

1 PETER 1:13 – 2:12
“Prepare Your Minds for Action!”
Acting Out Our Salvation

* 1st word: “THEREFORE” – the following directives are based on our position in Christ – they don’t “earn” our position in Christ!!

- I. 1:13-16 “Prepare your minds for action!” (2 Cor. 10:5 – “take captive every thought”)
> The “battle” is usually won or lost in the brain! (ex: waiting ‘till marriage ... has to be *firmly* decided)
1. Be SELF-CONTROLLED – you can only control your actions if you first control your thoughts.
> The Sermon on the Mount. “... but I say ... ”
 2. Set your hope FULLY ... Q: Why the word “fully?” If not “fully” then where is our hope aimed?
 3. Don’t CONFORM to evil desires
> You know better! IGNORANCE is not an excuse.
> Obey like a CHILD (just not my children!)
– According to my 9-year-old daughter, every other 9-year-old girl has her own cell phone!
– Good parents set the rules ... regardless of what “everyone else” does!!
 4. Be HOLY
> definition: Opposite of Conforming!
> Be DIFFERENT – Be SEPARATE! (singers slogan)
– ill: high school parties: (I still don’t party and get drunk – not because my parents won’t let me – although Kelly’s another story – but because I’m still a child and Jesus says “No!”

> Remember, holiness comes (1) from God, (2) from my effort and
(3) subsequent to justification – not as a *means* to justification!

ELABORATION ON HOLINESS 1:17 – 21

- v. 17 – Live your lives (1) as STRANGERS (sojourners, exiles, aliens)
> see 1:1; ill: A Dawg in Virginia
(2) in REVERENT FEAR
> I.e. – be SERIOUS about your faith!
> Q: How might we fail to take our faith seriously?

WHY??

- A. v.17 – Since your WORK will be judged!
Q: What is this judgment? NOT JUSTIFICATION! (which is NOT by works!)
– see 2 Cor. 5:10; 1 Cor. 3:11-15
Q: What are our heavenly rewards? Not explicitly clear ... but they seem to be
> position, office, rank, status, responsibility (some have suggested “degrees of joy”)
- B. v. 18 – You were bought with INNOCENT BLOOD
C. v.19 – He was revealed FOR YOUR SAKE

STRATEGY OF STRANGERS 1:22 – 2:3

LOVE EACH OTHER (1:22 – 25)

- > Awkward sentence (v.22) – Why are we told to ‘love one another deeply’ if we already ‘have sincere love’ for our brethren based on our salvation?
 - * The difference between “having love” and “loving” – ACTION! (1:13 – prepare for action)
 - * see 1 Thess. 4:9-10
- > How is such love possible?
 - * It’s not NATURAL! Human, natural love is “perishable” (v.24) – Thus, it won’t be EASY.

Food for thought: Have you ever known a Christian who isn’t kind, or who has a reputation for being mean or unkind?

GET RID OF IT! (2:1)

- > ESV: “put away” NKJV: “lay aside” NIV: “rid yourselves”
- > Malice, Deceit, Hypocrisy, Envy, Slander (evil speaking)
 - * Interestingly, there aren’t any study notes on this verse. Why?

DRINK MILK! (2:2)

- > Remember the ad: “Milk – it does a body good.” So true!

Q: What is “spiritual milk?” from the context ... it is THE WORD OF GOD
– idea: we need to eat healthy to grow – so live by the Word!!

Q: Is milk just for babies? Hint: there are no “scripture supplements” like “calcium pills.”

Q: Does milk taste good?

- Ever tasted baby formula? YUCK
- But we know that the health it brings is good! (2:3)
- We will DEVELOP a taste for spiritual milk! (ex: Diet Coke, Skim milk)

* As we are saved (sanctified) and begin to gain power over sin, it will become easier to overcome many temptations! (GOOD) But beware!! New temptations will always arrive. (BAD)

PECULIAR PEOPLE 2:4 –12

This section of 1 Peter concludes with an extended metaphor!

Believers are compared to the TEMPLE and the TEMPLE CULT!

- > “Being Built” (v.5) – It is a process – we are to be growing!
- > “A holy priesthood” – In the OT –the priests had access to God and carried out the sacrifices
Q: What are “spiritual sacrifices?”

> Jesus is the CORNERSTONE – The cornerstone (capstone) determined the design and orientation of a building and was the most significant stone of the structure. This “house” is made up of stones (believers) who are all designed after the capstone (Christ)!

- > Key verses: 2:9-10 – We are called out of this world into a different CITIZENSHIP!
 - > The KJV: “A peculiar people” – how do modern translations word this?
 - We should be peculiar! (ex: old guys at tennis match – beer at Daytona)

Why? So that we may DECLARE HIS PRAISES ... and ...
(v.12) So that unbelievers may be CONVERTED

Q: What happens if we don’t “stick out?”