

Text: 1 Peter 1:13-21

Introduction

LIVE THE STORY

The following questions are designed for use in our Community Groups as an aid to growth in the Gospel and Community.

Love the Gospel

- What does our culture tell us should be in charge of our moral control room? What does Peter tell us should be in charge?
- What does it mean to set our hope fully on the grace to be revealed at the revelation of Jesus Christ? What are things that one might be tempted to put their trust in beside that?
- What are some of the similarities and differences between the instructions of Peter regarding holiness and that of Leviticus?
- What does it mean to say that through Jesus we have faith in, or are faithful to God?

Live the Gospel

- Why will obedience to Christ require us to set our hope fully on the grace which we will receive on “that Day”?
- How should the value of our redemption move us to stop living in the futile ways of our fathers?
- Instead of being slaves to our desires, to whom do we owe obedience because of our redemption?
- What spoke specifically to you from this text/message? How has it called you to think and/or live differently?

Advance the Gospel

- Why is it essential to the mission of the church to live with our hope set on the grace we will receive, to live holy lives, and to live in the fear of God?
- Discuss the dangers of pursuing separation from the world too much or, on the other hand, relevance? What is the most relevant thing the church can offer the world?

I. Live Hopefully (13)

- A. “Gird up the loins of your mind...” (KJV, NKJ)
 - i. *As odd as the idiom may sound*, retaining it is helpful.
 - a) Luke 12:35
 - b) Exodus 12:11
 - ii. Be sober-minded.
- B. *We must set our hope fully, completely, in the grace to be given us on the day Christ is revealed.*
 - i. V7: the “praise, glory, and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.”
 - ii. Peter does not say to hope *mostly*, but *completely!*
 - iii. Counting the Costs
- C. Our hope is based on a past event that guarantees our future: the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

II. Live Holy (14-16)

- A. “Be holy because I, the Lord your God, am holy.”
 - i. Applying the OT to us (per 1:10-12)
 - a) Leviticus 19:2
 - b) Leviticus 11:44

- c) Leviticus 20:7-8, 26
- ii. Holinesses conformity to God's holy character. It manifests itself as faithfulness to the covenant.
- iii. Similarities and differences in the holiness instruction between Peter and Leviticus.
 - a) Leviticus 9-25
 - b) Leviticus 19
 - c) The church of all ages must live not in conformity to the culture around them, but according to the directive of the Lord our God.
- B. "As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance." (14)
 - i. *Our passions, or desires, are not to have their hands on the controls of our moral control room.*

- ii. Every believer must put to death passions which are not consistent with God's ways.

- iii. What about the death penalties described in the OC?

C. Holiness is to permeate our entire manner of life.

III. Live Fearfully (17-21)

- A. During this exile, we are called to live fearfully.
 - i. This is a fear rooted in a future judgment.
 - ii. This fear is also rooted in what we know about our redemption.
 - a) Redeemed from slavery
 - b) Redeemed with the valuable (timiō) blood of Christ!
 - Isaiah 52:3
 - Isaiah 52:13ff
 - Romans 6:15
 - c) "the futile ways inherited from your forefathers..."

To continue to live in the futile ways of our forefathers is to deny the value of the price paid to free us from those ways!

- iii. "Through Him we have believing loyalty to God."