

1 Peter

Living and Hoping as Exiles

Motivations for Holiness (1 Peter 1:17-21)

READ 1 Peter 1:17-21 and **LISTEN** to Pastor Craig's [sermon](#).

In this age of grace, a Christian's call to holiness is often considered an archaic, unnecessary and legalistic burden placed upon believers. However, in 1 Peter 1:13-21, the Apostle Peter explains that it is the clear and necessary expectation of all those who claim adoption through the rebirth into the family of God. In his explanation Peter roots the realities of God as an impartial judge and His provision of Christ's blood as critical reasons to follow the path of holiness.

Main Lesson: We should live holy lives because God is our impartial judge who has ransomed us with precious blood, giving us a relentless hope.

Questions:

1. Why is the holy character of God a reason for terror? To whom is God a "dangerous God"? Cite scripture.
2. What does Peter mean by, "conduct yourself with fear throughout the time of your exile" (v. 17)? What distinguishes the fear of the Lord that a believer and a non-believer should have?
3. Why was Israel called to "fear" God in Deut 4:10 and how does this correspond with faith? See Rom 11:20. In other words, what is the connection between having a healthy fear of God on one hand and faith in God on the other?

4. Why is the fear of judgement a proper motivation for believers? And what type of judgement can a believer expect? Cite scripture.
5. A. What does it mean that believers are "ransomed" (v. 18)? What are they ransomed from?

B. Explain as best you can why the "blood of Christ" was necessary to ransom sinners. And how might it be "precious" to you?

C. How might your ransom motivate you toward holiness as a right and proper response to such grace?
6. How might you be showing dishonour, ingratitude, presumption or foolish fearlessness toward the Lord through your unholy conduct?
7. Read vv. 20-21. How does knowing that Christ was raised from the dead and given glory cause you to have faith and hope in God no matter what you are going through? In other words, how does Christ's glory compel you forward in faith, hope and holiness?
8. What has been most convicting and encouraging from this study?

STOP AND PRAY:

Praise: the Lord whose determinations are right, good and always fulfilled

Thank: God for mending the breach between us and Him by Christ's precious blood

Pray: that you honour Christ's precious blood by living a holy life in the fear of God