

Growing In Grace

2 Peter 3:14-18

Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace. And count the patience of our Lord as salvation, just as our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you according to the wisdom given him,

as he does in all his letters when he speaks in them of these matters. There are some things in them that are hard to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do the other Scriptures. You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, take care that you are not carried away

with the error of lawless people and
lose your own stability. But grow in
the grace and knowledge of our Lord
and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be
the glory both now and to the day of
eternity. Amen.

Therefore, beloved, since you are
waiting for these, be diligent
to be found by him without spot or
blemish, and at peace.

But according to his promise we are waiting for **new heavens and a new earth** in which **righteousness dwells.**

Luke 1:39

In those days Mary arose and went with **haste** into the hill country, to a town in Judah

Romans 12:11

Do not be slothful in **zeal**, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.

For we cannot expect to go to heaven
asleep. We are not taken there
against our wills. It is not our will that
accomplishes our salvation; but still,
grace saves no man to make him like
a log of wood or a block of stone;
grace makes man active.

– Charles Spurgeon

found by him without spot or
blemish, and at peace.

2 Peter 2:13

They are **blots and blemishes**,
reveling in their deceptions, while they
feast with you.

Therefore, beloved, since you are
waiting for these, be diligent to be
found by him **without spot or
blemish**, and at peace.

The teachers' libertine lifestyle and ethic was inseparable from their eschatology. They rejected the future coming of Christ and therefore lived however they pleased.

– Thomas Screiner

And count the patience of our Lord
as salvation

1 Timothy 1:16

But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his **perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe** in him for eternal life.

We think that we do well to be angry with the rebellious, and so we prove ourselves to be more like Jonah than Jesus. A few have learned to be patient and pitiful to the ungodly, but many more are of the mind of James and John, who would have called fire from heaven upon those who rejected the Savior. We are in such a hurry.

– Charles Spurgeon

just as our beloved brother Paul
also wrote to you according to the
wisdom given him

Romans 2:4

Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?

There are some things in them that are **hard to understand**, which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction as they do **the other Scriptures**.

Peter doesn't say, "Well, since Paul is difficult to understand and he says some things that are difficult for me to swallow, I think I will dismiss his teachings when I am confused or find myself disagreeing."

No. What he does is confirm for the church that everything Paul has written are the very words of Scripture.

– David Helm

You therefore, beloved, knowing
this beforehand, take care that
you are **not carried away** with
the error of lawless people and
lose your own stability.

Revelation 2:4-5

But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. Remember therefore **from where you have fallen**; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent.

1 Corinthians 11:29

for there must be factions among you in order
**that those who are genuine among you
may be recognized.**

1 John 2:19

They went out from us, but they were not of
us; for if they had been of us, they would have
continued with us. But they went out, that it
**might become plain that they all are not
of us.**

But **grow** in the grace and
knowledge of our Lord and Savior
Jesus Christ.

2 Thessalonians 1:3

We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers, as is right, because your **faith is growing** abundantly, and the **love** of every one of you for one another is **increasing.**

But grow in the **grace** and
knowledge of our Lord and Savior
Jesus Christ.

Grace is the wealth of God's kindness; the riches of his mercy; the soothing ointment of his forgiveness; the free and undeserved, but lavishly offered hope of eternal life. Grace is what we crave when we are guilt-laden. Grace is what we must have when we come to die.

– John Piper

But grow in the grace and
knowledge of our Lord and Savior
Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 2:2

Like newborn infants, long for the
pure spiritual milk, that by it you
may grow up into salvation

To him be the glory both now and
to the day of eternity. Amen.

God is not glorified by self-generated righteousness or human will power. He is glorified when we both make it our aim to glorify Him and depend on Christ through His Spirit to enable us to do so.

– Jerry Bridges