

# 1 Peter - Week 6

## Staying Clean in a Polluted World

1 Peter 1:13 Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed. 14 As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. 15 But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; 16 for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy." 17 Since you call on a Father who judges each man's work impartially, live your lives as strangers here in reverent fear. 18 For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, 19 but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. 20 He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. 21 Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God. 22 Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart. 23 For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.

Peter now moves from the walk of hope to the walk of HOLINESS.

What does the word holy really mean?

- The root word really means to be DIFFERENT.
- Our ATTITUDE about life and people should be different.
- The anti-God atmosphere around us that the Bible calls "the world", is always pressing against us trying to force us to CONFORM, or to accept what is not of God as normal.

1. The CHARACTER of God

- How FATHERLY He is
- How FEARFUL He is
- How FORGIVING He is

2. The CROSS of Christ

The GUILT of the world will have to accept or deny the cross and what the Savior came for---to die for man's sin.

So, what is the Christians responsibility here?

1. Believers must, after receiving Christ, have a new FOCUS.

- Peter says we are to be SELF - CONTROLLED.
- Peter says we are to gird up your loins?
- We must gird up our MIND and keep it ready for action.

- It's a picture of URGENCY of the need to leave the old way of thinking and replace it with the mind of Christ.
2. Believers are called to be SOBER.
    - It really means SELF - RESTRAINT.
    - We sometimes UNDERESTIMATE the power of God's truth to overcome our flaws and the giants of our lives.
  3. There is a calling to CRUCIFY the old sinful nature.
    - Again the pathway to overcoming these giants is to move into a time of WORSHIP.
    - Peter gives a WARNING against indulgences.
    - He also gives a warning against IGNORANCE.
- I think Peter is saying to believers: Why are you ignorant to the GRACES available to you every day?
  - Peter closes this teaching time with a call to SINCERITY.
  - The main work of a Christian lies in the right management of his HEART and MIND.
  - He calls us to truth, and obedience to that truth.
  - The work of God, at times, will STRETCH a believer's faith.

#### Final Thoughts:

- A Christian's work is not complete as soon as he gets into a state of GRACE with God; he must still hope and strive for more grace and the ability to RELEASE the faith already available to us.
- A strong and perfect TRUST in God's grace is very consistent with our best endeavors in our duty.
- We must hope PERFECTLY and yet gird up our loins, and address ourselves enthusiastically to the work we have to do, encouraging ourselves with the grace of Jesus Christ.