

11 GROWING

II Peter 3:18

I this man urging us to grow is
extorting us to take advantage of
the greatest power we know of.

Storms earthquakes, atomic bombs
revolutions have great power but
fade into insignificance when
placed by the side of growth.

an acorn can produce a tree - a
pocket full could produce lumber
to build a city.

Suppose you had a bushel of corn
and the only bushel in the world and
it produced 100 fold as Jesus said
some grains do - at \$1⁰⁰ per bu. the
first year you would be worth \$100
and \$10000 - 3rd millionaire - 5th yr. at
\$1,000,000,000 - 6th yr. enough to pay Gov. debt
and \$8000⁰⁰ for every woman, man, and child
in U.S.

Power is equally amazing as
to ourselves - Baby - Shakespeare was
and a baby - "Held mirror up to nature
as no one else ever has."

The But apostle says, more than grow - He
says "Grow in grace"

"choose direction of our growth - monkey,
gushing as pig can only grow. we can
decide the direction

what we are is of importance but
 what we are becoming is of far greater
 importance - the lily is beautiful but
 it was not always beautiful for once it
 was ugly hulk - Peter knew the thrill of
becoming more like Christ. He saw it
 in his friends - John for instance

Jesus came as little baby but grew
 in stature - wisdom - and favor with
 God and man.

not to grow ends in tragedy -

1. To fail to grow means arrested develop-
 ment. (Little baby that did not grow). Its
 coming was the signal for the bursting
 of spring time upon hearts of parents.

But then sunshine turned to clouds - laughter
 turned to tears not because child be-
 came a thief, crook, or murderer but
 because it did not grow.

many marriages go on the rocks be-
 cause one party never grows or
 because they grow in opposite di-
 rections.

It is a tragedy of minutes not to grow -
 it is just as tragic for church mem-
 bers not to grow - remain just the
 same - arrested development.

To fail to grow as we go up means
 we will come down because life is
 lived on an incline

Peter and Judas, at first, had equal promise - They grew in opposite directions, where Judas failed to grow upward he went down

How do we grow in grace?

1. not by just wishing to - we can not grow by wishing any more than a woman ^{can reduce weight} just wishing to but eating as usual -

2. we can grow by obeying the laws of growth - Food - {physical
Jesu as vine - in that connection we grow - {spiritual
Exercise - woman and young Jyn who that wanted to be Corneil - "I am going to see to it that someone does not cut it as bad as I have."

The reason for weak Christians is that they have been Corneil and have not exercised their spirits -