

Desire the Pure Milk!

by Wayne Goff

"Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby," (1 Peter 2:1-2).

There are three things I would like to point out about these verses in 1 Peter. First, when one is converted to the Lord, he needs to be sure he has *"laid aside"* all **malice, deceit, hypocrisy, and evil speaking**, or else there will be no place in the heart for pure, spiritual thinking. Opposites cannot dwell in the same space at the same time. Brethren fill their hearts with these negative things and begin to die *spiritually* almost immediately. So, first, let's get rid of that stinking thinking!

Secondly, *"desire the pure milk of the word."* **"Desire"** (epipotheō) means **strong desire!** So we must strongly desire the Word before it will do us any good. Consider the Psalmist's words in Psalm 42:2 as an example of **"desire:"** *"My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?"* That is the kind of *"desire"* that we need to develop in our hearts. Paul used this same word to describe his longing for heaven: *"For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven" (2 Cor. 5:2).* You can get a better mental picture of that **strong desire** God had in mind from such a reference.

Finally, that strong desire must be pointed at *"the pure milk of the word,"* not a watered-down version of it! Most false teaching and pseudo-preachers today promote a **tainted, or poisoned** *"milk of the word"*! The Greek word *literally* means *"unadulterated."* That is, **unmixed** with anything that might weaken or dilute the power of the Gospel. Today's mindset is to *"tweet"* and *"twitter"* cute little memes or quotes, but when is the last time you sat down in a quiet place, **read, studied** and **meditated** on God's Word for an hour? If you are not used to it, then it becomes difficult to do. But you can *learn* to do it if you *really* want to do it.

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