God Requires Spiritual Growth

Jeff Trahan · Titus 3:5

INTRODUCTION

- If there's one thing we need to understand as Christians, it's that the blessings enjoyed in Christ not only include things like redemption but also renewal as well.
- God wants his people to grow spiritually. In fact, Paul would say in Ephesians chapter 4 and 15 that we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head into Christ.
- It is a choice that we have to make. It's not something that happens by default. It occurs only when we choose to grow. And it requires effort on our part.

1 God Requires Spiritual Growth

Matthew 28:18–20; 1 Peter 2:2; 2 Peter 1:2–11

- Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.
- You can't be a disciple of Jesus without that willingness to be taught and that willingness to practice what Jesus commanded.
- Like newborn infants long for the pure spiritual milk. That by it you may grow up to salvation.
- Salvation is something we must grow toward. It's not something we automatically receive when this life is over simply because we were baptized at some point.
- Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
- There are qualities that we have to develop. These qualities need to be increasing. That's how you grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

2 God Also Enables Spiritual Growth

Philippians 1:6; Philippians 2:12–13; Ephesians 3:14–21

- We're not in this alone. This is not a pull ourselves up by our own bootstraps kind of thing.
- Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God who is at work in you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.
- We work out our salvation. It is God who works in us.
- He may grant to you to be strengthened with power through his spirit in your inner being.
- That's how God strengthens us. And truth is, that's how we grow as well. we make use of what God's given to us.

3 God Blesses Spiritual Growth

John 10:10; 2 Peter 1:10–11; Revelation 14:13

- These blessings, they begin even in this life.
- I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.
- These blessings that we begin to experience even in this life, absolutely they continue into the next.
- The way you make your calling and election sure is you add these other virtues to your faith.
- Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on. Blessed indeed, says the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them.
- Don’t quit working. Don’t quit growing because God blesses the kind of growth that he requires.

THE CHALLENGE

Why not commit yourself to that again? To not being stuck any longer, to making progress so that you can become the person that God wants you to be.

MY NOTES