAST *but*

2nd COMMAND *but grow*

1:3a seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness.

1:5...applying all diligence... 7 ...in your godliness, brotherly kindness, and in your brotherly kindness, love. 8 For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

FILLED
FEEDING
FELLOWSHIPING
FRAGILITIES
FATIGUING
FAITHFUL
FAMILY

Philippians 1:6 For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.

3rd CONTENT *in the grace and knowledge*

SURGEON: How easy it is to grow in knowledge but not in grace! All of us know far more of the Bible than we really live. Knowledge without grace is a terrible weapon, and grace without knowledge can be very shallow. But when we combine grace and knowledge, we have a marvelous tool for building our lives and for building the church.

1 Peter 2:2 Like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation.

4th CENTER *of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*

Ephesians 4:14-15 We are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ...

#8 Living for continual _____: Worshipfully

18b To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

CALVIN: This is a remarkable passage to prove the deity of Christ; for what is said, cannot belong to any, but to God alone.

1st PERSON To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

Isaiah 42:8 "I am Jehovah, that is my name; and my glory will I not give to another."

John 5:23 "That all may honor the Son, even as they honor the Father."

2nd PATH To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

Romans 11:36 For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen.

1 Corinthians 10:31 Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

3rd PROCESS To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

John 20:28 "My Lord and my God."

4th PLEASED To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

TAKE HOME

A - A Christian grows by living in the _____ and not by living in the flesh.

FLESH X-----average-----X SPIRIT

Ephesians 5:18 Be filled with the spirit.

B - A Christian's age doesn't guarantee growth or _____

SPURGEON: Do not imagine that because you are getting old, you are growing in grace.

1 Corinthians 10:12 Let him who thinks he stands take heed that he does not fall.

1 Peter 5:5 God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

C - A Christian's growth requires _____

SPURGEON: Nobody automatically drifts into spiritual growth and stability, but anybody can drift out of dedication and growth.

Hebrews 2:1 Warns for this reason we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away from it.

D - A Christian is one who has _____ their life for Christ's life

Mark 8:34 "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me."

Matthew 11:28 "Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest."

QUESTIONS FOR GROWTH IN CHRIST

1. Why don't Christians work very hard at growing in Christ?
2. List as many difficulties for growth as you can think of, for a believer? What are the top three difficulties for you in your growth?
3. What steps can you take this week in order to pursue growth in Christ, giving all the glory to God?



Sermon audio from today and past Sundays can be found at media.faith-bible.net, in our sermon podcast, "Faith Bible Church Sermons," and inside of the Faith Bible Church App.