



Gospel-Driven Holiness
4th in the “Elect Exiles” Series
1 Peter 1:13-25
December 3, 2017
Pastor Mickey Klink

Introduction

In this passage God calls us to be holy, and how holiness is a response to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

The Text: 1 Peter 1:13-25

1) The Christian’s life and actions must focus upon and respond to the Gospel (v. 13).

(a) The Christian life is birthed from of the gospel and can only be a response to the gospel!

(b) The Christian stands between the new birth and a spiritual maturity that will not be complete until Christ returns.

(c) Christ has asked you to honor him by participating faithfully in HIS work in you.

(d) How? Knowing that God began a good work in you (Phil 1:6), you aim for the goal set by Christ.

2) Every Christian is called to be holy (vv. 14-21).

To be holy means we belong to God, we are set apart for God, and therefore we conform our thinking and behavior to God’s character.

3) A significant mark of a Christian is a sincere love for brothers and sisters in Christ (vv. 22-25).

The logic of this text is that after adoption into the family of God, the first people with whom you can and should express your love for God is your Christian siblings.

Response

- Every Christian is called by God to have a gospel-driven holiness.
 - What does this look like?
 - A deep understanding of the gospel.
 - A gospel-driven strategy for holiness that responds to the grace of God our Father.
 - A love for Christian siblings that is symptomatic of our love for God.

Sunday Text Questions for 1 Peter 1:13-25

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- 1) Starter Question: If Christianity is based upon what Christ did for us, why would God expect anything from us (e.g., obedience)?
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) How can we “set our hope on the grace ... of Jesus Christ” (v. 13)?
- 4) In v. 13, “prepare your minds” and “be sober-minded” is the command to have mental resolve and a focus of mind for the task of holiness. What does this look like in practice?
- 5) How do “the passions of your former ignorance” (v. 14) have the tendency to conform us or to dictate how we live?
- 6) How is holiness rooted in and a response to the holiness of God (vv. 15-16)?
- 7) The Old Testament quote in v. 16 (from Leviticus 11:44-45) gets applied by Peter without qualification to the Christian. What does this teach us about a Christian reading of the Old Testament?
- 8) If Christianity is based upon the grace of God, why does Peter in v. 17 still want the Christian to live in light of the judgment of God? How does the use of “Father” in that verse contextualize “judgment?”
- 9) How does the way we were ransomed from sin and death and the things from which we were set free help us in our battle for holiness (vv. 18-21)?
- 10) Based upon vv. 22, what are some ways you can love your brothers and sisters at Hope Church? Be specific in regard to certain areas of division.

Further study this week: Phil 1:3-11, esp. v. 6, on Christ completing us (Mon); Lev 11 on holy behavior (Tues); Isa 6:1-7 on the holiness of God (Wed); Hosea 11 on God’s unique holiness (Thurs); 1 John 3 on obeying the Father and loving others (Fri).