

# 1 Peter - Week 9

## The Question of Separation

1 Peter 2:9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. 10 Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. 11 Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul. 12 Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us. 13 Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every authority instituted among men: whether to the king, as the supreme authority, 14 or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. 15 For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish men. 16 Live as free men, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as servants of God. 17 Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, honor the king.

### The Call to SANCTIFICATION

- Defined: It's a state of proper FUNCTIONING
- It is the picture of pursuing holiness by DEVALUING all that is unholy.
- Peter is reminding us it is about EXCHANGING my old sinful nature for the nature of Christ.

The RELATIONSHIP we have with the Son of God must become the most PRECIOUS part of the Christian life.

### Christ is Precious

1. Christ is precious to us in our STRUGGLES against trials and evils of this world.
  - As I trust and rely on the spirit of God, I can become something that looks impossible in the midst of struggles. I can be an OVERCOMER.
2. Christ is precious when I allow the Holy Spirit to bring my sin to mind so I can receive what is already mine: FORGIVENESS.
  - Satan and sin will always try to UNDERMINE the power and the will of God in my life.
  - Remember his job is to constantly try to wear us down until we FORGET who we are.
3. Christ is precious during times of great SORROW.

4. Christ is precious and can be TRUSTED when we truly don't see the way God is taking us.
- Precious really means how I HONOR Him with my life.

#### The Call to Separation

- Really it's a call to SUBMISSION and a constant surrender of my own will and life to God.
- Faith is the CHANNEL in which God's will and blessings can flow.
- FAITH is stretching out my hand to God's extended hand.
- The struggle most Christians have today is called PERSONAL fulfillment.
- Our will overestimates our own WISDOM to make the right decisions without asking God.

#### What is God's purpose in all this?

11 Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul. 12 Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

He calls us to abstain from FLESHLY lusts. It means we are to surrender to God by not INDULGING my old man's corrupt nature.

God made you on purpose, for a purpose:

#### 1. For the sake of the LOST

- We must constantly remind ourselves of who we are and that we are now on MISSION.
- We are His dearly BELOVED children.
- There is something deeper than obeying out of duty-- it's obeying out of our DEVOTION.

#### 2. For the sake of the Lord

- We are soldiers in a SPIRITUAL battle.
- If you begin to give in to sinful appetites, you will not only live a defeated life, you will really practice COSMIC TREASON.
- If we are to live effective lives and be able to show God to the lost, we must live HONEST lives.

#### 3. For your OWN sake