

4 March 2018

Essential ingredients for Christian growth Pt.10 Summary of our series – submit to the word of God

This is our tenth and final study on our topic – Essential ingredients for Christian growth. In this study we establish that a babe in Christ is born when a person hears and believes the word of God, and spiritual growth occurs when believers then submit to the word of God. We conclude this series with – submission to the word of God is a summary of what is needed for Christian growth.

Scriptures upon which this teaching is founded.

1. A babe in Christ is born when they hear and believe by faith the word of God.
“So then faith [cometh] by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Rom.10: 17).

Hence, our spiritual life is born of the Spirit of God (Jn.3: 5, 6 & 8) and the word of God (Rom.10: 17). “And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus” (2Tim.3: 15).

2. Spiritual growth occurs when we submit ourselves to the word of God.
“Submit yourselves therefore to God” (Jam.4: 7) c.f. – 1Pet.2: 2 “As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby”.

Our nine teachings on this topic have included –

- i) desire to meditate on the word of God, and
- ii) prayer, and
- iii) godly sorrow worketh repentance, and
- iv) worship in Spirit and truth, and
- v) forsake not the coming together for worship, and
- vi) abide in Christ and bear fruit, and
- vii) live, walk, and be led of the Spirit of God, and
- viii) growth in our faith takes place during times of trial, and
- ix) grow in sound doctrine.

These actions which are essential for Christian growth all have one common denominator – a heart that submits to the word of God.

Whether we be a babe in Christ like Ricky who was born of the Spirit of God on Thursday the 1st of March 2018, or have been walking with the Lord for 50 years, spiritual growth takes place when we submit to the word of God.

Applying the teaching to our life today.

When Karen and I went to Bible College we were ignorant of the “Bible issue”. And when we learnt of the significance of the Authorised Bible our eyes were open to the destructive nature of teaching at college where lectures teach that the 200-plus bibles versions have errors, and so scholars write their own bibles from the mythological “original” Greek text that is lost to posterity.

Question to think about.

If the over-riding ingredient for Christian growth is submission to the word of God, then what happens to “Christians” that do not have the word of God?

My answer to our question from the scriptures.

They are like the Israelites – when “Hilkiah...found the book of the law in the house of the Lord” and the king said “Go ye, enquire of the Lord for me, and for the people, and for all Judah, concerning the words of this book that is found: for great is the wrath of the Lord that is kindled against us, because our fathers have not hearkened unto the words of this book” (2Kg.22: 8 & 13). They are like the young man today who goes to Theological college and is taught that the Bible has errors, hence the “book of the law” is LOST, he consequently dies spiritually. The opposite takes place when a person finds the “book of the law” today, the holy scriptures (the Authorised Bible), and believes it, and seeks to submit to it, they will grow spiritually. Hence a summary of our nine studies on essential ingredients for Christian growth is submission to the word of God.