

## HOW TO GROW UP SPIRITUALLY

### I PETER 2:1-3

#### Introduction:

- A. "Some people never grow up." A common comment directed at foolish behaviour.
  - 1. This is a fact.
  - 2. Adult bodies and infant minds.
  - 3. Throwing fits and pouting.
  
- B. There are many spiritually immature people.
  - 1. The source of much heartache and trouble.
  - 2. Little babies are cute, big ones aren't.
  - 3. Throwing fits and pouting.
  
- C. There are two kinds of spiritual infancy.
  - 1. "newborn babies" = just now born, even now.
  - 2. "carnal" = = I Cor. 3:1-3.
  - 3. "babe" = an infant, a minor. Heb. 5:12-14.

## I . THE FACT OF SPIRITUAL INFANCY

- A. The Bible teaches it.
  - 1. Our text.
  - 2. I Cor. 3:1-3. , Heb. 5:12-14.
  
- B. Experience teaches it.
  - 1. Experience with self.
  - 2. Experience with others.

## II . THE SIGNS OF SPIRITUAL INFANCY

- A. I Peter 2:1
  - 1. malice = badness, every form of evil, evil habit, wicked minds, thought.
  - 2. guile = a bait for fish; hence any cunning contrivance for deceiving, wile, craft, cunning.



3. hypocrisies = a reply, an answer, as on a stage, hence playing a part, using a situation.
4. evil speaking = slander, defame, revile.

B. I Cor. 3:1-3

1. carnal = an act the flesh would prompt and promote.
2. envying = zeal in a good sense, in a bad sense, heartburning jealousy.
3. strife = rivalry, contention, seeking to win.
4. divisions = factions, dissension, discord.
5. walk like men = behaving yourselves after a human standard, acting like unchanged men.

C. Heb 5:12-14.

1. Had forgotten the primary facts of Christianity.
  - a. v12.
2. unskilful in the word (v13) = without making trial or attempt, hence without experience.
3. cannot eat strong meat. (v14) Solid food is for full grown men, for those whose senses and mental faculties are trained by practice.

### I I I . H O W T O G R O W U P .

A. Laying aside = to put off from one's self

1. Like pulling off a dirty coat. Why?
2. What would it take to change your spiritual habits?
  - a. Pastor resign, music director; S.S. teacher?

B. Desire the sincere milk of the Word. .

1. desire = to desire upon, to long for.
2. sincere milk = pure milk.
3. of the Word = that ye may grow thereby;
4. spiritual cannot be settled apart from the Word.

### I V . T H E G R E A T N E C E S S I T Y

- A. v3. tasted = experienced the Lord.

## THE TRULY SPIRITUAL

I PETER 2:4-5

### Introduction:

- A. There are many worthwhile ambitions.
  - 1. To grow tall and straight.
  - 2. To be a person of honor and strength.
  - 3. To contribute to man's well being.
  
- B. The greatest and noblest of all ambitions is to be a truly spiritual man.
  - 1. To above all things, please God.
  - 2. To be the person we ought to be.
  
- C. How can this be accomplished?

### I. "KEEP ON COMING TO THE LIVING STONE."

- A. We must keep coming to Jesus.
  - 1. He is water. The only source.
  - 2. He is bread. The only source.
  
- B. "Disallowed indeed of men."
  - 1. rejected = to reject on scrutiny or trial.
  - 2. Rejection is emotional disaster.
  - 3. Jesus was and so shall we.
  
- C. "Chosen of God."
  - 1. Jesus was chosen to be a sacrifice.
  - 2. He volunteered to be a sacrifice.
  
- D. "and precious."
  - 1. He is precious only to those who know worth.
  - 2. If you don't know worth, not valuable.

### II. WHAT WE ARE AS TRULY SPIRITUAL PEOPLE.

- A. "Ye also are living stones."

1. We are made alive in Jesus. We follow Him.
  2. And become the live part of a building.
- B. "are built up a spiritual house."
1. oikos = the home.
  2. Not a house of brick and mortar.
  3. House of spirit.
- C. "to offer up spiritual sacrifices."
1. What is a spiritual sacrifice?
    - a. It is something pleasing to God.
    - b. It is praying spiritually.
    - c. It is singing spiritually.
    - d. It is preaching spiritually.
- D. "acceptable to God by Jesus Christ."
1. "well received by God, through Jesus Christ.
  2. Jesus is the only mediator.
    - a. I Tim. 2:5 "For there is one God, and one mediator, between God and men, the man, Christ Jesus."
  3. He is the only way.
    - a. John 14:6 "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."

