

“Growing Spiritually”

2 Pet. 3:18

Introduction

- I. It is the responsibility of each Christian to grow and mature spiritually.
- II. We all start as “babes”, but we are to go on to maturity (1 Pet. 2:2; 1 Cor. 3:1; 2 Tim. 3:16-17).
- III. John has written about some of the ways that a child of God can grow (1 John 2:12-14).
 - A. By knowing that our sins are forgiven.
 - B. By knowing Him that is from the beginning.
 - C. By knowing the “wiles of the devil”.

Discussion

- I. A child of God can grow spiritually by knowing that our sins are forgiven.
 - A. Christians have obeyed the Gospel (2 Thess. 1:7-8; Rom. 6:3-4).
 - B. Christians have salvation (1 John 2:1; John 14:6; Acts 4:12; 2:38).
 - C. Christians should not go backwards, but rather forward (1 Tim. 1:12-15; Phil. 3:12-14; cf. Col. 3:5-17; 2 Tim. 4:10).
- II. A child of God can grow spiritually by knowing Him that is from the beginning.
 - A. The “little children” and “the fathers” knew God.
 - B. We can “know God” (Rom. 1:20-21; John 1:1-2; 17:5; 1 John 1:1-3; 4:7; cf. 1 John 3:6).
- III. A child of God can grow spiritually by knowing “the wiles of the devil”?
 - A. We are to be strong (Eph. 6:10-1-13; 2 Tim. 1:7).
 - B. We learn how to overcome through a knowledge of the Word (cf. Psm. 119:11; Heb. 4:1-11).

Conclusion

- I. Christians should diligently strive to grow spiritually.
- II. Yes, it will take work, but it will be well worth it.