Spiritual Growth in the Direction of Heaven

Tony Mauck · 2 Peter 3:18

INTRODUCTION

- 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.
- This is not just a concluding admonition to the recipients of this epistle. But that it is a summary of all that he has said in this epistle.
- Who am I? And what is my house that you have brought me thus far? But yet there is still more to be accomplished.

1 The Recipe, the Ingredients of Spiritual Growth

2 Peter 1:3–4; 2 Peter 1:5–7; 2 Peter 1:10–11

- His divine power has granted to us everything that pertains to living and a God focus in our lives and godliness.
- Applying all diligence. He says in verse 5, how much diligence is that? That's all of it. Everything you've got.
- We're not doing it perfectly yet. We're still learning, we're still mastering those principles in our lives.
- My pursuit of these things, my growth in these things is evidence that I am of the called and chosen.
- The entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied to you.
- I'm an eyewitness of his majesty. You can trust what I'm saying.

2 A Warning: The Opposition to Spiritual Growth

2 Peter 2:1–2; 2 Corinthians 11:14; 1 Peter 4:18

- The warning that Peter provides is this pursuit will not go on in your life unopposed.
- The devil and his forces and his allies are hell bent on opposition to your spiritual success.
- The devil is not satisfied with your spiritual success, and he will work tooth and toenails to prevent it. He wants you to leave off in this pursuit.
- Satan can beguile you through a respected source, a false messenger. Or he can simply seduce you back to the corruption in which you were once engaged.
- It is with difficulty that the righteous are saved.

3 The Motivation: The Day of the Lord Will Come

2 Peter 3:10; 2 Peter 3:13; 2 Corinthians 4:18

- The day of the Lord will come. This is all headed somewhere. This is going somewhere.
- We look for a new heaven and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.
- We will be done with this world. And we have a hope of a new sphere of life.
- The Lord's people are motivated by eternal things, ultimate things.
- We do not look at the things which are seen, but to the things which are unseen.
- Though we've never seen it, never experienced it, we are trusting in God that we're going to receive it.

THE CHALLENGE

Is your life headed in growing in a heavenward direction? And are you sure? You need to be sure.

MY NOTES