



Chaplain Message
Archives
June 2007 Message

Bethany Life
Communities

From the Chaplain (June 2007)

Dear Friends,

*“ But grow in the grace and knowledge of our
Lord and Savior Jesus Christ” – II Peter 3:18*

Isn't it wonderful to look outside and see the green grass, the blooming flowers and the crops that are growing? The world is in the “growing” season.

Are you growing? We are all growing older, that is certainly true. How about growing in Jesus, becoming more like Him. Growth for the Christian is normal. We are destined to grow up and it is a process that lasts a lifetime. Our bodies may grow frail, but God wants our spirits to continue to grow. There are never any wrinkles on our souls.

I share with you this poem -

I'm Not Growing Old

They say that I am growing old
I've heard them say it times untold
In language plain and bold
But I'm not growing old
This frail old shell in which I dwell
Is growing old I know full well
But I'm not growing old.
What if my hair has turned gray
Gray hair is honorable, they say
What if my eye sight's growing dim
I can still see to follow Him
Who sacrificed His life for me
There on the cross of Calvary
Why should I care if time's old plow
Has dug some furrows in my brow.
Another house not made with hand
Awaits me in the glory land.

My hearing may not be as keen
As in the past, it may have been
Still I can hear my Savior say
Come faltering child, this is the way.
The outward man, do what I can
To lengthen out this life's short span
Shall perish and return to dust
As everything in nature must.
But the inward man the Scriptures say
Ah, the inward man
Is growing stronger every day.
Then how can I be growing old?
I'm safe within the Savior's fold
'Er long my soul shall fly away
And leave this tenement of clay
This robe of flesh I'll drop and rise
To seize the everlasting prize
I'll meet you on the streets of gold
And prove that I'm not growing old.

– John E. Roberts

Enjoy the beauty of the growing season in the world. Know that as you feed on God's word and nurture your soul, your spirit will continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ!

Joy in your living and growing,

Chaplain Sandy Anenson