

# The Growth of a Christian

**TEXT: 1 Pet. 1:22 - - 2:2**

## **INTRODUCTION:**

- A. THE FIGURE - BEGOTTEN AGAIN, BORN OF WATER & SPIRIT.
- B. THIS PRODUCES "BABES IN CHRIST" WHO LONG FOR MILK( **1 Pet. 2:2** ).
- C. WHAT ALL DOES IT TAKE FOR US TO GROW AND BE HEALTHY? THE IS A PARALLEL BETWEEN THE SPIRITUAL AND THE PHYSICAL.

## **I. BABIES EAT - SPIRITUAL MILK WITHOUT GUILF.**

- A. WHAT IS SPIRITUAL MILK? **kjv** => "SINCERE MILK **OF THE WORD.**"
  - 1. A complete diet( **2 Tim. 3:16-17** ).
  - 2. Life-giving( **2 Tim. 1:10** ).
- B. THE MILK? FIRST PRINCIPLES( **Heb. 5:12-13; 6:1-2** ).
  - 1. Can't live forever on milk, must have solid food( **Heb. 5:12--6:3** ).
  - 2. Ulcerous carnality sometimes calls for "baby-food"( **1 Cor. 3:1-3** ).
- C. THE MILK MUST BE WITHOUT GUILF - PURE.
  - 1. **kjv** è "**sincere** milk of the word."
  - 2. Greek, **adolos**, "pure, unadulterated"( **Vine** ).
  - 3. Contains no error( **1 Cor. 4:6; 2 John 9; Acts 20:29-30; 2 Tim. 4:3-4** ).

## **II. BABIES ELIMINATE POISON - WE ELIMINATE SIN.**

- A. "PUT AWAY" PASSAGES( **1 Pet. 2:1; James 1:21-22; Col. 3:5-10** ).
- B. WE MUST PURGE OURSELVES TO BE FIT( **2 Tim. 2:19-22** ).
- C. POISONS CAN DISTRACT( **Heb. 12:1** ).
- D. POISON EVENTUALLY KILLS( **Eph. 5:3-6** ).

## **III. BABIES MUST EXERCISE - WE MUST WORK( 1 Tim. 4:7-8 ).**

- A. VERY YOUNG CHILDREN ARE EAGER TO WORK( **Titus 3:1** ).
- B. WE EXERCISE TO DISCERN GOOD AND EVIL( **Heb. 5:14** ).
- C. WE EXERCISE TO MAINTAIN PURITY OF LIFE( **1 Tim. 4:7** ).
- D. WE EXERCISE TO TEACH OTHERS( **Heb. 5:12, 14; 2 Tim. 2:15** ).
- E. **Phil. 2:12-16**. GOD WORKS THROUGH US.

## **IV. BABIES GET SICK - SO DO WE.**

- A. BAD DIET - FAILURE TO ELIMINATE - LACK OF EXERCISE.
- B. GERMS( **1 Cor. 15:33; Eph. 5:11; 2 Cor. 6:17-7:1** ).
- C. ONE CAN BE SICK AND NOT KNOW IT( **Rev. 3:17-19** ).
- D. NEED FOR INTROSPECTION( **2 Cor. 13:5** ).
  - 1. The word is the standard( **James 1:22-25** ).
  - 2. We can know if we are well, and we can get well( **1 John 2:3-6** ).

## **CONCLUSION:**

- A. HAVE YOU BEEN BORN AGAIN?
- B. ARE YOU GROWING AS YOU SHOULD?
- C. IS THERE SPIRITUAL ILLNESS?