

GROWING IN GRACE
1 Peter 3:17-18

INTRODUCTION

- A. Our text.
- B. PS 1:3

DISCUSSION

- I. WE ARE TO GROWN DOWNWARD.
 - A. We are admonished to be grounded in love/faith (Trust And Obey). EP 3:17; CO 2:7; 1:23
 - B. Why?
 - 1. So not to be tossed to and fro – EP 4:14-15.
 - 2. To be unmovable – 1 CO 15:58.
 - 3. To be saved – MT 13:20-21; HE 10:23-24.
 - C. How? 1 PE 3:15.
- II. WE MUST GROW UPWARD.
 - A. So as to have as much height as depth.
 - 1. LK 9:26.
 - 2. HE 11:1.
 - B. To grow upward we must:
 - 1. Focus our mind on the things above – CO 3:1-4.
 - 2. Pray - 1 TH 5:17; LK 18:1.
- III. WE MUST GROW INWARD.
 - A. This is the development of the inward man.
 - 1. MT 12:43-45.
 - 2. EP 3:16.
 - 3. 2 CO 4:16.
 - B. To grow inwardly requires a good/honest heart.
 - 1. LK 8:15.
 - 2. RO 6:17.
 - 3. 1 PE 3:15, 4.
 - 4. 1 JN 3:19-21.
 - 5. HE 10:22.
 - C. Characteristics of inward growth.
 - 1. GA 5:22-23.
 - 2. 2 PE 1:5-9.
- IV. WE MUST GROW OUTWARD.
 - A. We must branch out.
 - 1. Always abound in the work – 1 CO 15:58.
 - 2. Preach the Gospel to all – 2 TI 2:2.
 - 3. Do good unto all – GA 6:10.
 - 4. Be an example to all – MT 5:16; 1 TI 4:16.
 - B. It takes effort – 2 TI 2:15.

CONCLUSION

- A. Am I growing outward, inward, upward, and downward?
- B. Growth as a Christian will keep one faithful.