

A sunset scene with a large sun partially obscured by a dark, silhouetted hillside in the foreground. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue. The water in the middle ground reflects the colors of the sky. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

RENEW. REBUILD. REKINDLE.

1 Pet.2:1-3

“The Spiritual Appetite of a Renewed Mind”

1 Pet. 2:1 Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings,

2 As newborn babes, **desire the sincere milk of the word**, that ye may grow thereby:

3 If so be ye have tasted that the Lord *is* gracious.

## I. THE QUESTION OF SALVATION, 1:5-8

A. We Have An Expectant Hope

B. We Have An Experiential Faith, 1:5-7

C. We Have An Expressive Love, 1:8-9

## II. THE QUESTION OF SCRIPTURE, 1:9-12

A. As to its Message, 1:9

B. As to its Mystery, 1:10-11

C. As to its Majesty, 1:12

## III. THE QUESTION OF SANCTIFICATION

A. The Character of God, 1:13-17

B. The Cross of Christ, 1:18-21

C. The Control of the Spirit, 1:22-25

## IV. THE QUESTION OF SEPARATION, 2:1-12

### A. Its Requirement, 2:1

1. Sin and Its Root, 2:1a “Wherefore laying aside all malice...”

2. Sin and Its Fruit, 2:1b—e

a. Inward Sins, 2:1b—d

(1) Our Evil Disposition, 2:1b—c

(a) Prevarication, 2:1b “...and all guile...”

(b) Pretense, 2:1c “...and hypocrisies...”

i. Our Evil Desires, 2:d “...and envies...”

b. Outward Sin, 2:1e “...and **all** evil speakings.”

After salvation, a spiritually healthy believer grows in grace to understand the value of Scripture, which in turn produces sanctification. Sanctification leads to a spiritual separation. This morning, we continue in chapter two that explains why separation is normal for a believer.

## B. Its Reasons, 2:2-11

### 1. Separation by Birth from the Old Life, 2:2-3

#### a. A New Status Described, 2:2a—b

(1) A Babe and Its New Life, 2:2a “**As** newborn babes...”

- Healthy babies have healthy appetites, exhibiting the craving for milk = natural desire.

(2) A Babe and Its Natural Longings,  
2:2b “...desire the sincere milk of the  
word...”

- Believers are commanded to hunger and crave after the Word of God like the babies crave milk = normal focus with personal ramifications for growth.

**Original Word:** ἐπιποθέω

**Part of Speech:** Verb – Aorist **Imp.** Act.

**Transliteration:** epipotheó

**Definition:** to long for

**Usage:** I long for, strain after, **desire greatly**, have affection for.

*epipothéō* – **properly, to long for, especially as it is fitting (apt)**

- The focus of the believer's yearning is for the "sincere" milk which is the opposite of the "guile" mentioned in verse 1.

**Original Word:** ἄδολος

**Transliteration:** adolos

**Definition:** guileless, genuine = sincere

**Usage:** unadulterated, pure, guileless.

*ádo*los (an adjective, **derived from A "without" and *dó*los, "bait, deceit"**) – properly, not-caught (in a trap), **referring to being free from fraud (*trickery, deceit*); without craftiness** (hidden, "mixed motives").

<https://biblehub.com/greek/97.htm>

- Obedient “feeding” of the sincere milk of the Word results in spiritual growth!



- The “feeding” should begin with godly parents who teach the Word of God consistently within the home.

Deut. 6:4 Hear, O Israel: **The LORD our God is one LORD:**

5 And **thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.**

6 And **these words**, which I command thee this day, **shall be in thine heart:**

7 And **thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children**, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

8 And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes.

9 And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.

- The idea is to keep a constant awareness of the Word of God in daily life.
- Such “feeding” is supplemented in a local church through Sunday school and church.

b. A New Stature Desired, 2:2c—3

(1) Growth Unstunted, 2:2c “...that ye may grow thereby:”

2 Pet. 3:17 Ye therefore, **beloved, seeing ye know *these things*** before, **beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness.**

18 But **grow in grace, and *in* the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.** To him *be* glory both now and for ever. Amen.

(2) Grace Unstinted, 2:3

1 Pet. 2:3 If so be ye have tasted that the Lord *is* gracious.

**Original Word:** εἰ

**Part of Speech:** Conditional Particle Or Conjunction

**Transliteration:** ei

**Definition:** forasmuch as, if, that

**Usage:** if.

*ei* (a conditional conjunction) – *if*. *ei* (followed by any verb) expresses "a condition, *thought* of as *real*, or to denote *assumptions*" (i.e. *viewed as factual*. for the sake of argument) (*BAGD*). **Accordingly, (*ei*) should *not* be translated "*since*," but rather always "*if*" – since the assumption may only be *portrayed* as **valid (true, factual)**.**

<https://biblehub.com/greek/1487.htm>

- “If so be” = a conditional perspective → if a person is genuinely “born again,” the ramification will be seen via spiritual growth.

**Original Word:** γεύομαι

**Transliteration:** geuomai

**Definition:** to taste, eat

**Usage:** (a) I taste, (b) I experience.

<https://biblehub.com/greek/1089.htm>

- One who has “tasted that the Lord *is* gracious” will exhibit a changed life.
- The “taste” of graciousness creates an “appetite” for more!

**Original Word:** χρηστός

**Transliteration:** chréstos

**Definition:** serviceable, good, gracious

**Usage:** useful, gentle, pleasant, kind.

*xrēstós* - *well-fitted (well-resourced); useful (beneficial, benevolent).*

**On the spiritual plane, *xrēstós* ("suitable, usefully kind") describes what *God* defines is *kind* – and therefore also *eternally* useful! "We have no adjective in English that conveys this blend of being *kind and good* at the same time" (M. Vincent). <https://biblehub.com/greek/5543.htm>**

- As a believer grows in grace, so does an appreciation, or appetite, for God's Word and such grace will continue producing spiritual nourishment, plus a desire to continue having a healthy, spiritual life of godly growth, a growing, spiritual appetite to please God.



## Conclusion

Isa. 28:9 **Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? *them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts.***

10 For **precept *must be* upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, *and there a little:***

11 For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people.

12 To whom he said, This *is* the rest *wherewith* ye may cause the weary to rest; and this *is* the refreshing: yet they would not hear.



13 But **the word of the LORD was unto them precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, *and* there a little;** that they might go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken.

- Believers are expected to produce spiritual growth!

Heb 5:12 For **when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again** which *be* the first principles of the oracles of God; **and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.**

13 For **every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe.**

14 But **strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.**