

## 1 Peter 2:1-3

### Grace means Sobriety:

In Holiness – 1:13-17

In Fear – 1:17-21

In Love – 1:22-25

In Growth – 2:1-10 - “Long for the pure milk of the word, that by it you may grow in respect to salvation.”

### Verse 1

*Therefore* – Referring back to the command to “*fervently love one another*”.

*Putting aside* – Put off or aside. This word is also used in:

Acts 7:58 – “...they...laid aside their robes...”

Ephesians 4:22 – “...lay aside the old self...”

*Putting aside:*

*Malice* – Ill will or desire to injure.

*Guile* – Craftiness or deceit.

*Hypocrisy* – A stage player. Masking inward evil by an outward show of righteousness.

*Envy* - A feeling of discontent or covetousness with regard to another's advantages.

*Slander* – Any speech which harms or is intended to harm another person status or reputation.

While love seeks the good of others, all these sins aim at harming others.

### Verse 2

*Therefore...like newborn babes, long for the pure milk of the word* – The word “*babes*” does not imply that they were spiritually immature but simply that they should long for the word just as a new born baby longs for his mother’s milk. In other contexts “*babe*” is contrasted with “*mature*” and “*milk*” with “*solid food*” (Hebrews 5:12-13, 1 Corinthians 3:1-2).

*...long for* – This word suggests an intense personal desire. Note its usage in Psalm 42:1, Psalm 84:2. It is used nine times in the NT with the same meaning. For example, 2 Corinthians 5:2, Philippians 1:8.

*...the pure* – This is the only use of this word in the NT. It means “unmixed” or “unadulterated”. All Scripture is free from impurity and it will not deceive or lead astray its readers. This word affirms that there is no falsehood in the Bible.

*...the pure milk of the word* – The text literally reads, “...*desire the spiritual, pure milk...*” The word translated spiritual is *logikos* which is only used here and in Romans 12:1. It is defined as, “pertaining to spiritual reason or logic”. Although “word” (*logos or rhema*) is not in the text, the translation is good as this is certainly what is in mind.

*...that by it you may grow in respect to salvation* – In other words, grow up to spiritual maturity. Paul uses this same word in Ephesians 4:15 where he says we are to, “...*grow up in all aspects into Him...*” Peter ends the final verse of his second letter, “*but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*”

### Verse 3

*If you have tasted the kindness of the Lord* – The “*if*” here is a first class conditional which assumes that they have tasted the kindness of the Lord. The word translated “kindness” literally means, “good, pleasant, virtuous”. This a quotation of Psalm 24:8 in the LXX, “O taste and see that the Lord is good...” The word “*taste*” is a metaphor for “knowing by experience”. Notice that Jesus tasted death for everyone (Hebrews 2:9). He literally experienced the pain and suffering of the cross and literally died!

**Peter's connection to verse two is that the goodness of the Lord is contained in His word. The words of Scripture are the words of the Lord, so to read or listen to Scripture is to hear the Lord speak. In doing so we take the nourishment of the Lord into our hearts.**