

"Quotable"

"An unholy church! It is useless to the world, and of no esteem among men. It is an abomination, hell's laughter, heaven's abhorrence. The worst evils which have ever come upon the world have been brought upon her by an unholy church."

C.H. Spurgeon

"The nature of Christ's salvation is woefully misrepresented by the present-day evangelist. He announces a Savior from Hell rather than a Savior from sin. And that is why so many are fatally deceived, for there are multitudes who wish to escape the Lake of fire who have no desire to be delivered from their carnality and worldliness."

A.W. Pink

"There's only one proof of the Holy Ghost in your life and that's a holy life"

"Get rid of this bunkum about the 'carnal Christian'. Forget it! If you're carnal, you're not saved."

"The question isn't were you challenged. The question is were you changed"

"In the New Testament church it says they were all amazed - And now in our churches everybody wants to be amused."

Leonard Ravenhill

"A servant of God has but one Master"

George Mueller

"It is an undoubted truth that every doctrine that comes from God, leads to God; and that which doth not tend to promote holiness is not of God."

George Whitefield

"Christians don't tell lies they just go to church and sing them"

"Every man is as holy as he really wants to be."

A.W. Tozer

"It is not great talents or great learning or great preachers that God needs, but men great in holiness."

E. M. Bounds

DAILY BIBLE STUDIES

"Commands for Living"

1 PETER 1:13-17

March 29 – April 4, 2009

THE LORD'S DAY – This week we continue our study of **1 Peter** we come to **verses 13-17**. As we will see in greater detail Peter gives some imperative commands for those who have obtained salvation. These five verses lay out for us as believer's how we are to live our lives before our Holy God. Read our text **1 Peter 1:13-17**.

What principles in these verses are applicable to your life today?

Suggestion for prayer: *Ask the Lord to help you learn this week how you are to live as His child.*

MONDAY – The first word in our text is "*therefore*". My Dad always say's in his preaching, "what is the therefore, there for." Here it leads us to the next point in the text, how we should live as Christians. In **verses 1-12** Peter has explained and described the wonderful salvation that is ours as true believers. He has covered our election, our inheritance, and he has talked about the profound nature of God's predetermined plan in bringing salvation (deliverance) to us. Now after this "*therefore*" we are told how we are responsible to live before God as the recipients of such a gift. Read **Luke 12:35-48**.

What principles in these verses are applicable to your life today?

Suggestion for prayer: *Ask God to search your heart by His Word and Spirit and help you become a servant that is prepared and living for your master.*

TUESDAY – Peter say's in view of our salvation and the Grace of God given to us by His foreordained plan "gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation →

of Jesus Christ.” He gives three commands in this verse. “Gird up...” This is a reference to gather in the loose ends of our thinking as a person in ancient times would gather in their robe to move hurriedly. “Be Sober,” This is to have a “clear head” Spiritually speaking. Not being intoxicated by the world’s allurements but rather to be in control of ones mind, priorities and life. “Rest your hope...” Believers have genuine hope and they are commanded to “fix” (NASB) it on the future looking forward to the coming of Christ. Then we will fully experience the “grace that is to be brought...” Read **Colossians 3:1-4**.

What principles in these verses are applicable to your life today?

Suggestion for prayer: Ask the Lord to help you put your mind on Him and rest in our secure, living hope.

WEDNESDAY –In **verses 14-16** Peter continues with the commands for believers by letting us know we are to live in holiness because our God is holy. He uses a very important word, the word “obedient” in the first phrase of **verse 14**. We as believers are to live as obedient children. Many people say they are saved yet they live a life of disobedience to God and His Word. The Bible calls the unsaved the “sons of disobedience”. (**Ephesians 2:2**) We understand as believers that we are NOT perfect, but we are commanded to strive for holiness. We also find the pattern of our lives will distinguish whether or not we are a true child of God. Read **John 3:20-21, John 8:31-32, 1 John 3:3**.

What principles in these verses are applicable to your life today?

Suggestion for prayer: Confess any sin in your life to God and ask Him to help you to be an obedient child.

THURSDAY –In those same **verses 14-16** we read that obedient children don’t “conform” to “the former lusts” but instead in all their behavior strive to be holy. Peter tells us we were once conformed and shaped by the sinful desires of our “former lusts” but that was when we were unsaved, “in ignorance”. Unsaved people are dead in sin. (**Ephesians 2:1**) It is only when one is born again that they can have the desire and power to live in holiness to God. (**2 Corinthians 5:17**) Here Peter gives the command from the Mosaic Law that God gave to his people, “Be holy, for I am holy.” God is most glorified when we live like Him, in holiness. Read **Colossians 3:1-10**.

What principles in these verses are applicable to my life today?

Suggestion for prayer: Thank the Lord He has given you as a believer the ability through His Spirit to fulfill this command.

FRIDAY –I would like us to just take another day to think on those past three **verses, 14-16**. This command to be holy is so simply stated, yet so very difficult to do. The difficulty comes when we try to live holy in our own strength, apart from God’s Word and The Holy Spirit. We also fail in holiness when we conform to our “former lusts”. If you are a believer, you will be crushed by your sin and failing. I am overwhelmed thinking of how wretched I sometimes behave. But I praise God that He is gracious and He convicts His children of their sin and chastens us when necessary. And then He will forgive us, help us, and restore our joy in walking with Him as we confess our sin. Read: **Romans 7:24-25, 1 John 1:5-10**.

What principles in these verses are applicable to your life today?

Suggestion for prayer: Thank God for His great grace and love for us as His children that he would care enough to forgive our sinful behavior.

SATURDAY – In **verse 17** Peter closes these verses dealing with our responsibilities and obligations as believers by saying we are to do all this under the banner of honor and reverence, or “fear of God”. He says at first, “If you call on the Father”. This is just another way of saying, “If you are a Christian”. True believers understand that God is an impartial, fair, just and holy judge and therefore with this in mind they conduct themselves in a manner that honors God. Every man will be judged according to his own work. (**1 Corinthians 3:10-15, 4:3-5, 2 Corinthians 5:9-10**) So while we live here on this earth may we live in a way that truly worships and reverences God. Read **1 Thessalonians 2:10-12**.

What principles in these verses are applicable to your life today?

Suggestion for prayer: Ask God to help you better honor and fear Him. Thank Him that He is such a loving, gracious, generous, holy God and Father.

