

Grow Up Into Him

What Have You “Settled” For?

Ephesians 4:15; Philippians 1:9*f.*; Deuteronomy 11:19; Isaiah 5:18-24

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Are You An Object at Rest

Grow Up Into Him, pt 1 of 2

July-07-2013

On Becoming Satisfied

- Every person is tempted to dwell at the level of the least discomfort.
 - Economically
 - Professionally
 - Socially
 - Emotionally
- Every Believer is tempted to accept a cooling-off of his or her faith.
 - We are happy to try to hollow out the cross Jesus has called us to bear so that it is not so uncomfortable to carry.
 - We begin to live in an attitude of “acceptable wickedness.” 2 Tim 3:5; Is 5:18-23

The Spiritual Second-Law

- Emotional Passion cannot be maintained indefinitely.
 - The joy of the wedding soon gives way to arguments over toothpaste tubes.
 - Don't let the sun set on your anger. Eph 4:26
 - The emotional high of being forgiven by God fades in the face of daily living.
 - Let the seed of God's word sink deep into your heart. Lk 8:4-15
- Spiritual commitments, untended, grow "foggy" over time. Jos 23:1-13; Jdg 2:6-13
- We cannot live by yesterday's grace and promise.
 - Take up your cross daily. Mt 16:24
 - Heed the voice of the Lord while it is still "today." Heb 3:4-19
 - Notice 6b...compare with Mt 7:21-23; 7:24-29
 - The Tour de Christ – each day has a portion of the race to run. Php 3:1-16

Growth in Grace Requires Work

- We must not be satisfied with being born again; we need to grow up.
 - From milk to solid food. 1 Pet 1:23-2:8; Heb 5:11-6:12
 - From infant who cannot control it's muscles to a properly functioning adult body. Eph 4:11-16
- We must be transformed. Ro 12:1-2
 - Our minds must be changed to think like Christ. Eph 4:17-24
 - Our tongues must be tamed to speak like Christ. Jas 3; Eph 4:25-32
 - Our souls must be continually cleansed to reflect Christ's glory. Eph 5:1-14
 - Our wills must be yielded to the Spirit's control. Eph 5:15-21; Mt 5:5

Being An Object In Motion

Grow Up Into Him, pt 2 of 2

July-14-2013

Living in the Mind of Christ

- The Gentiles (unbelievers) walk in ignorance of God's Will.
- Believers ought to be walking in accordance with God's Will.
 - Be filled with the Spirit – Eph 5:18
 - Let the Word dwell in you – Col 3:16
 - Having the same mind as Christ – Php 2:1-11; 1 Co 2:14-16

Passing it On...

- We must pass God's Word on to our children.
 - Keep it for yourself. Deut. 4:1-20; 11:18
 - Pass it on to your children. 6:4-9; 11:19; Eph 6:4
- We must study to understand God's Word. 2 Tim 2:15
 - Ask God to help you understand. Job 42:1-6; Ps 19:7b; 24:1f.; Eph 1:18-23
 - Knowledge follows repentance. 2 Tim 2:20-26
 - Understanding comes through obedience. Jas 1:19-27
- We must humble ourselves before God's authority. Jas 4:6-10; 1 Pe 5:6-11
 - Those who are meek will inherit the earth. Mt 5:5; (cf. Ps 37:11)

By Pointing to God

- Teaching to the Rule creates a desire to rebel. Ro 7:7-12
- Developing a relationship creates a desire to please. Eph 5:1*f.*; Ro 8:1-17

Surprised by Obedience and Joy

- If we learn to truly love God (relationship) we will fulfill the foremost commandment. Mt 22:36-38
 - We learn that we love God because He first loved us. Ro 5:8; Jn 3:16-18
- Then, we will be able to learn how to obey the second-greatest commandment; to love our neighbor in the same way we love ourselves. Mt 22:39*f*.
 - Paul's love for the churches saturates his letters.
 - As we realize the depths to which Christ Jesus humbled Himself it is a small thing for us to humble ourselves before others. Php 2:1-18; Eph 5:1*f*.; 5:21-6:9