

Theme: As God's chosen people, we are called to lives of holiness, built upon an eternal perspective that generates hope no matter our present circumstances.

I. Intro – Story or Topic

- A. Difference between legalism and grace
- B. Commands can easily lead to legalism
- C. Is Peter doing this?
- D. The three imperatives
 - 1. Set your hope (v13)
 - 2. Be holy (v15)
 - 3. Live your lives (v17)
- E. But this is not legalistic to do list!
- F. Peter masterfully leads us by grace!

II. Called To Hope (v13)

- A. Positive command: set your hope (v13)
 - 1. Only imperative - set your hope
 - 2. Be prepared; self-controlled; participles
 - 3. Our hope - grace given us at Christ's return
 - 4. Set your hope **fully** on this
 - 5. We live out of hope of heaven & grace!
 - 6. Focus on eternity - not this transitory age

B. Negative implication - prepared for action!

- 1. Gird up; be sober minded - metaphors
- 2. Gird up - roll up sleeves for work
- 3. Sober - not intoxicated by world/age; focused on Christ
- 4. Sober - 1 Pet 4:7; 5:8-11 - clear thought; end
- 5. Set hope fully - must be alert, prepared, sober

III. Called To Holiness (vv14-16)

A. Positive command: be holy (v15; v16?)

- 1. Only imperative - be holy (v15; v16?)
- 2. Do not conform - participle
- 3. Be holy - like God is holy (v15, 16)
- 4. Holy - ethically pure; separate - both here
- 5. The extent - in all you do - all of life
- 6. Called as children of holiness
- 7. Called - from unholy age to holy God

B. Negative implication - do not conform (v14)

- 1. Participle - not being conformed
- 2. Not squeezed or moulded by world's pattern
- 3. Rom 12:2 - same idea as here
- 4. World's pattern - evil desires of ignorance

- C. Don't be molded by looking back - look ahead!!!
- D. Don't be molded by ignorance - you now know God!

IV. Called To Live In the Fear of God

- A. Positive command: live in fear of God
 - 1. Imperative - live your lives in the fear of God
 - 2. Fear - awe of God; respect as to Father
 - 3. Reason FOG needed - strangers here
 - 4. If no FOG - not live as strangers; seduced
- B. Negative implication - don't presume on grace
 - 1. Our Father - the impartial judge
 - 2. Not salvation by works - but faith produces works
 - 3. Children of God - not spoiled brats!!

V. The Basis for Holy Lives - Christ's Work

- A. Therefore - built on preceding section
- B. The inclusio of hope (v13, 21)
- C. The strong focus on Christ's work (vv18-21)
- D. We do not live by law, but by grace!!!

VI. Applying the Word

- A. Are we growing in holiness?
 - 1. Are we becoming more like our Father?

- 2. Or are we being seduced & squeezed by world?
- 3. Do we long to be like God?
- 4. Not about gritting it out - about seeing him
- 5. The more we see Him, more we long to be like Him
- 6. Essence of teaching - see Christ & His work!!!

- B. Do we live with an eternal perspective?
 - 1. Do we see eternity vs. vapor of this life?
 - 2. Do we live in fear of the Lord?
 - 3. Do we live with hope of eternity?
 - 4. We should be ultimate optimists!!!

- C. Communion - Building Our Hope In Christ
 - 1. Come see Who He is
 - 2. Come see what He has done
 - 3. Come see His return - & live in hope

Called To A Holy Life of Hope

1 Peter 1:13-21
 1 John 3:1-3
 June 6, 2010
 Communion
 Romans 15:13

The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray.

1 Peter 4:7

Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. 9 Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings. 10 And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. 11 To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

1 Peter 5:8-11

Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Romans 12:2

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.

1 Peter 1:13-21