

Monthly Memory Verse January 2010



(KJV) 1Pe 2:2 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:

(Include: 1Peter 2:3)

1Pe 2:3 If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious

Publisher & Author Message

Message from the publisher and author

Monthly Memory Verse and Dale's Notes

Dale's Notes are provided to be used as an encouragement to study the context from where the monthly memory verse was selected. It's my desire to provide some background information and practical understanding of some things, which I see within my own study of God's word. It's my hope through reading the notes; you will desire to study God's word in more detail.

Dale's Notes are only a layman's attempt to share the good news of our savior Jesus Christ through a monthly memory verse and the study of God's word in our daily walk with the Lord.

Brother in Jesus Christ,

Dale ☺

Dale A. Kaye

PS Prayer request:

Pray with me in asking God for help to provide a consistent format for the Men's Monthly Memory Verse and possibly a hosting site to handle automated emailing. I continue to ask your prayers and encouragement for the continuation to serve in this way. Also, remember my family as we make changes in our lives to honor our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Thank you,

Dale

Quick Bio-glance

January

Quick Bio-glance:

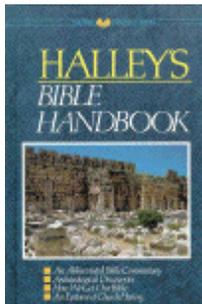


Henry Hampton Halley
1874 - 1965

Henry H. Halley was born in Kentucky in 1874, died in 1965 and was buried in Lexington, Kentucky. He graduated in 1895 from Transylvania University and the College of the Bible. He taught in the preparatory department at Transylvania University in 1896 and in 1897 he taught at the Women's Missionary College in Hazel Green, KY. Henry H. Halley was ordained to preach among the Disciples of Christ in 1898 and the following year he moved to Michigan to begin his preaching ministry.

People were always amazed at his ability with memorization. He was in high demand among churches to have him come and preach the holy scriptures, because of his knowledge of the Bible and his capability to memorized large amounts of scripture.

One of the most known contributions Henry H. Halley has made to biblical study was the development of **Halley's Bible Handbook**. He learned early in his education to appreciate the study to understand the Bible. He made it his obligation and passion to commit the holy scriptures to memory.



Henry H. Halley in 1924 produced a sixteen page booklet of introductory information and began handing the booklet out to people. Over time the booklet became a small volume. H.H. Halley called it **Halley's Pocket Bible Handbook** but before long the word "*Pocket*" was removed as the volume became too large for a pocket. Finally, the volume would become an 800 page handbook, now known as **Halley's Bible Handbook**. Today **the Halley's Bible Handbook** is available in the New International Version as a study Bible. It's translated into many foreign languages, and is one of the top selling Bible Handbooks on the market. Henry Halley was awarded in 1961 with the Gutenberg Award from the Chicago Bible Society for his wonderful guide to Bible Study.

<http://www.therestorationmovement.com/halley,hh.htm>

Theology term:

Apologetics

Apologetics is from the Greek [*apologia*] which means to make a plea for, or make a defense of whatever is in view. In theological terms that defense is "Reasons To Believe" (-1st Peter 3:15). Apologetics is the science of the defense of the doctrines of God, His divine nature, and cause. This reasoned advocacy takes on both positive arguments for the truth of Christianity, and also uses rebuttals of criticisms of it. Theologians usually break Apologetics into two groups called Evidential Apologetics, and Evangelical or presuppositional Apologetics.

<http://www.mountainretreatorg.net/faq/glossary.html>

Memory verse for the month: January 2010 (κΙΥ)

Dale's Notes

Read: 1st Peter Chapter 2**January (Part I)**

1Pe 2:2 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:

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

“As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word...”

English: newborn

G738

ἀρτιγέννητος

artigennētos

Thayer Definition:

1) just born, newborn

Part of Speech: adjective

A Related Word by Thayer's/Strong's Number: from [G737](#) and [G1084](#)

Citing in TDNT: 1:672, 114

English: Babes

G1025

βρέφος

brephos

Thayer Definition:

1) an unborn child, embryo, a foetus

2) a new-born child, an infant, a babe

Part of Speech: noun neuter

A Related Word by Thayer's/Strong's Number: of uncertain affin.

Citing in TDNT: 5:636, 759

Apostle Peter gives his admonishment, simply and clearly to the heart of the matter, concerning true spiritual growth by the word of God that lives and abides forever! He illustrates the word of God as the nourishment of sincere (GRK- adolos – meaning: unadulterated, pure) milk for new born babies. And as we all know babies need sustenance to grow and to continue to grow up. We read in the next part of the verse (1Pe 2:3) Peter put forth the question do you have a desire for the pure, spiritual, milk of God; if so, then you have tasted the Lord is gracious. The words “**if so be**” makes us consider ourselves in the light of what was just said because it’s a conditional statement. Our verse (1Pe 2:2) ends with a colon meaning we must pursue the complete thought unto the ending punctuation (“.”) After we have answered the condition and we are found truly to be the new born babes, desiring the word of God, then we know (*tasted*) the Lord is gracious to us. And we now know with certainty salvation is a reality but only to those who believe the gospel preach.

There is much to be said pertaining to our memory verse in light of earlier verses such as why does the writer use the illustration “as newborn babes”? When looking back as to what was said we find Peter the beloved apostle of Jesus Christ has preached the gospel to his readers. I mean the living Hope, the incorruptible inheritance, the sanctification through the Spirit unto obedience, the sprinkling of the Blood of Jesus Christ all according to the foreknowledge of God the Father who has begotten us again (born us again)!

He (*Peter*) thunders out the assurance of salvation to all who believe; to the elect of God that are dispersed throughout Asia (Specifically: Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia). He (*Peter*) stamps out any doubt, any fear as to God loosing those who are His because they are kept by the power of God and are to be presented to Jesus Christ at his appearing! He (*Peter*) excises the authority of the word of God and preaches to them; it's through Faith they are being kept by the power of God even in the most adverse circumstances. He reminds them of their new heavenly nature and the eternal promises by the "One" who is with them and keeps them unto to the end.

I can hear the admonition of Peter from the second epistle; he would always put them in remembrance of the truth. Just like he did in first epistle; it's his practice of love to them by life or by death.

(ESV) **2Pe 1:12** Therefore I intend always to remind you of these qualities, though you know them and are established in the truth that you have.

2Pe 1:13 I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to stir you up by way of reminder,

2Pe 1:14 since I know that the putting off of my body will be soon, as our Lord Jesus Christ made clear to me.

2Pe 1:15 And I will make every effort so that after my departure you may be able at any time to recall these things.

Albert Barnes Notes on the Bible

As new-born babes - The phrase used here would properly denote those which were just born, and hence Christians who had just begun the spiritual life. See the word explained in the notes at [2Ti 3:15](#). It is not uncommon, in the Scriptures, to compare Christians with little children. See the notes at [Mat 18:3](#), for the reasons of this comparison. Compare the [1Co 3:2](#) note; [Heb 5:12](#), [Heb 5:14](#) notes.

English="Being born again"

G313

ἀναγεννάω

anagennaō

Thayer Definition:

1) to produce again, be born again, born anew

2) metaphorically to have one's mind changed so that he lives a new life and one conformed to the will of God

Part of Speech: verb

A Related Word by Thayer's/Strong's Number: from [G303](#) and [G1080](#)

Citing in TDNT: 1:673, 114

1Pe 1:23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

Peter in 1:23 gives us the process by which the new birth takes place through the Word of God (*the Gospel*) and tells us of the eternity of God's word (*the incorruptible seed*) that has brought about the new birth. Peter gives us insight into the new birth (*the new nature*) by the use of the words incorruptible, liveth and abideth forever (King James). You don't have to take my word for it; read Peter's illustration.

1Pe 1:24 for "All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, **1Pe 1:25** but the word of the Lord remains forever." And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

Do you see the word of God as eternal, forever and producing eternal results? How do I get that? Look at the illustration of mankind (*all flesh* - you could make a case even in the broadest sense to all types of flesh and its longevity of life to exist in its current state). Mankind in their current natural state (*fleshly*) are related to grass and the flower that passes away but if we are born anew of the word of God he (*Peter*) tell us the word of the Lord remains forever. The verses are comparisons to illustrate eternal life received through the gospel preach to you.

One thing stands out to me in considering this verse, it's the same message Jesus Christ our savior put to Nicodemus (*John 3.3*) with regards of "being born again", "born from above", "born anew", "hath begotten us again", and "as newborn babies". These all have one thing in common and it's a new birth! You don't have a baby until one is born! (This is only true in the general course of life but if we go about ripping babies out of their mother's womb- that is abortion- and is premeditated murder. Meaning time was spent by all parties involved, regardless of understanding, to make a thoughtful choice, to take a new life at the earliest advantage after conception. Read Thayer's definition for "Babies" at top of page). This life wasn't here and now it is, and with that new born baby comes all kinds of nurturing, which includes feeding, holding, clothing, cleaning/washing, and teaching, all done through love with tender care. Did I miss anything here! Is it that simple! Did you know God's word provides all this for the new birth in Christ? Have you not read these verses that deal with the clothing and training of God's people?

Clothing of Christ and of God: (ESV)

Putting on Christ: Gal 3:27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

Putting on the armor of God: Eph 6:11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

Instruction and training (ESV)

2Ti 3:16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,

2Ti 3:17 that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.

Let's get some facts from the apostle Peter relating to the new birth. (KJV)

1Pe 1:23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

1Pe 1:24 For all flesh *is* as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away:

1Pe 1:25 But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.

The word "**Being**" in the English language is a very interesting word, it means in general a state of existence, the word "being" tell us something has to exist "to be" and everything that follows after the word is a description of "being", "to be", or "exist". In this case the existence is born again, *an-ag-en-nah'-o* meaning to beget or (by extension) bear (again): - beget, (bear) X again.

If you look at the context of our verses they're in the past tense, meaning it has happened. The readers/hears are already born again from above, they currently exist as the children of God "being born again", this gives the apostle the liberty to move forward and speak about their new existence, the new birth in detail.

When reading **1Peter 2.2** our verse, it speaks to their (*the elect/ the saints/ the Christians*) new birth that's happened, all described in chapter one, the nature and the responsibility to it. They're called to walk in love and truth, putting away the old sinful life and all its mannerisms.

Why; because they are now born-anew from the incorruptible word of God that lives and abides forever. Knowing the old, earthly, natural man dies (*even now*) like the grass and the flower of this life is fading but the new birth is of the word of God (*by the Gospel*) that lives and abides forever!

Our beloved apostle Paul smash open the true matter of God's creative power to bring about new life, born from above, through the gospel of reconciliation. (ESV) 2cor. 5:17-21

- 2Co 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, **he is a new creation**. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.
- 2Co 5:18 All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation;
- 2Co 5:19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.
- 2Co 5:20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.
- 2Co 5:21 For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

But hear the words of the Lord himself with regard to the new birth speaking to Nicodemus; who came to Christ by night.

- Joh 3:3 Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."
- Joh 3:4 Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?"
- Joh 3:5 Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.
- Joh 3:6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.
- Joh 3:7 Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'
- Joh 3:8 The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."
- Joh 3:9 Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?"
- Joh 3:10 Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things?"
- Joh 3:11 Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony.

The Comparison Peter, Paul, and Jesus:

Currently we have read Peter telling us how we are born again and of the nourishment for the new birth in salvation by the word of God. We've read our beloved Paul speaking of the new creation and old things passing away: understanding our current state with God that we are at peace with Him through Jesus Christ. This gives us the understanding the Gospel message has brought us peace and new life: now we are to preach the message to others by God himself through Christ Jesus. Finally we come to Jesus Christ our Savior, who emphatically states you cannot go to Heaven unless you are born again (*born from above*)! The apostles (*Peter and Paul*) are speaking of the growth and the transformation of the new life created by God through the word of God but Christ is speaking of our (*mankind's*) necessity to be born from above to enter Heaven that without you cannot enter. Peter and Paul speak of the nature and characteristic of the new life with regards to our pursuit in it but Jesus tells Nicodemus you have no life without the new birth from above; with the command "you must be born again"

(ESV)Joh 3:7 Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'

Peter and Paul speak of what has happened and our ongoing responsibility to the new commands in eternal life but Jesus Christ is speaking of the need of mankind to become a Child of God. Can you see the difference of which I'm speaking? One is a man or woman who has **not** come to know Jesus Christ through our Gospel and doesn't possess the new life, the new creation, the new birth. The other is one whom has believe the message of the gospel and now possess life eternal, the new birth through the word of God that lives and abides forever. They both are called to obey the word of God from where they're at! The one is to repent unto eternal life and believe on him God has sent. The other is to repent of sinful ways and continue in the new life they have received through Faith in the word of God.

Jesus said it this way:

Joh 5:24 Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.

(KJV)Joh 6:47 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life.

I'm going end with this: keep yourselves in the love of God with the emphases on the words love of God.

(KJV)Jud 1:21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

Prayer:

Good Father in Heaven, who has given us your Beloved Holy Son; have mercy on us. Open our eyes in this dark world to your ways of truth. Strengthen us to pursue you to be the disciples you have call us too. Holy Father, shine your light from Heaven upon our sinful nation and sinful people. Bring an out-pouring of obedience to the gospel. O' Gracious Father, those who are doing right in your sight continue to bless but those of yours who are out-of-the-way correct. Again, Lord Jesus, I pray give us the boldness and faith to obey your command,

Mat 28:19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

Mat 28:20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Now forgives us were we have fallen way short to obey such wonderful words.

Amen.

January (Part II)

1Pe 2:2 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:

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

I would like you to take a breath before you start and pray.

The truth of being born from above can simply mean you now have the Spirit of God living in you because of faith in the message of Christ (*the gospel*). When a person comes to faith in Jesus Christ as their Lord and savior, *by the grace of God*, the new birth happens (*regeneration*).

(ESV)Rom 8:8 Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

Rom 8:9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you.

Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.

Rom 8:10 But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

Romans points-out the new life of the child of God contains the Spirit of God, which is synonymous with the Spirit of Christ, which is one of the same (*the Spirit, the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Christ and the Spirit of God*) and if a person does not have that **Spirit (Holy Spirit)**, they don't belong to God! We will take a look at what Jesus said about the new birth being from above but before we do let's look at the nature of God from John chapter 4

Joh 4:24 God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."

Jesus does not complicate the matter when he speaks to the woman at Jacob's well but clearly tells the woman "You worship what you do not know..."

Joh 4:22 You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.

Well that's pretty clear if you ask me! There are people who **know** what they worship and there are people who don't and she didn't (*What does this say to us with regards to the Spirit and the truth*). Just like Nicodemus after Jesus told him "You must be born from above" and Nicodemus gave an empty rhetorical question that finally ends up with him saying, "How can these things be". This shows his (*Nicodemus*) lack of understanding and his need to come to Christ to be born from above. Nicodemus was a preacher, teacher of the faith in Israel and of the laws of God but he, himself, was not captive to the reality of the truth.

Joh 3:9 Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?"

Joh 3:10 Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things?"

Joh 3:11 Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony.

Ouch! "**You** do not receive our testimony"! That's personal, to the heart; anyway you look at it (collective or singular)! It's here, I wonder if we hear the testimony of God. The testimony that tells us we must be born again from above! Pay close attention to the words "we" and "our" (John 3:11) with regards to who is bearing witness to Nicodemus. Do we understand Christ doesn't come of himself in bearing witness; it's not just the witness of God through man but God's witness through God (*God the Father, God the Holy Spirit, and God the Son*). There is no mistaking the power of the message to mankind they must be born again. We should all consider this whether we fully understand or not that

God was in Jesus Christ reconciling the world to himself! Simply put when Jesus was speaking God was speaking!

Matthew Henry's Commentary:

[1.] That the truths Christ taught were very *certain* and what we may venture upon ([Joh 3:11](#)): *We speak that we do know*. *We*; whom does he mean besides himself? Some understand it of those that bore witness to him and with him on earth, the prophets and John Baptist; they *spoke* what they *knew*, and had seen, and were themselves abundantly satisfied in: divine revelation carries its own proof along with it. Others of those that bore witness from heaven, the Father and the Holy Ghost; the Father was with him, the Spirit of the Lord was upon him; therefore he speaks in the plural number ...

It brings to memory the words in Genesis when God said "let us make man in our image"

[Gen 1:26](#) And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness...

This is the witness of God to the creation of man and it's spoken in the plural.

John Gill's Exposition of the Entire Bible

Joh 3:11 Verily, verily, I say unto thee, we speak that we do know... Meaning either himself, and John the Baptist his forerunner, who preached the same doctrine of regeneration, internal sanctification, and evangelical repentance, as well as outward reformation, as necessary to entrance into the kingdom of heaven, or the Gospel dispensation, he declared was just at hand; or his disciples with himself, who were now with him, and whom he had called to preach the same truths he himself did; or the prophets of the Old Testament, who agreed with him in these things; or the Father that was with him, and never left him alone, and the Holy Spirit that was upon him, by whom he was anointed to preach these things, and who spoke them in him; or else he may use the plural number of himself alone, as being one in authority, and speaking with it, as he sometimes did, [Mar 4:30](#), and the rather this seems to be the sense, since he immediately, in the next verse, speaks in the singular number, "if I have told you earthly things", &c. Now Christ must needs thoroughly, and certainly know what he spoke, since he was not only the omniscient God, but, as Mediator, had all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge in him, and the spirit of wisdom and knowledge rested on him:

Although I don't fully understand; I know there is a witness of man and the witness of God and all mankind is accountable to both. John the apostle points to the same topic in first John chapter 5.

Literal Translation of the Holy Bible

1Jn 5:7 For there are three bearing witness *in Heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one.*

1Jn 5:8 And there are three who bear witness on the earth: The Spirit, and the water, and the blood; and the three are to the one.

1Jn 5:9 If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater; because this is the witness of God which He has witnessed about His Son:

Peter speaks in our verse: 1Peter 2:2

Peter is speaking to those who have received the Spirit of God, the nature of God, and the truth of God by which they are born again. He covers some of the simple things but push them to move-on in their growth, in Christ, by feasting on the word of God. It's to our advantage; we too must remember the words of Christ, which He said in His own testing (*regarding the word of God*), when He hungered forty days.

Literal Translation of the Bible

Mat 4:4 But answering, He said, It has been written: "Man shall not live by bread alone, but on every Word going out of *the* mouth of God." *Deut. 8:3*

He (*Peter*) doesn't set the foundation already laid of repentance and belief in the Gospel unto new life but He preaches the knowledge and wisdom of God through Christ to be everything God has called them too. This is why Peter tells them "...that ye may grow thereby:"

(ASV)Heb 6:1 Wherefore leaving the doctrine of the first principles of Christ, let us press on unto perfection; not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God,

His (*Peter's*) concern is that the children of God are growing in their faith and are fulfilling the course of life to which God has called them too. Not living after their old former manner of this world but now desiring the pure, sincere, milk of the Word of God growing up in their salvation, which they have obtain and will obtain at the appearing of Jesus Christ (*Phil 3:12-14*).

He (*Peter*) already reminded them; their Heavenly Father is holy and they too should be Holy (*1 peter 1:15-16*), giving them the example of life to which they are called too.

Lev 19:1 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

Lev 19:2 "Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them, You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy.

He (*Peter*) constructs a word picture, by displaying what the new life looks like, by defining what it is they should do and what they should not.

1Pe 1:14 As obedient children, **not** fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance:
1Pe 1:15 But as he which hath called you is holy, **so be ye** holy in all manner of conversation;

This gives the readers clear insight as to how the new life in Christ looks and what the new life is not. He displays the difference between the holy life in Christ Jesus (*the new birth*) and the defile life of mankind (*worldly*).

Peter tells them of their precious Savior

Peter doesn't leave them with a list of do's and don'ts but he tells the children of their savior, He (*Jesus Christ*) is the living corner stone, precious, chosen of God. Peter reminds them of this in chapter one that they have not been redeemed through corruptible things but with the spotless blood of Christ.

1Pe 1:19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

He (*Peter*) ties together the **precious** (*costly*) blood of Christ of chapter one with the **precious** (*dearly honored of the Father*), chosen/elected corner stone of God and the **precious** (*esteemed*) one of his people found in chapter two. He (*Peter*) does this by sewing together his message with the Greek words **tim-ee -os, en-tee -mos, and tee-may** of which all mean **precious, precious, precious!** Peter makes it absolutely clear that our Savior is **precious** beyond measure and worth!

Do you see him, our Savior as precious beyond value and worth because he is?

Let's talk about "ye" or "you"

Also, it's important to notice the personal pronoun in the English with our verses 1 Peter 2:2-3, "that **ye** may grow thereby:" and "If so be **ye** have tasted..." It's my understanding most, if not all, translations have the pronoun "ye -or- you". This means it can be taken only two ways: one as a collective pronoun as a group or singular as an individual but in either case; it directs our thoughts to search our hearts in light of our salvation and consider our personal desire to know God's truth to grow up in it. Peter ensure they (*the readers or listeners*) understand, if they find themselves to have such a desire for God's word, it's because the Lord is gracious, that is, He (*Jesus Christ*) is gracious to you. For this reason, the statement is personal even though it's said collectively to a specific group; the Christians that are dispersed.

Now growing up in the salvation God has called us to is not easy, especially in this darken world. We must understand our current position in Christ to be lights shining forth the word of God in a crooked and perverse generation.

Php 2:15 That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;

Php 2:16 Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.

Remember Jesus Christ said too "that ye are the light of world a city that is set on a hill cannot be Hid."
(Esv)Mat 5:14 "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.

If you are born anew; all this points to the new birth that God has brought about in you and you now have a new desire to shine for Jesus through obedience to His eternal word.

Let's get down to the meat of the matter: Application.

Where do you sit in Peter's sermon? When was the last time you desired the word of God; I mean as a newborn baby that you may grow-up in the salvation **you** have received?

(KJV)Psa 34:8 O taste and see that the LORD *is* good: blessed *is* the man *that* trusteth in him.

Read Job's words:

Job 23:12 I have not gone back from the commandment of his lips; I have treasured up the words of his mouth more than my necessary food.

I don't think it's the intent of either of the above verses to just hide God's word in our heart for the sake of knowledge or knowing it but the obedience to it in love is the goal towards God. Just like James wrote: it's not the hearer that is blessed but the doer of the word that hears.

There is no-way you can excuse yourself from the table of the Lord and the bread of life he (God) provides, then say you are mature. You cannot know the mind of the Lord outside of the Holy Scriptures. It doesn't work that way, "as newborn babes desire the sincere milk of the word that ye may grow thereby:" Now there it is "...that ye may grow thereby"! Maybe your life is falling apart because you don't have God's illuminating light (*the word*) in it? You simply don't read it and hope it will magically manifest itself in your mind. You might not have Christ, the Light, therefore you don't desire it!

You must understand even at the entrance of Christ in to your life it's through the Holy Scriptures preach to you. Was it not the words of Christ Jesus that he would not leave His disciples comfortless but would send the Spirit of truth, which would bring to remembrance the Words of God, the words of Christ? Yes!

(ASV)Joh 14:26 But the Comforter, *even* the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said unto you.

We are of those who have *the words of God* written down; in many translations. Getting information is not our problem in our age. With the advent of the computer and the internet we have more at our advantage than Paul and Peter had in their life time (speaking only humanly possible). God has given us great teachers of truth so that we are without excuse to take opportunity to get the knowledge we need. Most of us hold in our hands on any given Sunday greater study notes and all of God's scriptures then all scriptures carried by people in Jesus Christ time. What can we say concerning the maps, locations, and definitions all at our finger tips, just turn the page, open the cover! But we do not as we know we should.

We must study to show ourselves approved unto God even like apostle Paul said to his beloved Timothy. Literal Translation of the Holy Bible

(LITV)1Ti 4:16 Give attention to yourself and to the doctrine; continue in them, for doing this, you will both deliver yourself and those hearing you

Prayer:

Our Father in Heaven; thank you for your great kindness and mercy you have towards us, thank you for your precious Son Jesus. He is our Joy and love and our great expectation to come. Fill us with an awareness of your time, so we live in knowledge of your holy truth. Forgive us Holy Father, just as we were told to forgive others but have mercy on us for our harden hearts or weakness to forgive as we

should. Now strength us that we may be the lights of this world to which you have called us too and now build us in our hope looking to our savior's coming.
Amen.