

1st Peter

Christian Life Assembly

Fall 2014

Jim Hoffman



Class Open House

10/17/14

Jim and Jackie's

6:00 PM

31 Stone Barn Road

Mechanicsburg, Pa





1st Peter

- **13 Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming. 14 As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. 15 But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; 16 for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy.”**




1st Peter

- In the older versions we read – “Therefore gird up the loins of your mind”.
- This means little to us on the surface, but there is a great lesson in the original picture.






1st Peter

- **Heb 12:1** Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.
 - **Rom 12:1** Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but *be transformed by the renewing of your mind.* Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.
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1st Peter

- **So between Peter and Paul a picture is completed for us – we are running a race, a marathon to be specific, and we need to have our minds “unhindered” to be effective.**
 - **We begin with the word ‘Therefore’ – every time you see ‘therefore’ in the scriptures always ask “what is it there for?”.**
 - **And then see what precedes the ‘Therefore’.**
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1st Peter

- In 1st Peter we see ‘therefore’ preceded by –
 - The calling of God
 - Faith sufficient for the new birth
 - Tests that will prove we believe
 - Inexpressible joy
 - Hope





1st Peter

- **So, because of all that God has done for us we are now to do exactly what we want to do – respond.**
 - **No accident that Peter begins with the mind – before we do anything that is more than a reflex, we think about whatever that action may be.**
 - **We do not sin by accident and we do not serve God by accident – it all begins in the mind.**
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1st Peter

- **1st Cor 2:16** For, “Who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.
- **When we experience the new birth we are given a new world view, new values, and new ways of thinking.**






1st Peter

- **When Paul spoke of ‘renewing your mind’ in Romans 12, he is not specific on how that is to be done other than to speak of knowing God’s will.**
 - **I have come to understand that the Word of God IS the will of God.**
 - **Personal testimony – I have found nothing equal to the Word of God when it comes to setting my thoughts, motives, and actions right.**
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1st Peter

- **Next, Peter speaks of being ‘fully sober’. Why?**
 - **I think it’s because he is going to address some very serious serious Christian living subjects.**
 - **Hebrews 10:30 And again, “The Lord will judge His people.” 31 It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.**
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1st Peter

- **We are also told in verse #13 to ‘set (or rest) our hope on the grace that Jesus brings.**
 - **We need great clarity on this – if any one is trusting in anything other than, or in addition to, grace for salvation, they are in grave danger.**
 - **When we say, “I trust Jesus alone”, we are affirming we have no plan ‘B’.**
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1st Peter

- Psalm 147:10 He does not delight in the strength of the horse; He takes no pleasure in the legs of a man. 11 *The Lord takes pleasure in those who fear Him, In those who hope in His mercy.*
 - I take that promise totally seriously – that God does not delight in what I can do for Him so much as He delights in how much I trust Him.
 - Paul said, “when I’m weak, then I’m strong” – that fits perfectly with what Psalm 147 says.
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1st Peter

- **Next, let's look at the command to 'be holy, as God is holy'.**
 - **The word 'holy' has to do with being set apart, to be different from, and other than any thing else.**
 - **When we speak of God we can easily see how the word 'holy' fits and makes sense. He is pure, sinless, and then He also has all of the 'omni' attributes.**
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1st Peter

- So while we 'get it' when we are speaking of God, it is much harder to 'get' when we see that we are commanded to be holy.
 - I could go on and on about our positional holiness, but not so much about the holiness of our practice.
 - Hebrews 12:14 Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.
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1st Peter

**So there must be some way to
reconcile our conduct with God's
command – right?**






1st Peter

- **1st John 2:3** Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. **4** He who says, “I know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. **5** But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. **6** He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.
 - **Without seeming to want to let us off the hook, I do believe the command above and the command to be holy are judged in the same fashion.**
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1st Peter

- **1:17** And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay here in fear; **18** knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, **19** but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. **20** He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you **21** who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.
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1st Peter

- **What are your thoughts regarding the ‘fear nots’ of the Bible?**

 - **What are your thoughts regarding verses that call for a certain kind of holy fear?**
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1st Peter

- **So what will we do with these verses?**
- **The average Pentecostal or Evangelical Christian would probably tell us that being saved by grace means we having nothing to fear.**
- **Yet Peter, after telling his audience to fully hope in the grace of God also tells them to “conduct themselves while on earth in fear”.**






1st Peter

- You see if we live in such a way that declares our hope to be in money, possessions, status, or other people we may well bring judgment upon ourselves.
 - And you see if we live in such a way that declares our hope to be in baptism, an experience, our gifts, or our feelings we may well bring judgment upon ourselves.
 - We are called to ‘hope fully’ in the grace of God.
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1st Peter

- **Peter speaks of God judging and he is clear that God judges in an impartial way – same standard for sonship for all, and the same standard for judgment for all.**
 - **We are a child of God if we hope fully in His grace.**
 - **What can put anyone or everyone of us in a dangerous place is to live as though God owes us something – as though we can live any way we want while we wait for His coming.**
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1st Peter

- **1st Peter 4:14** If you are insulted because you bear the name of Christ, you will be blessed, for the glorious Spirit of God rests upon you. **15** If you suffer, however, it must not be for murder, stealing, making trouble, or prying into other people's affairs. **16** But it is no shame to suffer for being a Christian. Praise God for the privilege of being called by his name! **17** For the time has come for judgment, and it must begin with God's household. And if judgment begins with us, what terrible fate awaits those who have never obeyed God's Good News? **18** And also, "If the righteous are barely saved, what will happen to godless sinners?"
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1st Peter

- **Peter goes on to speak of the value of the blood with which we were ransomed.**
- **We were not redeemed with things that have mere temporal value.**
- **And we were not redeemed with the blood of animals – Heb 10:1 The old system under the law of Moses was only a shadow, a dim preview of the good things to come, not the good things themselves. The sacrifices under that system were repeated again and again, year after year, but they were never able to provide perfect cleansing for those who came to worship.**






1st Peter

- **Titus 2:14 Who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.**
 - **So when we are not striving to be holy, and we are not mindful and grateful for the blood of Christ, we are on dangerous ground.**
 - **We may not be saved.**
 - **We may be a disappointing son or daughter about to be judged and we should fear!**
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1st Peter

- **We should fear having behaviors that are not in line with God's call to be holy.**
 - **We should fear anything in our lives that would declare that we are not trusting fully in the blood of Jesus and nothing else.**
 - **And we should fear ever living like what God offers is less satisfying than what the world offers.**
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Questions

