

Tasting the Goodness of God

1 Peter 2:1-3



God is Good

All the Time



All the Time

God is Good

1 Peter Thus Far

Hope

Faith In good times and bad

Prophesied salvation revealed

Holy Christian Living

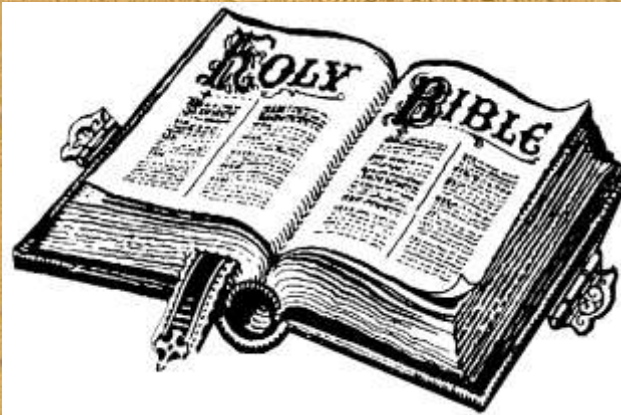
Holy because God is Holy

Walking with God

God's Living Word

Therefore, Live Out Your Purity

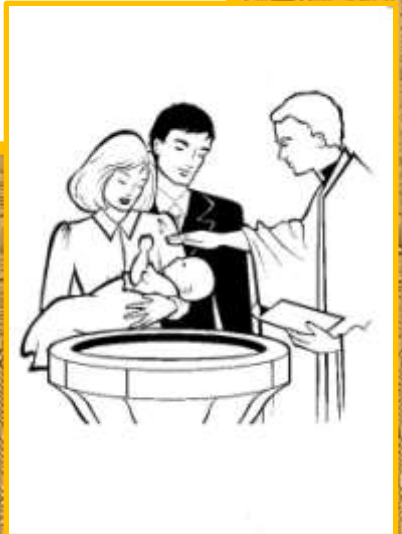
1 Peter 2:1



**Rid yourselves, therefore,
of all malice, and all guile,
insincerity, envy, and all
slander. NRS**

Directly connected to the previous verses which spoke of obedience to the truth, that led to purification and brotherly love, followed by a call to go deeper into agape love as we plug ourselves into the “Word of God” in an ever deepening manner.

**However, this is not a command,
as much as it is a statement of
what has been attested to in our
baptism. Basically Peter is saying;
“live up to your new birth as
stated in your baptism”**



Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin?

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the Church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races?

Be rid of...

Malice: hate, vengefulness



Guile: slyness, cleverness



Insincerity: dishonest, phony



Envy: jealousy



Slander: gossip, scandalous remark



**Imagine malice, guile, insincerity, envy
and slander as a pile of dirt**



Growing Into Salvation

1 Peter 2:2



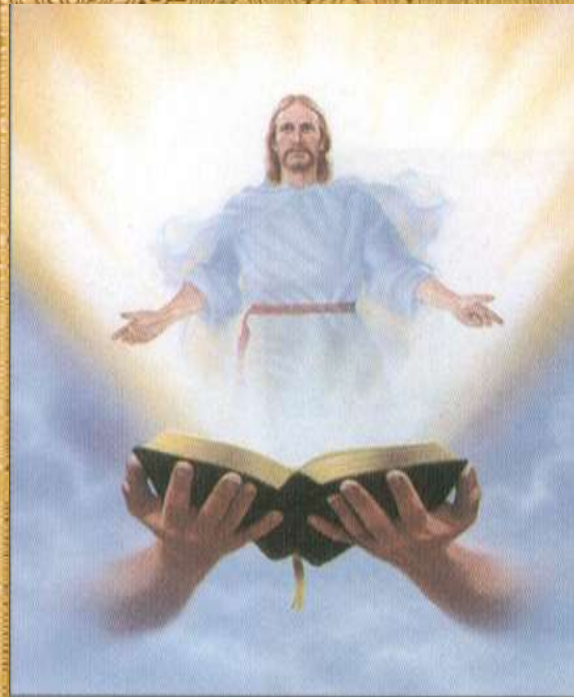
**Like newborn infants,
long for the pure,
spiritual milk, so that by
it you may grow into
salvation—^{NRS}**

Where is this salvation located?

For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ^{NRS}

1 Thessalonians 5:9

What is this pure spiritual milk?



How do God's Word and Growing into Salvation Connect?

**For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it
is the power of God for salvation to
everyone who has faith, to the Jew
first and
also to the Greek. ^{NRS}
Romans 1:16**

Those who are spiritually hungry, long for this pure spiritual milk, they long for more of God in their lives.

As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and behold the face of God? NRS Psalm 42:1-2

It is Dangerous to Neglect Our Salvation

**...how can we escape if we neglect
so great a salvation? It was
declared at first through the Lord,
and it was attested to us by those
who heard him,** ^{NRS}

Hebrews 2:3

Salvation is Not Something To Be Ignored

**Therefore, my beloved, just as you
have always obeyed me, not only in my
presence, but much more now in my
absence, work out your own salvation
with fear and trembling;** NRS Philippians 2:12

Salvation is Both Here and Yet to Come

**...who are being protected by the power
of God through faith for a salvation
ready to be revealed in the last time. NRS**

1 Peter 1:5

Those who are spiritually hungry, long for this pure spiritual milk, they long for more of God in their lives. They long to grow into their salvation, by keeping close to God in their lives here and now.



**Imagine this pure spiritual milk
as pure sparkling water**



We crave spiritual milk, which is the Word of God because it strengthens our growth into salvation. In other words we can grow closer to God but only...

1 Peter 2:3



**if indeed you
have tasted
that the Lord is
good. ^{NRS}**

How Do We Taste that the Lord is Good?



Imagine that
your favorite
food is
God's
goodness

Experiencing God's pure goodness makes us long for more, and gives us the desire to share God's goodness with others, because goodness is godliness

Goodness is a gift from God for those whom God has made pure

Goodness is part of God's character, modeled and offered to us

Goodness is evident in those who have a godly character. Not perfect like God, but internally solid and effective

Your character is not defined by your occasional slip-ups or moments of heroism but by what you are day in and day out.

David W. Gill “Becoming Good”

**When we Become Good We Become Strong
Extensions of God's Mighty Hand and God's
Perfect Goodness**

**Creation: Good
(godly) people seek
to create something
good (godly)**

**Co-Creators
With God**

Redemption: Good (godly) people seek healing and freedom for others, through forgiveness and compassion, and by pointing to the One who heals and frees us all.



Incarnation: Good (godly) people seek to bring goodness (godliness) into their daily lives

Eschaton, end times: Good (godly) people seek to bring hope alive in all they do. They lean forward, ever pointing to a time when shalom will be complete and do their very best to bring shalom, to the here and now, for themselves and others.

**Good (godly) people
do their very best to
live out of their
baptism on a day to
day basis**



Having put aside therefore, all evil, malice, wickedness, hateful feelings and all deceit, treachery, guile, and all hypocrisy, insincerity, pretense, and envy, jealousy, spite and all slander, insult, evil speech, as newborn babies you desire, you long for, pure spiritual milk, so that by it growth into salvation may come over you. If you have experienced that the Lord is good, kind, loving and merciful.

Let Us Pray

