

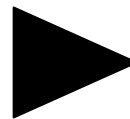
**“Loving Believers and Longing For the Word”
I Peter 1:22-2:3**

Born anew to love Believers (1:22-25) . . . nature

*Love command: Jn. 13:34,35, I Cor. 13:13, Col. 3:14, I Thess. 4:9,10.

**“Spiritually genetic” reason for love here:

*In obedience to truth purified your souls
You have been born again... thru the Word
The Word which has been preached to you*



all 3 = past tense
describing
conversion

*Contrast of people / God’s Word shows though we are but flesh the Word implanted in us is able to bring dynamic and *imperishable* change (Isa. 40:6-8). Recall our inheritance = *imperishable* too (1:4).

Newborns longing for the Bible (2:1-3) . . . nurture

*Therefore = in view of this new “genetic propensity” *put off* these five love-spoiling vices in 2:1:

- 1) *malice*—ill will, often veiled (2:16)
 - 2) *deceit*—desire to mislead / deceive (2:22, 3:10)
 - 3) *hypocrisy*—phony (22, *sincere* is lit. = *unhypocritical*, Rom.12:9).
 - 4) *envy*—wanting what others have (Js.4:2b)
 - 5) *slander*—running others down (Js. 4:11)
- Do these remind you of anyone???

*As *newborns* = surprising simile? (recall 1:14, *obedient children*)
Milk here is not necessarily just the basics as no neg. connotation for this audience as in I Cor. 3:1-3, Heb. 5:12-14.

*Milk is for spiritual growth. NIV is best--*grow in your salvation*. See Acts 2:47, I Cor. 1:18, 2 Cor. 2:15, Phil. 2:12 for progress in our daily salvation.

*If indeed you have tasted (NIV best: *Now that you have tasted that the Lord is good*) is from Ps.34:8, where the Psalmist describes his positive experience with God even in the midst of trials (much like focus of I Peter). See also 3:10-12 where Ps. 34 is again quoted.