

OH HOW SWEET IT IS!
The Growing Christian Series
Reference: **2 Peter 3:18**
Pastor Daniel Flynn

- I. Our spiritual growth brings joy to the heavenly Father.
(**Colossians 1:10; Psalm 104:34; Ephesians 5:8-10; Hebrews 13:20-21**)

- II. Our spiritual growth makes possible the joy of effective service.
(**2 Timothy 2:15**)

- III. Our spiritual growth makes personal happiness possible.
 - Spiritual growth could produce harmful pride and an attitude of self-righteousness if it were not for the fact that spiritual growth is made possible only by the presence of the Holy Spirit.
 - The Holy Spirit knows not only how to challenge us in the upward struggle but also how to keep us humble in the midst of God's goodness toward us.

- IV. Christian growth makes the joy of an abundant harvest possible.
 - Paul encouraged the Galatians toward spiritual growth and significant achievement with the promise of a sure reward if they did not faint and fall away before the harvest season.
(**Galatians 6:9**)
 - Success along the way from day to day is in many respects its own reward.
 - For children of God, the day of rewarding will come when it is possible for them to hear words of commendation from the heavenly Father.

We should so grow and serve and live and labor
that on that last great day each of us can hear the Father say,

*"... 'Well done, good and faithful servant.
You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much.
Enter into the joy of your master.'"*

Matthew 25:21

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