

**A right Relationship to the Word of God
(1 Peter 2:1-3)**

I. Introduction /Review /Proposition

A. Spiritual Maturity, godliness, ALWAYS seen in an INSATIABLE THIRST for God's word!

1. Job – ALL the WAY back to PATRIARCHS!

Job 23:12 "I have not departed from the command of His lips; I have treasured the words of His mouth more than my necessary food.

2. Psalms!

a) Psalter opens...

(1) Psalm 1:1-2

1 How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked,
Nor stand in the path of sinners,
Nor sit in the seat of scoffers!
2 But his delight is in the law of the Lord,
And in His law he meditates day and night.

(2) Psalm 19:7-10

7 The law of the Lord is perfect, restoring the soul;
The testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple.
8 The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;...10 They are more desirable than gold, yes, than much fine gold;
Sweeter also than honey and the drippings of the honeycomb.

(3) Ps 119!

16 I shall delight in Your statutes;
I shall not forget Your word.
24 Your testimonies also are my delight; They are my counselors.
35 Make me walk in the path of Your commandments, For I delight in it.
47 I shall delight in Your commandments, Which I love.
48 And I shall lift up my hands to Your commandments, Which I love; And I will meditate on Your statutes.
72 The law of Your mouth is better to me Than thousands of gold and silver pieces.
92 If Your law had not been my delight, Then I would have perished in my affliction.
97 O how I love Your law!
It is my meditation all the day.
111 I have inherited Your testimonies forever, For they are the joy of my heart.
113 I hate those who are double-minded, But I love Your law.
127 Therefore I love Your commandments Above gold, yes, above fine gold.
159 Consider how I love Your precepts; Revive me, O Lord, according to Your lovingkindness.
167 My soul keeps Your testimonies, And I love them exceedingly.
174 I long for Your salvation, O Lord, And Your law is my delight.

b) Jeremiah 15:16

16 Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy words were unto me a joy and the rejoicing of my heart: for I am called by thy name, O Jehovah, God of hosts.

c) 1 Peter 2:2

2 as newborn babes, long for the spiritual milk which is without guile, that ye may grow thereby unto salvation;

3. Do these passages express your heart?
4. Do words like “crave” or “insatiable thirst” DESCRIBE you DESIRE for God’s word?
5. OR do you crave other things more?
 - a) Money, worldly pleasure, things, approval of man, etc?
 - b) How long do you go WITHOUT a LONGING THIRST for the WORD?
6. Going to talk about having an INSATIABLE DESIRE for the WORD OF GOD! – A CRAVING!
 - a) Understand –many things to CRAVE in Christian life
 - (1) CRAVE your Ministry
 - (a) Romans 1:11 For I long to see you so that I may impart some spiritual gift to you, that you may be established;
 - (b) Philippians 1:8 For God is my witness, how I long for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus.
 - (2) CRAVE Heaven!
 - (a) 2 Corinthians 5:2 For indeed in this house we groan, longing to be clothed with our dwelling from heaven,
 - (3) CRAVE Love / fellowship
 - (a) 2 Corinthians 9:14; while they also, by prayer on your behalf, yearn for you because of the surpassing grace of God in you.
(Jerusalem believers for Corinthians after their gift)
 - (b) Philippians 2:26 because he was longing for you all and was distressed because you had heard that he was sick.
 - (c) 1 Thessalonians 3:6; 6 But now that Timothy has come to us from you, and has brought us good news of your faith and love, and that you always think kindly of us, longing to see us just as we also long to see you,
 - (d) 2 Timothy 1:4 [Paul] longing to see you, even as I recall your tears, so that I may be filled with joy.
 - (4) TONIGHT – SEE that we are COMMANDED to CRAVE the Word of God!
 - (a) OF ALL THE CRAVINGS mentioned – THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT CRAVING!

B. Now Study the FACETS of the Christian Walk (2:1-5:11) SO THAT we can properly respond personally to God for the Great Salvation He has provided.

1. First, we will see this through our Relationship Responsibilities (2:1-10)

a) Today – A right Relationship to the Word of God.

2. Second, through our Witnessing Responsibilities.

C. What does a Right Relationship to the Word of God require?

1. [You must have] The Right Life (1:13-2:1)
2. The Right Attitude (2:2a)
3. The Right Action (2:2b)
4. The Right Goal (2:2c) (Next week...)
5. The Right Foundation (2:3)

D. TURN TO Passage to read...

1 Peter 2:1-31 Therefore, putting aside all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander, 2 like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation, 3 if you have tasted the kindness of the Lord.

II. The Right Life (1:1-2:1)

A. Review 1Peter 1v22t2v1 (SLIDE)

1. Concurrences (To love one another must CONCURRENTLY (in concurrence):

1 Peter 2:1 Therefore, putting aside all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander,

a) 2:1 THEREFORE

(1) Shouldn't be a chapter break here!

(2) "Therefore" goes back to the command to love

b) "Putting aside" = Literally = "After having put aside

(1) Not continuous action BUT JUST DO IT ACTION

(2) Middle Voice – "I MYSELF DO IT"

(a) Not "OH GOD PLEASE TAKE THIS OUT OF MY LIFE..."

(b) I MYSELF DO IT!

(3) One of Peter's FAMOUS PARTICIPLES

(4) Why? Look at v.2

1 Peter 2:1-2 Therefore, putting aside all ...

2 like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word,

(a) See the "LONG for ..." = COMMAND.

(b) Again – have a Participle that sets the context in which the command must take place.

(i) I.e. – have to have put aside all of these things BEFORE you CAN LONG FOR THE WORD OF GOD!

(c) V.1 is ALSO tied to the COMMAND TO LOVE with "THEREFORE"

(5) What is Peter saying here?

(a) FIRST – BY IMPLICATION and "therefore"

(i) THIS LIST is a SPECIFIC list of SINS that you must PUT ASIDE in order to FERVENTLY LOVE ONE ANOTHER.

(ii) THINK of them as the PUT-OFF side and the LOVE ONE

ANOTHER as the PUT ON SIDE.

(iii) Have to do BOTH.

(b) SECOND – Loving one another AND PUTTING ASIDE these things ARE a PRE-CONDITION to BEING ABLE to LONG for the WORD of GOD

c) Look at the list to PUT ASIDE:

1 Peter 2:1 Therefore, putting aside all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander,

(1) “All malice” =

(a) Every desire to do evil to a neighbor

(b) Doing EVIL is the OPPOSITE of LOVING someone!

(2) “All deceit” =

(a) Word means “to catch with a baited hook”

(b) = Falsely entice or allure

(3) “hypocrisy” (REALLY PLURAL = hypocrisies)

(a) Plural means – ALL FORMS/Kinds of Hypocrisy

(b) Same root as “sincere” in v.22 where it was NEGATED

(c) Root form with the idea of wearing a mask

(d) Looking like one thing- underneath being another

(4) “envy” (another PLURAL = envies)

(a) Again – PLURAL = ALL FORMS

(b) = Longing for what other people have = jealousy

(5) “all slander”

(a) literally = “to talk down”

(b) = backbiting, disparaging remarks, evil speaking

(c) Happens BEHIND a PERSON’S BACK (DECEIT is to their face...)

(6) EASY TO SEE HOW THESE HINDER / DESTROY WILLFUL LOVE!

(a) WILLFUL evil PRECLUDES WILLFUL love!

(b) VERY Specific OPPOSITES!

III. The Right Attitude: V.2a “Like newborn Babies”

A. Peter builds the RIGHT ATTITUDE into a illustration of a new-born baby craving milk...

B. “Like” (“as”)

1. Metaphor
2. NOT a newborn Christian
3. JUST a CHRISTIAN metaphorically ACTING towards the word as a newborn baby does towards milk!
4. WON’T BE ABLE to BE like this UNLESS you are LIVING THE RIGHT LIFE!
5. CAN’T JUST DROP IN HERE at V.2 and say, “OK, like a newborn baby, I’ll

insatiably thirst for the word...”

6. This metaphor WILL FRUSTRATE ANYONE NOT living the right life – try and won’t be able to do!

C. “Newborn” = *JUST NOW BORN!*

1. Compound word that contains the strong “just now” word
2. JUST NOW born!
3. Since the next word is “babies” this word adds EMPHASIS

D. “babies” = *smallest of child*

1. Pretty much used only of nursing child
2. Luke 1:41,44 used for UNBORN child
 - a) John the Baptist leaping in Elizabeth’s womb
3. Luke 2:12,16 used for the NEWBORN baby Jesus

E. *Pictures a just-now born baby coming into the world CRYING FOR mom’s milk!*

1. Doesn’t come out crying for a football DADS!
2. Baby KNOWS IT’S NEED!
3. DON’T HAVE TO COMMAND a baby to CRAVE MILK!
4. ONLY 2 things that work on a newborn
 - a) The mouth
 - b) The diaper area!
 - c) Don’t have to teach them EITHER!
5. ANALOGY IS in THE CRAVING – the INSATIABLY THIRSTING (next) NOT in the NATURE of the Baby!
 - a) “Like” followed by the command to thirst!

F. *Practical Application*

1. Analogy shows us that the COMMAND is to become such a part of our life that our desire for the word is FAR BEYOND DUTY
2. The desire of a baby for milk IS an UNSTOPPABLE DESIRE, right?
 - a) ALWAYS SATISFIED in it’s quest for milk!
 - b) APPLICATION – we’ll pass around a newborn baby that wants it’s milk and each of us will have to hold it for 5 minutes
 - (1) Won’t give it milk until we’ve all held it!
 - (2) I don’t think we’d survive, do you?
3. So MUST your thirst for the word become!
4. And, of course – Scripture is full of the SENSE of Christians BECOMING / BEING like CHILDREN
 - a) Here –see it in the thirst for the word!

G. *Transition*

1. The right life – Characterized by discipline / obedience
2. The right attitude – Characterized by a just-born baby’s craving for milk!

IV. The Right Action = V.2b “long for the pure milk of the word”

A. REMEMBER – SECTION (1:22f) is SATURATED with the Word of God!

1. Most CONCENTRATED NT passage on WORD of GOD
2. Thread:
 - a) Word’s Authority: v.22 “the truth”
 - b) Word’s effectiveness:
 - (1) v.23 “seed”
 - (2) v.25 “word which was preached to you”
 - c) Eternality: v.23 “seed which is perishable but imperishable, *that is*, through the living and enduring word of God”
 - (1) Illustrated against the grass and flower v.24-25
 - d) Desirability: v2:2 “milk”
3. EVERYTHING we are to do from this passage – COMES THROUGH the WORD – BY OBEDIENCE to the WORD.
4. Now back to 2:2...

B. “long for” = “INSATIABLY THIRST FOR”

1. COMMAND
 - a) Drives this section – V.1-3
 - b) looks at the entirety of the action (constative aorist).
 - c) EXTREMELY STRONG WORD – epi word
 - (1) = CRAVE
 - (2) = INSATIABLY THIRST!
 - (3) = Longing we have to rid ourselves of this flesh and receive our glorified bodies (2 Cor 5:2) – for eternity without sin
2. MAKE YOUR LIFE ONE CHARACTERIZED BY AN INSATIABLE THIRST FOR THE WORD.

C. The EMPHATIC POSITION goes to the word of God!

1. Literally = “the pure milk of the word insatiably thirst for!”
2. Challenging phrase!
 - a) NOT usual use of word “Logos” for the word of God”
 - b) Same root but the word is “Logikos” = REASONABLE, RATIONAL = “LOGICAL”
 - c) So MORE LITERAL = “long for the reasonable / rational, PURE MILK”
 - (1) Noun here is “milk”
 - d) Peter – staying with the metaphor
 - (1) AS a baby longs for physical milk
 - (2) YOU are to long for the reasonable / rational milk
 - (3) Since the immediate context back to 1:22 is all about the word of God

- (a) “milk” ties back to the word of God in 1:23
 23 for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and enduring word of God.
- (b) Whole variety of words that have their basis in “logos” and all relate to words
 - (i) Actual words
 - (ii) Reasoning with words, etc.
- e) So – NAS correct in translating this as the “pure milk of the Word” = WORD OF GOD.

3. “Pure” = without deceit, guile...

- a) NEGATION WORD.
- b) ONLY NT use
- c) Usual word for “pure” is the noun form of “to clean”
- d) In Context – CONTRASTS the NATURE of the WORD of GOD to ALL THOSE THINGS PUT OFF in v.1
 - (1) V.1 Therefore, putting aside all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander,
 - (2) Guess what? “deceit” is the root word of “pure”
 - (3) SO – Peter is CONTRASTING!
 - (a) PUT OFF all that stuff
 - (b) LONG for that WHICH is OPPOSITE = the pure!
- e) Also – Christ as our example in 1 Peter 2:21ff (TURN THERE)
 1 Peter 2:21-2321 For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps, 22 who committed no sin, nor was any deceit found in His mouth; 23 and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously;
- f) Do you see what Peter is doing?
 - (1) Tying together
 - (a) the living word,
 - (b) Jesus Christ,
 - (c) our need to put off deceit
 - (d) our need to put on that which is pure – THE WORD OF GOD.

(2) One more: 1 Peter 3:8-12

- (a) THEME VERSES of the Book of 1PETER!

1 Peter 3:8-12 To sum up, all of you be harmonious, sympathetic, brotherly, kindhearted, and humble in spirit; 9 not returning evil for evil or insult for insult, but giving a blessing instead; for you were called for the very purpose that you might inherit a blessing. 10 For, “The one who desires life, to love and see good days, Must keep his tongue from EVIL (SAME AS V.1) and his lips from speaking DECEIT. 11 “He must turn

away from evil and do good; He must seek peace and pursue it. 12 “For the eyes of the Lord are toward the righteous, And His ears attend to their prayer, But the face of the Lord is against those who do EVIL.”

- (3) SO – Peter has gone from
- (a) 2:1-2 – THE PRINCIPLE and COMMAND
 - (i) to put off evil / deceit
 - (ii) to put on the pure (without deceit) word of God
 - (b) TO the example of the LIVING WORD – JESUS CHRIST (1 Peter 2:21-23)
 - (i) Whom we ARE TO BE LIKE
 - (c) TO the SPECIFIC APPLICATION
 - (i) HOW THIS WORKS OUT!
 - (ii) 1 Peter 3:10-13
 - (d) All of this ALSO ties to the other “PURITY”
 - (i) 1 Peter 1:22 Since you have in obedience to the truth PURIFIED your souls for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from the heart,
 - (ii) The PURITY that is part of HOLINESS!
- (4) And WHEN is all of this ALL THE MORE IMPORTANT?
- (a) IN TRIALS!
 - (b) Back to 1 Peter 1:6-7

6 In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by VARIOUS TRIALS, 7 so that the PROOF OF YOUR FAITH, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ;
 - (c) How do you prove your faith?
 - (i) ONE WAY – trusting Christ enough to be like Him in trials!
 - (ii) How do we do this? AGAIN!...

1 Peter 3:8-12 To sum up, all of you be harmonious, sympathetic, brotherly, kindhearted, and humble in spirit; 9 not returning evil for evil or insult for insult, but giving a blessing instead; for you were called for the very purpose that you might inherit a blessing. 10 For, “The one who desires life, to love and see good days, Must keep his tongue from EVIL (SAME AS V.1) and his lips from speaking DECEIT. 11 “He must turn away from evil and do good; He must seek peace and pursue it. 12 “For the eyes of the Lord are toward the righteous, And His ears attend to their prayer, But the face of the Lord is against those who do EVIL.”
 - (iii) Do you want your faith rewarded at the appearing of Jesus Christ?
 - (iv) Do you want your prayers answered now?
 - (v) INSATIABLY THIRST FOR THE PURE MILK OF THE WORD

(a) *DRINK OFTEN*

(b) *PUT OFF EVIL, DECEIT!*

g) Back to 1 Peter 2:2

(1) I don't usually interrupt our flow that much!

(2) BUT it is so necessary to see how interwoven ALL of THIS IS to HOLINESS, PURITY and the stuff that has to go to get there!

(3) ALSO see HOW MUCH these books of Scripture are sufficient

(a) If you were scattered in Asian Minor and received just this letter

(b) You'd know EXACTLY what Peter was saying for you to do! – its all here!

4. "[Milk](#)"

a) Life giving nourishment – within context of newborn baby metaphor.

(1) AND next phrase that "BY IT WE GROW"

b) NOT elementary doctrine as other Scriptural metaphors use it.

D. Practical Application

1. So - [like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word.](#)

2. Do we need to pass a baby around, or do you really internalize what Peter is calling for here?!!!

3. Paul said it this way:

[Philippians 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, WHATEVER IS PURE, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things.](#)

a) What is true, honorable, right, pure, lovely, etc? THE WORD OF GOD!

4. LOOKING AHEAD: Will see that this section (V.1-3) TIES to next section (V.4-8)

a) V.4-8 about a RIGHT RELATIONSHIP with the SON of God

b) THE REASON for the THIRST is because YOU LONG for a relationship with THE SON OF GOD – JESUS CHRIST that can only be FOUND in the Word of GOD.

(1) He is the Word of God

(2) The living and abiding word.

(3) We come to Christ through the word.

(4) Talk more when get to next section!

E. Transition

1. Talk about all tying together!

2. The Right Life – Characterized by obedience, holiness

3. The Right Attitude - Characterized by a just-born baby's craving for milk!

4. The Right Action – Insatiably thirst for that which is PURE – the word of God