

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

1 Peter 2

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Since you have purified your souls by obedience to the truth so that you have a genuine love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from a pure heart. For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. For, "All flesh is like grass, and all its glory like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord stands forever." And this is the word that was proclaimed to you. (1 Peter 1:22-25)

The salvation that Peter spoke of that gives us hope and allows us to be holy, is bought and paid for by the precious blood of Jesus Christ, without blemish or spot. The cleansing of the soul is provided by the same Word that reveals God's plan of salvation to us and teaches us how to know Him and walk with Him. It is the Word that brings us the "Good Message."

In Chapter two, the apostle instructs us to move on from the spiritual birth experience and begin to grow up in Him who has called us to Himself. Just as there are obstacles to growth in our physical life, so there is in our spiritual lives as well. Isn't it amazing how we allow things to happen in our lives such as events, happenings, and relationships gone bad to hinder our walk and fellowship with God? Malice, lying, which is deceiving others, hypocrisy, which is speaking to one person one way and then speaking to another person about the same thing in a

completely different way. That is simply another form of lying or deceit and Jesus had some of his harshest words for hypocrites. In summary, any kind of evil speaking is out of bounds for the child of God and it hinders our growth and sanctification in Jesus. Peter said to take these off as we would old dirty clothes and allow God to cleanse us. When we do this the Appetite for God's word will increase exponentially in our lives and we can get back on the growth track God has laid out for us. We cannot grow in our spiritual walk with the Lord Jesus without being consistently in the study of Scripture.

The analogy changes in v.4 to the Lord Jesus as the one that all of life is built around in our lives and the life of the Church. He reminds his readers of the words of the Prophet Isaiah and the Passover Psalms that just as Israel is a chosen nation created by God for a purpose, so the church is a work of God like a building with Jesus as the chief cornerstone and every born again believer is part of the superstructure.

Because we are part of the building God is building we are on display before the eyes of a watching world. We are strangers in a foreign land and because of that, we are not to take on the habits and characteristics of this foreign land and citizens. We must maintain the witness that we are from a country whose maker is God. We must live honorably in the present world to bring glory to our King Jesus.

Prayer and Action Steps

Lord, Please help me to understand how blessed and privileged I am to have the Word of God, the Bible in my possession, and the ability and freedom to read it each day. Please have mercy on me and help me to lay aside any and every hindrance that would make me lose my appetite for you.

Amen!