

II Peter – Grow In Knowledge II Pet. 3:17-18

Thesis: To help us understand the need to grow in the knowledge of God.

Introduction:

- I. Peter warns the brethren about falling away (3:17).
 - A. Notice the immediate context of this passage (3:14-16).
 1. “Therefore...” do not fall away.
 - a. Peter had warned them about the words of Paul.
 - b. Some of the writings of Paul were difficult to understand; and false teachers were causing some to fall away.
 - c. Peter is warning them about falling away.
 2. The entire book of II Peter is designed to give the brethren the knowledge they need so that they would not fall away.
 - a. II Pet. 3:1 - I stir up your pure minds by way of reminder.
 - b. This entire book was written to remind and warn the brethren.
 - B. After Peter has given them all of the information in this book, the last reminder that he gives them is to not fall away.

- II. Throughout II Peter, we see that ignorance is not bliss.
 - A. There is a reason to have knowledge.
 1. If ignorance is bliss, Peter would not have reminded the brethren of these things.
 2. If knowledge was not important, then Peter would have had no reason to remind the brethren of these things.
 3. Remember the things that Peter has told them about.
 - a. Grow (1:5-11)
 - b. False teachers are coming (2:1-22)
 - c. Scoffers are coming (3:1-4)
 - d. Christ is going to return (3:5-15).
 - B. Throughout the New Testament, we are warned that ignorance is not bliss.
 1. Jesus warns that ignorance is not bliss.
 - a. Mt. 22:29 - Jesus answered and said to them, “You are mistaken, not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God.”
 - b. Lk. 12:48 - But he who did not know, yet committed things deserving of stripes, shall be beaten with few.
 2. We must know the will of God.
 - a. Mt. 7:21 - Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.
 - b. We can know that will by studying His word.

III. We are commanded to grow in knowledge (3:18).

A. Throughout the New Testament, we are commanded to grow.

1. Remember, Peter had already told them to add to their faith (1:5-11).
2. Heb. 5:12-14 - For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. {13} For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. {14} But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

B. Consider some questions concerning personal growth.

1. Where in the Bible do we find the Day of Pentecost?
2. What is the plan of salvation?
3. We must constantly evaluate ourselves.
 - a. II Cor. 13:5 - Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves.
 - b. This is especially true concerning our growth.

Conclusion: