

Trinity Bible Church

The Carpenter's House

June 10, 2012

The Message:

The Three Stages of Spiritual Growth

1 John 2:12-14

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wednesday June 13 Anxiety (Stress).
Sunday June 17 Father's Day.
Wednesday June 20 Parable of the Sower.
Sunday June 24 Deacons' Meeting.
Sunday July 1 The Lord's Table.
Wednesday July 4 No class-Happy Fourth!

** The new chairs were purchased from the building fund. If you would like to help restore it, please mark your check "chairs."

** If anyone would like to be baptized, please see Drue. We will try to set up a service this summer.

	April	Total 2012	General Fund	Building Fund	Missions YTD
Income	\$10,650.00	\$32,563.94		\$11,405.89	\$ 9,471.00
Expenses	8,256.45	34,780.02		Benevolence	6,541.00
Balance	2,393.55	(-2,216.08)	\$ 14,280.95	\$ 984.24	2,930.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OFFERING

Hymns

The Message:

Being a Witness in the Last Days

The Importance of Patience

James 5:7

The Three Stages of Spiritual Growth

1 John 2:12-14

1 John 2:12 = Attitude Toward The World.

E.T./L.T. = I am writing to you, little children, because your sins have been permanently forgiven you for His name's sake.

1 John 2:13-14 = Stages Of Growth

E.T./L.T. = I am writing to you, fathers, because you know Him who has been from the beginning. I am writing to you young men, because you have permanently overcome the evil one. I have written to you children, because you permanently know the Father. (14) I have written to you fathers, because you permanently know *the One* who has been from a beginning. I have written to you young men because you are strong, and the word of the God is abiding in you, and you have permanently overcome the one who became evil.

Summary:

1. The foundation of all spiritual growth is that our sins are forgiven through the work of our Lord, which is His reputation.
2. Spiritual babes grow by learning about God.
3. The spiritually mature are still learning about God but are building upon their experiential relationship with Him.
4. Spiritual adolescents realize they are involved in a conflict, and are on the winning side.
5. At this stage the Living Word of God is making His Presence felt.
6. Maturity puts away childish things. 1 Cor 13:11-13

Principle: Spiritual growth builds on a firm foundation.

Eight Areas of Spiritual Growth.

Seek to:

1. _____ like Jesus our Messiah. John 13:31-35
2. _____ personal sin. 1 John 2:1
3. _____ the grace of God. 1 John 2:12
4. _____ with a heavenly perspective. 1 John 2:28-29
5. Not be _____. 1 John 3:7-8
6. _____ hypocrisy. 1 John 3:18-19
7. Live like a _____. 1 John 4:4-5
8. Make God _____. 1 John 5:21

The Importance of Patience
James 5:7-8

Jas 5:7 = Exhortation To Believers.

E.T./L.T. = Therefore be patient toward people, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. Behold, the farmer is waiting for the valuable fruit of the earth being patient toward people about it, until it gets the early and late rains.

Summary:

1. The application of this prophecy is to develop patience toward people.
2. The Lord will judge at the perfect time. Matt 24:27,37,39
3. An agricultural analogy is used to teach patience.
 - A. The farmer is The Farmer. John 15:1
 - B. The Valuable Fruit is produced by the branches on the Vine, believers. John 15:1-8
 - C. The Soil refers to a Believer's desire to be productive. Matt 13:5ff
 - D. The Rain is the Word of God. Heb 6:7-8
 - E. The Early Rain is God's word for the first generation of the Church.
 - F. The Latter Rain is God's word for the last generation. Mark 13
 - G. The Patience of the Farmer is to reap a larger crop. 2 Pet 3:8-9
4. Patience toward people will let us grow and produce more fruit. Jas 1:2-4
5. The love of money:
 - A. Marks the _____. 2 Tim 3:1-2
 - B. Is a recipe for _____ *and* _____. 1 Tim 6:10
 - C. Leads one to _____. Luke 16:13-15
 - D. Does not coexist with _____. Heb 13:5-6
 - E. Thus, is not to be part of the life of an _____. 1 Tim 3:1-4
6. The worldly rich are to seek heavenly riches. 1 Tim 6:17-19

Principle: Patience toward others is the key factor of being an _____ in the last days.

Jas 5:8 = How Long To Be Patient.

5:8 E.T./L.T. = You too (like the farmer) be consistently patient toward people, strengthen your core values, for the coming of the Lord has drawn near.

Summary:

- 1. One day the Lord will physically come to call us into the air, but until then we are to learn patience toward people.**
- 2. We are to strengthen the core values delineated by God's Word.**
- 3. Righteous core values are strengthened by love. 1 Thes 3:11-13**
- 4. The "coming of the Lord" is used often to refer to the Rapture and Second Advent. Matt 24:27,37,39; 1 Thes 2:19; 3:13; 4:15; 5:23; 1 John 2:28**
- 5. All Believers from the First Advent to the Second Advent have important instructions to fulfill-be patient.**
- 6. Some during that time will say He is not coming back. 2 Pet 3:3-7**
- 7. Jesus has already "drawn near" once. 2 Pet 1:16**
- 8. He is still near and we realize that when the "morning star" arises in our hearts, which can happen during any time frame. 2 Pet 1:19**
- 9. Jesus is the "Morning Star." Rev 22:16**

Principle: The qualities of _____ define the core values.