

1 Peter 2:1-25.

1. 1 Peter 2:1-3. The Christian Growth and that Which Must be Shunned.

1. We have here the idea of spiritual growth. Verse 1.

1. Growth implies life for only living things can grow.
2. Growth implies that this life is immature.
3. Growth implies that it is natural for life to progress.

It never occurs to us to wonder if a child will grow; we know that it will unless it dies.

2. The means by which spiritual growth is secured. Verse 1.

1. There must be the avoidance of all that is antagonistic to life. Wherefore laying aside:

1. Malice: Enmity of heart, ill will.

2. Guile: Deceitful cunning; craft and treachery.

3. Hypocrisies: Act or practice of feigning to be what one is not.

4. Envy: resentful, begrudging. Discontent at the good fortune of another.

5. Evil speakings: All reproachful or unkind speeches concerning others.

2. There must be the partaking of suitable food. Verse 2.

1. As new born babes desire the sincere, pure, unadulterated, milk of the word.

3. "If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious." Verse 3.

1. This implies that the Christian character is developed, even in its early stages, from a solid experience. Psalms 34:8;

"O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him."

2. 1 Peter 2:4-10.

1. Christ: What he is unto those who believe and those who are disobedient; Verses 4-8.

2. The people: What they are now and what they were then. Verses 9-10.

3. 1 Peter 2:11-12. A plea to refrain from disorderly passions and four facts suggested on this point.

1. Our outward life is scrutinized. They "behold" it.

2. Our outward life is falsely and maliciously accused. "They speak evil of you."

3. Our outward life should be beautiful. "Filled with good works." See also Acts 9:36-43.

4. Such outward life leads to Christ being glorified. "They may glorify God."

*At Day of visitation; the day when  
God shall make all clear and the  
heathen shall be converted*

4. 1 Peter 1:13-17. The relation of Christians to civil authorities and the Christian motive and duty toward civil government.

1. Generally speaking, that duty is submission, loyalty, and cheerful obedience.

2. When taxes are levied the Christian pays them; when service is required, the Christian renders it.

3. The Christian motive in obeying the government. The Christian does not act simply in his own interest, to avoid penalties, to secure place.

4. He obeys for the Lord's sake, with a Christian aim before him. He obeys because such is the will of God.

*Roman  
13:1-8*

5. 1 Peter 1:18-25. The Christian as a servant.

1. The duty of the Christian as a servant. "Be in subjection."

2. The difficulties of the Christian as a suffering servant. Verses 19-21.

3. The example to the Christian as a suffering servant. Verses 22-25.

