

Living Before Our Father

I Peter 1:13-21

I Peter 3

Introduction

Christian hope rests on the revealed promises of the Bible.

We can understand the realities of grace, Christ's sufferings, and glories better than the Old Testament prophets.

Numbers 24:17- ***"What I saw in my vision hasn't happened yet. But someday, a king of Israel will appear like a star. He will wipe out you Moabites and destroy those tribes who live in the desert.***

Hebrews 11:13- ***It was in faith that all these persons died. They did not receive the things God had promised, but from a long way off they saw them and welcomed them, ...***

(Read I Peter 1:13-21)

We can do this because of two things:

1. The prophecies of Jesus' first coming have been fulfilled.
2. The Holy Spirit

Because of this our passage challenges us to be holy...

(Read vs 14)

I. Be Holy

Holiness should not be confused with morality.

Morality = the outward conformance to a set of standards, to the cleanness of one's conduct.

Holiness = an inward transformation or the cleanness of one's soul.

Morality is what we do. Holiness is what God does within us.

II. Gird Up Your Loins

(Read vs. 13)

This would be a familiar image during biblical times.

How did men dress? Do you think that they could move quickly dressed in this way?

Girding up your loins = tucking your clothing into your waist in order to move quickly.

We are told to gird up our minds in the same way. "Gather up" your thoughts in order to focus on God's grace.

Be ready for action.

Luke 12:35-37- *Be ready and keep your lamps burning just like those servants who wait up for their master to return from a wedding feast. As soon as he comes and knocks, they open the door for him. Servants are fortunate if their master finds them awake and ready when he comes! I promise you that he will get ready and have his servants sit down so he can serve them.*

Ephesians 6:14- **Be ready! Let the truth be like a belt around your waist, and let God's justice protect you like armor.**

Colossians 3:2- **Keep your minds fixed on things there, not on things here on earth.**

Be sober = being self-controlled and fully alert.

I Peter 4:7- **The end of all things is near. You must be self-controlled and alert, to be able to pray.**

I Thessalonians 5:6- ... **we should stay awake and be alert.**

III. Be More Separated From Sin

(Read vss 14-19)

In this life it is impossible to be totally sin free. However, we can become more and more separated from sin.

We can become more and more like Jesus.

Romans 12:2- **And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, in order to prove by you what is that good and pleasing and perfect will of God.**

I Thessalonians 4:7- **God didn't call us to be sexually immoral but to be holy.**

II Timothy 1:9- **God saved us and called us to be holy, not because of what we had done, but because of his own plan and kindness. Before the world began, God planned that Christ Jesus would show us God's kindness.**

Hebrews 3:1- ***Brothers and sisters, you are holy partners in a heavenly calling. So look carefully at Jesus, the apostle and chief priest about whom we make our declaration of faith.***

Ignorance = a lack of awareness about the things of God, or living according to your lusts.

We have been called out of this ignorance into the knowledge of Jesus.

(Read vs. 17)

Fear = a healthy reverence for God's holiness and judgment as we walk daily with God.

Slaves were bought (or redeemed) with money (silver and gold). But faith is more valuable than silver or gold. It is based on the precious blood of Jesus.

I Timothy 2:6- ***He sacrificed himself for all people to free them from their sins. This message is valid for every era.***

IV. Foreordained

(Read vs. 20)

Because God's plan of salvation was foreordained before the beginning of the world...

Galatians 4:4- ***But when the right time came, God sent his Son into the world. A woman gave birth to him, and he came under the control of God's laws.***

Ephesians 1:4- ***Before the world was created, God had Christ choose us to live with him and to be his holy and innocent and loving people.***

Colossians 1:25- ***God's plan was to make me a servant of his church and to send me to preach his complete message to you.***

suffering cannot hinder it.

Conclusion

Our life before God is lived out outwardly because of an inner change.

Real morality- or outward holiness- cannot be had unless Jesus has worked an inward change.

This outward change is not instant, but accurs as we walk daily with the Lord. As we walk with Jesus we become less conformed to this world and more like Him.

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(Numbers 24:17; Hebrews 11:13)

Christian _____ rests on the revealed promises of the Bible.

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Holiness = an _____ transformation or the cleanness of one's soul.

Morality is what we do. Holiness is what _____ does within us.

II. Gird Up Your Loins

(Luke 12:35-37; Ephesians 6:14; I Peter 4:7; I Thessalonians 5:6)

Girding up your loins = tucking your clothing into your waist in order to move _____.

Be sober = being _____ and fully alert.

III. Be More Separated From Sin

(Romans 12:2; I Thessalonians 1:9; Hebrews 3:1; I Timothy 2:6)

In this life it is impossible to be totally sin free. However, we can become more and more _____ from sin.

_____ = a lack of awareness about the things of God, or living according to your lusts.

_____ = a healthy reverence for God's holiness and judgment as we walk daily with God.

IV. Foreordained

(Galatians 4:4; Ephesians 1:4)

Because God's plan of salvation was foreordained before the beginning of the world, _____ cannot hinder it.

Conclusion

Our life before God is lived out outwardly because of an _____ change.

This outward change is not _____, but occurs as we walk daily with the Lord.

Possible Answers: instant, ignorance, God, hope, morality, quickly, fear, outward, self-controlled, suffering. Inner, separated, inward