

## THE RIGHTEOUS PURSUES HOLINESS

### Chapter 2 Lesson 5

**Chapter's Subject: Created Anew in Righteousness and True Holiness**

**Main Point: Called Out (Part B)**

**Sub-Point: The Word in the Believer**

**Today's Study: He Exhorts Them to Sobriety**

A brief discussion of review questions from previous lesson

### The Word in the Believer (1 Peter 1:13-25)

#### Introductory Notes:

1. The Word in you should/will make you pursue holiness of life.
  - (a) We have the **spoken word**, herald by the servants of God (John 13:20).
  - (b) We have the written Word, the Holy Bible, the Scriptures, which speaks God's messages to all humans.
    - (1) Jesus in responding to the Jews in **John 5:39**  
 "You search and investigate and pore over the Scriptures diligently, because you suppose and trust that you have eternal life through them. And these [very Scriptures] testify about Me!" (**Amplified Bible**)  
 ("*pore*": to gaze, study, or think long and earnestly ... pore over a book)
    - (2) **Note**: ALL Scripture is inspired by God Himself (See 2 Tim. 3:10-17, NB Vv. 16, 17).
  - (c) We have the **Living Word**, the "*logos*", the Bread of Life, The Word, etc. Jesus Christ our Savior (seen for example in John 1:1-2, 14; Rev. 19:3)
2. As we focus on the "Word in the Believer," I recommend that you take time to carefully and prayerfully read Psa. 119.
  - (a) This is both the longest Psalm and chapter in the Bible. It presents a repetitive meditation on the beauty of God's Word.
  - (b) It also shows how the Word helps us to stay pure and grow in faith  
**Psa. 119:9, 11 (KJV)**  
 Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed thereto according to thy word. ... Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."

**1 Peter 1:13-25** will be studied in three lessons (a) Lesson 5: Vv.13-21 Peter" Exhorts them to Sobriety" (b) Lesson 6: v. 22 emphasis on "Sincere Hospitality (c) Lesson 7: Vv. 23-25 emphasis on "Sincere Hospitality" completed.

**EXHORTATION FOR SOBRIETY AND HOLINESS (1 Peter 1:13-21)**

*Peter exhorts his audience to a life of sobriety and holiness and I have noted six things in this passage.*

**A. Sound and Sober (1 Peter 1:13)****Verse 13a**

**Amplified Bible:** “So brace up your mind; be sober (circumspect, morally alert); ...”

**NIV:** Therefore prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; ...”

**NKJV:** “Therefore gird up the lions of your mind, be sober ...”

1. Wherefore, since you are so honored and distinguished ... “Gird up the lions of your mind ... prepare yourself!”
  - (a) Keep in mind the way Orientals were accustomed to dress
    - (1) They wore loose flowing robes
    - (2) When they wished to enter a race, or fight, or apply themselves to any business, they had to bind their garments close around them.
  - (b) The challenge to those that Peter addressed was to have their minds in constant preparation:
    - (1) To discharge their duties (Jer. 1:17)
    - (2) Or to endure the trials of life (1 Peter 1:7; 4:2; 2 Tim. 2:3)
    - (3) They were to prepare like those who were prepared for labor, for a race, or for a conflict.
    - (4) They must be prepared for action bracing themselves for an effort by fully concentrating on their circumstances and obeying the command of God. They were not to allow their minds to dwell upon worldly solicitations, fears, and prejudices.
  - (c) **The challenge for, the believer today has not been diminished; he is to get himself ready because:**
    - (1) He has a journey to go; we are pilgrims passing through (Psa. 119:19, 54; Heb. 11:13; **13:14; 1 Peter 2:11**)
    - (2) He has a race to run. Using the Greek games (contests, Olympics) Paul speaks of our objective in running a race (1 Cor. 9:24-27). Running this race demands discipline for all contestants (Heb. 12:1).
    - (3) He has warfare to be accomplished. Beloved, we fight not against flesh and blood (Eph. 6:11-17; see also 2 Cor. 10:4)
    - (4) He has a great work to do.
      - We are not saved by works but unto good works (Eph. 2:9, 10)
      - The Christian’s work enriches life (1 Tim. 6:18)
      - The Christian’s work glorifies God (Matt. 5:16)
      - The Christian’s work demonstrate the reality of faith (Jams 2:17-18)
    - (5) The believer, as a traveler, an athlete, a soldier, a worker, should attire appropriately for his task, so must he condition his mind, the inner man and affections.

## 2. Some important lessons:

- (a) The main work of the Christian lies in the right management of his heart and mind.
- (b) All Christians have the need to be exhorted to sobriety (Titus 2:2; 1 Tim. 3:2)
- (c) A Christian's work is not over when he experiences grace; he must still hope and strive for more grace.
- (d) A strong and perfect trust in God's grace is very consistent with our best endeavors in our duty ...
  - (1) We must hope perfectly, and "gird up the loins of our minds" or "think clearly and exercise self-control".
  - (2) We must address ourselves rigorously to the work we have to do, encouraging ourselves with the grace of God.

## 3. Let's look briefly at the word "sober"

- (a) Basically, two things surface as we focus on the word "sober".
  - (1) First: Not become intoxicated with drugs or alcohol of any kind.
  - (2) Second: To be sober in mind and behavior. Here I see a disciplined controlled life, etc.
  - (3) This second usage of the word also indicate:
    - To be controlled in all things.
    - Not to be given to indulgence or to license or extravagance.

**(NOTE: (a) "indulgence": giving way to one's own desire (b) "license" or "licence": freedom to deviate from strict conduct, rule, etc. Remember also that "freedom to do as you like is not freedom but slavery (bondage).**
- (b) Sober in essence speaks of: sound mind, discreet, self control, temperance.
  - (1) You will observe that "temperance" comes with the abiding of the Holy Spirit in our lives as one aspect of the "fruit of the Spirit" (Gal. 5: 22-23).
  - (2) In regards to temperance, the Life in the Spirit Study Bible states: "Temperance" ... i.e. self-control; mastering one's own desires and passions, including faithfulness to one's marriage vows; also purity (1 Cor. 7:9; 9:25; Titus 1:8; 2:5)
  - (3) Let's repeat for emphasis: temperance or **self-control is personal discipline under the direction of the Holy Spirit.**
- (c) The believer is to live a well balanced life
  - (1) He is to be sober, controlled, solid steady, settled in the things of God.
  - (2) He is to keep all things in their proper place.
  - (3) He is to focus and concentrate upon the grace and salvation of God.
- (d) Peter addressed persecuted believers who were scattered (see 1 Peter 1), they were challenged to be sober (or circumspect, morally alert ... Amplified Bible) which indicates:
  - (1) It means that they were not to become faint or weary in their trials.
  - (2) They were not to abandon the hopes of the gospel, but were to cherish those hopes to end of life, whatever opposition they might meet and however

much might be done by others to induce them to apostatize (*“apostatize: abandon, reject, renounce, stray, etc.”*).

- (3) Observe also that Peter mentioned the grace or favor of God which brought them thus far, at the revelation of Jesus Christ.
  - It is Jesus Christ who has rescued them from sin and is able to keep what has been committed to Him (2 Tim. 1:12).
  - It is Jesus Christ who will bring justice, when He comes to judge the world (2 Thess. 1:7).
4. As we move on to the next verse, I will repeat for emphasis: to “gird up the lions of your mind” is challenging believers to gather up all loose thoughts; to gird up your mind and thoughts, exercise self-control so you can concentrate and focus your attention upon the grace and salvation of God and the work to be done. Keep a clear head, a sound mind and a steady heart (Phil. 4:8; etc.) [*“gird”*: surround, enclose, encompass, bound, etc.]
5. Beloved, no matter what comes our way, we must maintain a sound mind, stay in control through the abiding presence of Jesus Christ by the Holy Spirit. **“So brace up your minds; be sober (circumspect, morally alert); set your hope wholly and unchangeably on the grace (divine favor) that is coming to you when Jesus Christ (the Messiah) is revealed” (1 Peter 1:1 Amplified Bible)**

## B. Submission/Separation

### 1 Peter 1:14

**KJV:** “As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lust in your ignorance:”

**Amplified Bible:** “[Live] as children of obedience [to God]; do not conform yourself to the evil desires [that govern you] in your former ignorance [when you did not know the requirements of the Gospel].”

1. Our submission to the standard of God’s holiness and our continued separation from the world to God requires our unconditional obedience.
2. Try to remember these two quotes:
  - (a) “Holiness of life can be achieved as we walk in obedience and humility.”
  - (b) “Holiness is perfected in the fear of God through renunciation and surrender.”
3. At this time we will briefly discuss “obedience”; we will have a more detailed coverage in Chapter 3.
4. **1 Peter 1:14 (NKJV)**  
“As obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance;”
5. **These rules should be taken as rules for “holy living!”**
  - (a) The positive side:
    - (1) You ought to live as obedient children, as those who God has adopted in His family.
    - (2) That is, conduct yourselves as becomes children of God ...

- By obeying His commands
  - By submitting to His will
  - By manifesting unwavering confidence in Him as your Father at all times
- (b) The negative side:
- (1) You must not fashion (*forming, modeling*) your life according to your former lust in your ignorance (*that's in the past do not return to that way of living!*).
  - (2) **The Christian is to be different from what he was before conversion. He is to be governed by new laws, to aim at new objectives, and to mould his life according to new principles.**
6. **BEFORE CONVERSION ...**
- (a) He was supremely selfish
  - (b) He lived for personal gratification
  - (c) He gave free indulgence to his appetites and passions ... restrained only by a respect for the decencies of life, and by a reference to his own health, property, or reputation, without any regard to the will of God.
  - (d) He conformed himself to the customs and opinions around him, rather than the requirements of his Maker.
  - (e) He lived for worldly greatness, power, and riches; his supreme object being wealth and fame.
  - (f) In many cases, those who are now Christians, gave indulgence to every passion which they wished to gratify, regardless of reputation, health, property, or salvation ... it was a time of lust and ignorance!!
7. **THE NEW MAN**
- (a) Now he is governed by new and different rules.
  - (b) That selfish, sin driven standards of morals and their opinions are no longer his guide but the will of God.
  - (c) The new way of life requires abandonment of what he was and did, and transformation into what he had not been.
8. **Practical reminders:**
- (a) The children of God ought to prove themselves to be obedient Children by their obedience to God.
  - (b) Persons, when converted, differ exceedingly from what they were formerly.
  - (c) The lust and extravagances of sinners are both fruits and signs of their ignorance.
9. **DO NOT RETURN TO BONDAGE!!**
- (a) For all believers “steadfastness” is essential; note:  
**Gal. 5:1 Amplified Bible**  
 “In [this] freedom Christ has made us free [completely liberated us]; stand fast then, and do not be hampered and held ensnared and submit again to a yoke of slavery [which you have once put off].”  
**2 Peter 3:17 (NKJV)**  
 “You therefore, beloved, since you know this beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked.”

- (b) I am calling your attention to **2 Peter 2**; at this time I cannot go into a detailed discussion.
- (c) In this chapter we will observe that “Grace and Knowledge are Imperiled by False Teachers”. You will also note that their destruction is inevitable.
- (d) I am highlighting verses 20-22 and will make a few brief statements on verse 22.
- (1) In verses 10-22 we have seen the “Character and Conduct of False Teachers.”
  - (2) You may further break down Vv. 20-22 under the topic “A Warning to False Teachers”
    - Against returning to the world and its entanglements (v. 20)
    - Against turning from the holy commandments (v. 21)
    - Against becoming rude, and repulsive to God (v. 22)
- (e) **As noted, I will make a brief comment on verse 22**
- (1) We have in 2 Peter 2:22 a graphic illustration of what it is like for anyone to forsake righteousness and return to a life of sin.
    - The comparison of a dog returning to its vomit and a pig washed only to wallow in the mud, again is such an awful state of degradation to imagine.
    - None of these conditions are pleasant to even think of: vomit is that which the stomach could not contain because of its content and the mud to which the pig returns is that which is foul and smelly!! Such is the awful state of one returning to a life of sin!!
  - (2) **The urge here, beloved, is: “Do not return to your life that was lived in ignorance of God and His Word!!”** As we have seen in **1 Peter 1:14 (KJV)** “As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lust in you ignorance.”
  - (3) Freed but returned to bondage and that’s a very sad fact that is true as relates to so many!
    - Note in **2 Peter 2:20 “... they are again entangled ...” (KJV)**
    - Obviously, some of the false teachers were **once** redeemed from the power of sin, and then forfeited their salvation (2 Peter 2:1, 15).
  - (4) Peter is speaking of people who have rejected the truth and returned to their sin.
    - These people are worse off than before because they have rejected the only way out of a habitual sinful life... **the only way out!!!**
    - They are like someone rescued from the quicksand but plunges in again, rejecting Jesus Christ the only means of escape.
- 10. I implore you: “Stay on the highway of holiness!!” (Isa. 35:8)**
- (a) Do not make a U-Turn back to a life of degradation, wallowing in the smelly and foul mud of sin nor return to that which you vomited!! Sin automatically disqualifies you from the presence of God (Gen.3; etc.). Yes you can repent but why take chances, death may come at anytime, Jesus Christ can come anytime and you do not want to become, a reprobate, etc.
  - (b) The High Way of Holiness

**Isa.35:8 (NKJV)**

“A highway shall be there and a road, And it shall be called the Highway of Holiness. The unclean shall not pass over it. ...”

- (c) **Holiness unto the Lord is our watch word and song!! Oh that we would live this practically every day, submitting to the leading of the Blessed Holy Spirit!!**

**C. Sovereign Standard (1 Peter 1:15-16)****1 Peter 1:15-16 (NKJV)**

“But as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, ‘Be ye holy, for I am holy’”

**The following is another repeated quote but very important to remember:**

“God Himself is the standard of all holiness, and righteousness is the expression of God’s character (Isa. 5:16).”

**1. “As He which hath called you is holy...” (1 Peter 1:15a)**

- (a) He is our model, our mentor, pattern, and perfect example.
- (b) He who is “... glorious in holiness, awesome in splendor, doing wonders”. Ex. 15:11)
- (c) Those who are called into His kingdom are to be like Him.
- (d) **Command base on character**
  - (1) God calls; it is man’s duty to respond.
  - (2) God gives the pattern; it is man’s responsibility to adapt it.
  - (3) God is the model of holiness (1 John 2:6); man’s obligation to follow in His pathway.
  - (4) The high privilege and glorious destiny of the elect (1 Peter 1:2) obligate them to follow diligently the example of the Holy One who called them (Eph. 5:1).

**2. “... so be ye holy in all manner of conversation” (1 Peter 1:15)**

- (a) “Be ye holy in all you conduct” (KJV: “all manner of conversation”)
  - (1) As discussed before “conversation” here refers to our “manner of living”; or “our conduct.” *As noted above.*
  - (2) Holiness is an experience to be lived out practically in our everyday lives!!
- (b) After people commit their lives to Christ, they sometimes still feel a pull back to their old ways.
  - (1) Sad but true some do give in to the allurements of Satan. Some do so in the dark; others do publicly and are not embarrassed by their derogatory lifestyle.
  - (2) This we ought to remember that “Character is who you are in the dark.” Even if our dark deeds are concealed to the eyes of men there is one who is omnipresent, omniscient, etc. nothing is hidden from Him (Psa. 94:9).
- (c) This command to be holy was first given to Israel (Lev. 11:44-45); but it is with equal propriety addressed to Christians, as the professed people of God (1 Peter 1:15-16).

- (d) The foundation of the command is, that they professed to be His people, and that as His people they ought to be like their God.
- (e) People live like the one they worship. God, who is the person of Christian worship, is perfectly holy; the character of His worshippers should be holy.

**Micah 4:5 (Amplified Bible)**

“For all the peoples [now] walk every man in the name of his god, but we will walk in the name of the Lord our God forever and ever.”

- (f) **What is in the heart will be manifested in the life...**
  - (1) As a result, true holiness will reveal itself in every phase of daily living
  - (2) “... in all manner of conversation” **(KJV)**
    - “... In all your conduct and manner of living.” **(Amplified Bible)**
    - “Be ye holy in very department of your lives” **(Phillips)**
  - (3) True holiness is vitally related to all civil, religious, personal and public aspects of life – to all human relationships.
  - (4) **Holiness and ethics cannot be separated, for true holiness conduct is a pattern after the character of God.**
- 3. Throughout this study, I have given definitions, and used quotes in regards to holiness; I would also ask you to consider the following:
  - (a) Holiness means **totally** devoted or dedicated to God, set aside for His special use and set apart from sin and its influence.
  - (b) We are to be set apart and different, not blending in with the crowd.
  - (c) God’s qualities in our lives make us different. Our focus and priorities must be His. All this is in direct contrast to our old ways (1 Peter 1:14)
- 4. **I will expand and repeat for emphasis and reinforcement.**
  - (a) God is holy, and what is true of God **must** be true of His people.
  - (b) **Holiness carries the thought of being separated from ungodly ways of the world and set apart for love, for service and worship of God (Lev. 11:44)**
    - (1) Holiness is the goal and purpose of our salvation in Christ and was ordained by God (Eph. 1:4).
    - (2) It means being like God and being dedicated to Him ...
      - Which means living to please Him
      - See Rom. 12:2; Eph. 1:4; 2:10; 1 John 3:2-3; Heb. 12:14.
  - (c) We are made holy ...
    - (1) By the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit (1 Peter 1:2)
    - (2) By the power of the cross in delivering us from sin (Rom. 6)
    - (3) By being renewed in the image of Christ and by an infusion of grace to obey God according to His Word (Gal. 5:16, 22-23, 25; Col. 3:10; Titus 3:5; 2 Peter 1:9)
- 5. **Some practical pointers for your consideration**
  - (a) The grace of God in calling a sinner is a powerful engagement to holiness.
  - (b) Complete holiness is the desire and duty of every Christian



- (1) It must, for the extent of it, be universal: we must be holy and be so in all manner of conversation (your conduct or practical life style)
- (2) The pattern for this holy life: we must be holy as God is holy. We must imitate Him (Eph. 5:1-7), though we can never be equal with Him.
- (c) The written Word of God is the surest rule of a Christian life, and by this rule we are commanded to be holy in every way.

### The hymn: Called Unto Holiness

#### The second stanza

“Called unto holiness” children of light  
 Walking with Jesus in garments of white;  
 Raiment’s unsullied, nor tarnished with sin;  
 God’s Holy Spirit abiding within.

## D. Sojourners Surety

### 1 Peter 1:17 (Amplified Bible)

“And if you call upon Him as [your] Father who judges each one impartially according to what he does, [then] you should conduct yourselves with true reverence through the time of your temporary residence [on earth, whether long or short].”

### 1. All true Christians should see themselves in this world as pilgrims passing through, going to where they belong (Psa. 39:12; Heb. 11:9, 13-14).

(a) Remember the Church is a “Called out community in a hostile environment (world).”

(b) Song: **This World is Not My Home** by Jim Reeves

Quoting: stanzas and the refrain.

This world is not my home  
 I’m just a passing through  
 My treasures are laid up  
 Somewhere beyond the blue  
 Oh Lord, you know  
 I have no friend like you  
 If heaven’s not my home  
 Then Lord what will I do

#### REFRAIN

The angels beckon me  
 From heaven’s open door  
 And I can’t feel at home  
 In this world anymore

(c) Reverence to God must be given priority at all times.

(1) Only if a man reverence God will he sincerely worship and serve God.

- (2) Therefore the fear that God wants:
- Is a fear of reverence and awe
  - A fear that will stir man to love God with deep respect and emotions.
  - A reverence that is displayed with true honor and high esteem.
2. “And if you call on the Father...” (1 Peter 1:17a)
- (a) Believers are to reverence God because they call Him “Father.”
  - (b) We reverence our earthly fathers; this ought to be especially true of God.
  - (c) God has adopted us as His children through the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - (d) How do we reverence God?
    - (1) We are to honor and respect Him.
    - (2) We are to hold Him in the highest esteem.
    - (3) We are to fear Him lest we displease Him and bring pain to His heart.
  - (e) See Matt. 6:9; 7:11; John 1:12; Rom. 8:15; 1 Peter 1:17; etc.
3. “Judgeth according to every man’s work” (1 Peter 1:17b)
- (a) Believers are to reverence God because God shall judge the world.
  - (b) The judgment of God should strike fear, dread, and terror within us, for it is to be the most fearful, dreadful and terrorizing experience imaginable.
  - (c) Note the following three things:
    - (1) **Everyone is going to be judged.**  
 “According to **every man’s work**” (1 Peter 1:17b KJV)
      - Every person will come to the day when he will stand alone before God as judge.
      - A separate study is needed in regards to “judgment”, but this I can include that sin can be judged at the cross of Jesus Christ or at God’s judgment seat ... the choice is yours.
    - (2) **The works of a person will be judged**  
 “According to every man’s **work**” (1 Peter 1:17b)  
 See also: Jer. 17:10; Matt. 16:27; 2 Cor. 5:10; Rev. 20:12; 22:12.
    - (3) **God will judge without partiality**
      - The consideration of God as judge is not improper for those who truly call Him Father.
        - It creates a holy confidence in God as Father.
        - It also instills awful fear of Him as judge... the righteous judge.
      - Observe that He will judge without respect of persons:
        - Absolutely no partiality
        - He is not influenced in His treatment of men by regards to:
          - Rank
          - Wealth
          - Beauty
          - Any external distinction
          - See Acts 10:34; Rom. 2:11; etc.
  - (d) The fact is: you worship God who will judge everyman **according to his real character; you should lead such lives as He can approve.**

4. "The time of your sojourning in fear" (**1 Peter 1:17c**)
- (a) Believers are to reverence God because they are sojourners on earth.
- (b) The word "sojourners" mean to dwell along side, to be passing by.
- (1) It is the picture of a pilgrim or stranger who is in a foreign country for a brief time.
- (2) That is the believer's stay on earth:
- He is not a permanent resident on earth
  - He is only passing through the earth to a better world.
- (c) The time of our pilgrimage
- (1) We should never assume that our privileged status as God's children gives us the freedom to do whatever we want.
- (2) We should not be spoiled children but grateful children who love to show respect to our heavenly Father.
- (3) Live in true reverence or veneration for God and His law.
5. **Your surety is assured because you are in Jesus Christ (Rom. 8:1); you are led of the Holy Spirit not the flesh (Gal. 5:16-18).**
6. **Jesus is our surety on this pilgrimage... He will never leave us nor forsake us (Mat. 28:20) ... His presence is guaranteed:**
- (a) In the Pilgrimage of Life (Gen. 28:15; Ex. 3:12; 29:45)
- (b) It Affords Rest (Ex. 33:14)
- (c) Gives Courage in Life's Battles (Deut. 20:1)
- (d) Comfort in Trials (Isa. 43:2)
- (e) Assured in Smallest of Believers (Matt. 18:20)
- (f) Even Unto the End (Matt. 28:20).

7. **The Hymn: Leaning on the Everlasting Arms**

What a fellowship, what joy divine,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms!  
What blessedness, what a peace is mine,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms!

**Oh, how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way.**

**Leaning on the everlasting arms!**

**Oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,**

**Leaning on the everlasting arms!**

What have I to dread, what have I to fear?

Leaning on the everlasting arms!

I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,

Leaning on the everlasting arms!

**Refrain:**

Leaning, leaning,  
 Safe and secure from all alarm;  
 Leaning, leaning,  
 Leaning on the everlasting arms.

**8. Closing thoughts on 1 Peter 1:17****“If you call God Father ...?”**

- (a) If you call Him Father, then live like it!! Live like He is your Father!!
- (b) Stay true to Him!! He will see you through no matter what comes!!
- (c) Stand against all the trials and persecutions, temptations, and evil of this life. Put on the whole armor of God and stand!! (Eph. 6:10-18)
- (d) Call upon your Father, for His help and strength (Psa. 27)
- (e) Reverence Him, show Him honor and respect by living for Him!!
- (f) See Matt. 6:9; John 1:12; Rom. 8:15; 2 Cor.6:17-18; Gal. 4:4-6; 1 Peter 1:7)

**E. Salvation! The Price Paid!****1 Peter 1:18-19 (NKJV)**

“Knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as a lamb without blemish and without spot.”

**NOTE:** *The subject of “salvation” has been discussed throughout this study; presented with much needed information; therefore, at this time I will not present a detailed presentation.*

- 1. Peter exhorted those he addressed to pass the time of their sojourning in fear of God based on two things
  - (a) They call Him Father (V. 17)
  - (b) They were not deemed with corruptible things (v. 18)

*Peter further challenge them and put them in mind of several things (1Peter 1:18-19).*

**2. They were redeemed or brought back (v. 18)**

- (a) The word **“redeemed”** is a favorite figure of the work of Christ.
  - (1) The chief point lies in “the payment of the price,” the unhappy state of the sinner and the deliverance.
  - (2) The objective in this redemption is not only to deliver from eternal misery but from the love and power of sin.
- (b) **Bought Back!**

- (1) A young boy made a toy boat ... he was having fun with it in the stream when it was taken by a strong current. He hopelessly watched his prized boat washed away down the stream.

Sometime passed and while in town one day he saw his boat for sale in one of the stores. He went in and spoke with the owner of the store but it was available for a price that he could not afford.

Since he didn't have the money, he went and did odd jobs and saved all his earnings until he had sufficient money to purchase his boat. Upon purchasing the boat he hug it saying to the boat: I made you... you got lost...now I have paid a price for you, so you are mine twice!!

- (2) In chapter 1 (of this study) I noted three acts that are involved in the work of redemption
- Purchased in the slave market
  - Taken out of the market
  - Set free

(c) **Isa. 53:6 (Amplified Bible)**

"All we like sheep have gone astray, we have turned everyone to his own way; and the Lord has made to light upon Him the guilt of us all. [1 Peter 2:24, 25]."

- (1) A price was paid for our freedom!!

- (2) I owed a debt, I couldn't pay

He paid a debt He didn't owe!!

3. **What was the price of our redemption?**

"You were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold . . . but with the precious blood of Christ . . ." (1 Peter 1:18a, 19a). *Brief comments only:*

- (a) We were freely redeemed (bought back); redemption does not cost us a penny.

- (1) We are not redeemed with silver and gold!

- (2) Silver and gold are highly treasured by man but they are corruptible (subject to decay) and perishable.

- (3) If redemption could be purchased with money, our redemption would last only as long as our money lasts.

- (b) Silver and gold were paid for the price of captives.

- (1) Those thus purchased were obligated to their benefactor.

- (2) All the wealth of this world cannot rescue one soul from damnation.

- (3) No one or anything was worthy to pay this price, only the precious blood of Jesus Christ the Son of God!!

(c) **The precious blood of Jesus Christ!! (1 Pet 1:18-19)**

- (1) The ultimate price was paid for the redemption (ransom) of sinful man!

- (2) The most valuable thing in man is his blood

- (3) The blood of Jesus Christ the Son of God!

- Far more precious than silver and gold! It is immeasurable, more valuable than all the precious treasures of this world, combined.

- He is Jesus Christ, the spotless, sinless Son of Man!! Truly God, truly man!  
Our deliverer, Savior and Lord!!

(d) **The hymn” Nothing but the Blood**

*Stanza 1 and the Refrain*

What can wash away my sin?  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.  
What can make me whole again?  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Refrain

Oh, precious is the flow  
That makes me white as snow  
No other fount I know  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

4. **From what were they redeemed**

**1 Peter 1:18**

**KJV:** “... from your vain conversation received by the tradition of your fathers;”

**Amplified Bible:** “... from the useless (fruitless) way of living inherited by tradition from [your] forefathers.”

(a) “Your vain conversation” or your vain conduct, or manner of life (**as a reminder we discussed this word ... “conversation” above (1 Peter 1:15).**

(1) The word “vain” as applied to conduct means “empty”, fruitless.”

(2) It is a word that applies to worship of idols.

- Idols are compared to nothing, worthless, unable to help.
- See Acts 14:15; 1 Kings 16:13; 2 Kings 17:15; Jer. 2:5, 8, 19)
- This is most likely the meaning of “vain” as used in 1 Peter 1:18
- Their former way of life, worshipping idols, **were services that were vain and unprofitable and along with this comes a derogatory lifestyle.**
- From such they were redeemed by the blood of Jesus Christ.

(b) Paul describes the way of the unrighteous in **Eph. 4**

*The following is taken from the Bishop’s Study Manual (Church of God); each pointer presented without discussion:*

(1) “They walk aimless in the futility of their minds **(v. 17)**”

(2) “Their understanding was darkened (blinded) and they could not understand the things of the Spirit **(v.18)**”

(3) “They were shameless and sordid [*dirty, filthy, miserable ... definition my insert*]. They were past feeling the pain of sin and descend to unparalleled depths of depravity **(v. 19)**”

(4) “They grew corrupt through deceitful lusts **(v.23)**”

(c) From such you were redeemed (**1 Peter 1:18-19**)

(1) Redemption is costly; it was the precious blood of Jesus Christ which is held in high honor.

- (2) Precious because it is the blood of God (Acts 20:28) for Deity became incarnate in humanity.
- (3) The infinite cost and the inestimable benefit of salvation supply a new cause for man to aspire to holiness in character and conduct. (*“inestimable”: too valuable or excellent to be measured or appreciated*)
5. The facts discussed above (1 Peter 1:18-19) were known by those Peter addressed. *I will briefly review/reinforce with the following pointers*
- (a) **The consideration of our redemption ought to be a constant and powerful inducement to holiness, and the fear of God.**
- (b) God expects that a Christian should live answerably to what he knows, and therefore we have great need to put in mind what we already know
- (c) Neither all the silver and gold, nor any of the corruptible things of this world can redeem so much as one soul.
- (d) The blood of Jesus Christ is the only price for man’s redemption. This is referred to as the blood of God (Acts 20:28 “...which He purchased with **His own blood.**” NKJV).
- (e) The design of Christ in shedding his most precious blood was to redeem us from a vain (useless, etc.) way of living (conversation) in this world.
- (f) A man’s conversation (conduct, manner of life) may carry an appearance of devotion, and may use inherited customs and tradition in its defense, and yet after all such produce a vain manner of life.

#### F. Settled from Eternity (1 Peter 1:20-21)

*As we have seen above, the apostle mentioned the price of redemption. At this time he goes on to speak of some things relating both to the Redeemer and the redeemed.*

1. **The Redeemer is further described, not only as a Lamb without spot but note three things (1 Peter 1:20-21)**
- (a) **First:** The Redeemer was fore-ordained before the foundation of the world.
- (1) No need to be confused about the term “fore-ordained”, it means fore-know. Let’s remember this is God’s doing and He knows all from eternity to eternity
- (2) Before the world was ever created, God knew, approved and predestined Christ to redeem man by coming to earth and dying for man (Titus 1:2)
- (3) The plan of salvation was foreordained
- The first recorded promise concerning salvation (Gen. 3:15)
  - Announced by the prophets (Acts 2:16; note also v. 23)
  - It is the wisdom of God (1 Cor. 1:7)
  - According to His purpose (2 Tim. 1:9)
  - Preceding creation (Titus 1:2)
- (4) In regards to the fore-knowledge of God see also: Isa. 42:9; 46:10; Dan.2:28; Matt. 24:36; Acts 3:18; 15:18; Rom. 8:29; etc.
- (b) **Second:** He (Christ) was manifested in these last days **for us.**

- (1) That He was manifested or demonstrated to be that Redeemer whom God had fore-ordained.
  - (2) Christ has now come; God has now revealed and sent Him to redeem us (Heb. 1:1-3; Gal. 4:4-5)
  - (3) This was done in these last times of the New Testament of the gospel
    - For the Jews and Gentiles
    - For sinners and outcasts
    - For you the afflicted ones
    - Etc.
  - (4) Jesus Christ was just like the Passover Lamb (Gen. 12, NB. v. 5)
    - Without blemish and without spot
    - Whose blood was the only means of protection, eventually deliverance
    - **John 1:29 (KJV)**  
“Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sins of the world.”
- (c) **Third:** He (Christ) our Redeemer was raised from the dead by the Father, who gave Him glory.
- (1) **The resurrection of Christ , note briefly:**
    - Is considered as an act of power that is common to all three persons in the trinity
    - But as an act of judgment it is peculiar to the Father, who has released Christ
      - He raised Him from the grave, and gave Him glory
      - He proclaimed Him to the entire world to be His Son by His resurrection from the dad
      - He advanced Him to heaven, crowned Him with glory and honor
      - He invested Him with all power in heaven and earth
      - He glorified Him with that glory which He had with Him before the world was.
    - See **Rom. 3:23-25**  
**Note v. 25 (Amplified Bible)**  
“Who was betrayed and put to death because of our misdeeds and was raised to secure our justification (our acquittal), [making our account balance and absolving us from all guilt before God.”
  - (2) **Significance of Christ’s Resurrection (Highlights only)**  
*Because Jesus Christ’s person and work are quite unique, His resurrection is therefore of unique and paramount importance.*
    - Jesus Christ’s resurrection in glory is a most wonderful manifestation of the power of God who raised Him from the dead. (Rom. 1:4; Heb. 1:3)
    - Jesus’ resurrection demonstrates His exaltation as Lord and Christ, God’s anointed King, Prophet and Priest on the heavenly throne (Acts 2:29-36; Phil. 2:9-11), in accordance with Jesus own proclamation (se Matt. 28:18).



- In Jesus' resurrection, the believer has the divine guarantee of his justification and reconciliation. The ground for these fundamental blessings is to be found in Christ's atoning death (Rom. 5:10, 17-19), but without the resurrection that death would have had no atoning power (Rom. 8:2, 33). His resurrection authenticates our hope beyond the grave (1 cor. 15, NB. vv. 12-22).
- When Christ was raised, the believers whom He represented in His death and resurrection were raised with Him (Col. 3:1). Because of his union with Christ the believer must reckon himself dead to sin, and putting to death all sin, he must live the new resurrection life in fellowship with His risen Lord (Rom. 6:5, 6, 12-14; Col. 3:5).
- Jesus' resurrection is a glorious, immortal, powerful, spiritual body which guarantees the believer his future resurrection in a similar body (Rom. 6:5; 1 Cor. 15:35-50; Phil 3:21; 1 John 3:2).

## 2. The redeemed are described by their faith and hope

### 1 Peter 1:21a

KJV: "Who by him do believe in God ..."

**Amplified Bible:** "Through Him you believe in (adhere to, rely on God) ..."

*Christ is the author, encourager, support, and finisher of our faith*

*By our hope and faith we are reconciled to God by Jesus Christ our Mediator.*

### Note four things:

#### (a) **The decree of God to send Christ as Mediator was from everlasting**

- (1) This was discussed above and there is no need for a detailed discussion at this time.
- (2) In addition note the following:
  - This preordained decree of God was a just and merciful one which yet does not excuse man's sin in crucifying Him (Acts 2:23)
  - God had a purpose of special favor towards His people long before He made any manifestations of such grace to them.
- (3) **Let us take heed, live right, do not trample the mercy and grace of God with our sins. To do so is to crucify Christ afresh, not literal but in essence that what sin does (Heb. 6, NB. v. 6)**

#### (b) **Great is the happiness of the last times in comparison to what the former ages of the world enjoyed.**

- (1) With Christ came a fuller revelation (Matt. 13:10-17, NB. Vv. 16-17)
- (2) John Wesley states: "Without Christ we should only dread God; whereas through Him we believe, and hope and love."
- (3) Jesus Christ is our hope (Isa. 61; Luke 4:18-19)

- The clearness of light
  - The support of faith
  - The efficacy of ordinances
  - The proportion of comforts
  - These are much greater, since the manifestation of Christ, than they were before.
- (4) Our gratitude and services should be suitable to such favors. Let us sincerely love Him with ALL our heart, soul, mind and strength!!
- (c) **The redemption of Christ belongs to none but true believers**
- (1) The above caption is not “politically accurate” to so many including those who believe that “there are many alternatives to God.” **Definitely! Jesus Christ is the ONLY WAY to God (John 14:6, Acts 4:12) ... ONLY through Christ can man be saved (John 6:68; 1 Cor. 3:11)**
- (2) For this salvation to become a personal reality:
- There must be appropriating faith (Heb. 11:6), which includes the intellectual assent to the fact that the death, resurrection, and glorification of Christ provide salvation.
  - There must be personal commitment to Christ, to the end that the benefits of His atonement may be imparted by the Holy Spirit.
- (3) God has, by resurrecting and exalting Christ ...
- ... demonstrated His acceptance of Christ’s person and work
  - ... guarantees that in the light of Christ’s redeeming death, and God’s acceptance of His sacrifice in our stead, we are challenged to come to God in **faith and hope**, which are sustained by grace in spite of suffering (1 Peter 1:3, 13, 21)
- (4) The condition for salvation is simple and close to anyone as the mouth and heart (**Rom. 10:8-1**).
- **Step 1:** Man must confess with his mouth that the Lord Jesus Christ is Lord from heaven (**Rom. 10:9 ... note also:** John 3:13, 31; 6:33; 8:42; etc.)
  - **Step 2:** Man must believe that God raised Jesus Christ (1) died for man, (2) Jesus was raised up from the dead because He perfectly satisfied God’s demand for justice (**Rom. 10:9 ... note also:** Acts 13:32-33; 1 Peter 1:2-3; etc.)
  - **Step 3:** Man must believe with the heart and then confess with the mouth. A man believes unto righteousness; that is a man believes in Jesus Christ, and God takes that man’s faith and count it as righteousness. No man can deny God’s Son and expect God to save him (**Rom. 10:10 ... note also:** Matt. 10:32-33; Luke 12:8; 1 John 2:23; etc.)
- (d) **Remember the three things we observed in John 1:12**
- (1) The person “**believes**”
  - (2) He then “**receives**”
  - (3) Then he “**becomes**”

**(e) God in Christ is the ultimate object of the Christian's faith.**

(1) This is strongly supported by the resurrection of Christ, and the glory that did follow (as we discussed before).

- Seen in various resurrection accounts (Matt. 28, NB. Vv. 18-20; Mark 16; etc.)
- Jesus ascension and promise of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:1-11)
- The coming of the Holy Spirit, the spreading of the gospel, the miracles, etc. (see the Book of Acts and the Epistles).

(2) Although the apostle John was banished, persecuted, see the thrill, the reality of the power and abiding presence of the Almighty God as He reveals to John what is written in the Book of Revelation.

- This is the revelation of Jesus Christ (Rev. 1:1)
- He is God!! The everlasting!!

**Rev. 1:8 (KJV):**

"I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which was, and is to come, the Almighty."

- He testified of His triumph over death

**Rev. 1:18 (KJV)**

"I am He that liveth, and was dead, and behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and death."

(3) The Corinthian believers had a problem with the resurrection which Paul addressed in 1 Cor. 15

**NB. Vv. 13-14 and 20 (KJV)**

"But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: And if Christ is not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain ... But now is Christ risen from the dead and become the first fruit of them that slept."

(4) See also Paul's assurance in 2 Tim. 1

**NB. v. 12 (KJV)**

"For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed unto Him against that day."

**3. The Hymn: He Lives**

*First two verses and the refrain*

I serve a risen Savior; He is in the world today,  
I know that He is living, whatever men may say,  
I see His hand of mercy; I hear His voice of cheer;  
And just the time I need Him, He's always near.

In all the world around me, I see His loving care,  
And tho' my heart grows weary, I never will despair,  
I know that He is leading thr' all the stormy blast.

The day of His appearing will come at last.

Refrain

He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today!

He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way

He lives, He lives, salvation to impart!

You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart!

## Chapter 2 Lesson Review Questions

1. Briefly explain what is referred to when we make reference to (a) The spoken word (b) The written Word (c) The Living Word.

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2. Which is the longest chapter in the Bible and what are two special features noted in our lesson?

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3. What challenge Peter gave to those he addressed, when he told them to “gird up the lions of your mind”? (1 Peter 1:13)

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4. In essence Peter’s challenge to his audience in 1Peter 1:13, also applies to believers today. Briefly list at least four ways this is applicable to today’s Christians (with references).

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5. Define “sober” (1 Peter 1:13), as applied to Believers.

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6. Complete the following:  
Our submission to the (a) \_\_\_\_\_ of God’s holiness and our continued (b) \_\_\_\_\_ from the world to (c) \_\_\_\_\_ requires our (d) \_\_\_\_\_ (e) \_\_\_\_\_

7. In discussing 1 Peter 1:14, we noted rules that should be taken in consideration for “holy living”. Briefly list the positive and negative sides of these rules.

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8. List four of the six examples noted of what the believer was before conversion

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9. Briefly list the pointers noted in regards to the “new man”

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10. (a) What strong urge is seen in Peter 1:14 (b) How was this vividly portrayed in 2 Peter 2:20-22, especially in verse 22?

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11. Complete the following:  
God Himself is the (a) \_\_\_\_\_ of all holiness, and (b) \_\_\_\_\_ is the (c) \_\_\_\_\_ of God’s (d) \_\_\_\_\_ (Isa. 5:16).

12. “Be ye holy for I am holy” (1 Peter 1:15-16). (a) Upon what incentive was this command based? (b) As a follow-up, what were the four pointers listed in support of this command?

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13. What is the foundation for this command to be holy (1 Peter 1:15-16)?

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14. Complete the following:

Holiness carries the thought of being (a) \_\_\_\_\_ from  
(b) \_\_\_\_\_ ways of the world and (c) \_\_\_\_\_  
(d) \_\_\_\_\_ for love, for (e) \_\_\_\_\_ and  
(f) \_\_\_\_\_ of God (Lev. 11:44-45).

15. (a) What is the goal and purpose of salvation in Christ? (b) What does this mean? (As discussed in our lesson).

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16. Complete the following:

All true Christians should see (a) \_\_\_\_\_ in this (b) \_\_\_\_\_  
as (c) \_\_\_\_\_ passing through to where they (c) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Psa. 39:12; Heb. 11:9; 13:14; etc.).

17. Based on 1 Peter 1:17, we noted three things in regards to God as judge; list all three.

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18. In 1 Peter 1:17 the word “sojourning” is used in reference to the Believer; define “sojourners”.

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19. During the time of our pilgrimage, what three sound precautions were noted in our lesson?

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20. In regards to calling God Father, we noted five things list three.

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21. What were the two things Peter noted when he exhorted those he addressed to pass the time of their sojourning in the fear of God? (1 Peter 1:17-18)

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22. (a) What “redeem” means? (b) How was this accomplished in regards to man’s redemption?

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23. What was the objective of man’s redemption?

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24. (a) Define “vain” as used in 1 Peter 1:18 (b) and how was it applicable to those Peter addressed?

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25. Complete the following:

The consideration of our (a) \_\_\_\_\_ ought to be a  
(b) \_\_\_\_\_ and (c) \_\_\_\_\_  
inducement to (d) \_\_\_\_\_ and the (e) \_\_\_\_\_  
of God..

26. What three things were noted in regards to Christ the Redeemer in 1 Peter 1:20-21?

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**2 Tim. 2:15**

**KJV**

“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

**Amplified Bible**

“Study and be eager and do your utmost to present yourself to God approved (tested by trial), a workman who has no cause to be ashamed, correctly analyzing and accurately dividing [rightly handling and skillfully teaching] the Word of truth.”

**In regards to the review questions, we will discuss as many as possible in our next class.**