

WORSHIPING ON THE LORD'S DAY

March 8, 2020

Worship, as God intended, is a supernatural event. As we enter into this service of worship, we cross the threshold of the secular to the sacred, from the common to the uncommon, from the profane to the holy. Prepare yourself therefore for this most holy convocation!

Prelude

Worship Theme

God is our Redeemer

1 Corinthians 7:21-23: "Were you called while a slave? Do not worry about it; but if you are able also to become free, rather do that. For he who was called in the Lord while a slave, is the Lord's freedman; likewise he who was called while free, is Christ's slave. You were bought with a price; do not become slaves of men."

God Calls us to Worship Before the Cross

Is. 12:4-6

+We Adore Him

Insert, "Let The Earth Resound"

We Confess Our Sin

Our Father in heaven, we have heard Your law and we delight in it, for we know that it is good, holy, and true. Yet we also know that we have not kept these things perfectly. The pollution of sin still clings to us. We were conceived and brought forth in iniquity, and our sin is ever before us. We have sinned against You, and offended You in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We ask for Your forgiveness. Have mercy on us, according to Your steadfast love and abundant mercy. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Restore to us the joy of Your salvation, that comes to us through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen!

We Thank Him For His Forgiveness

Hymn #650, "I Will Sing Of My Redeemer"

God Calls us to Worship Thru Dedication

Ex. 25:1-2

We Give Him Our Offering & Concerns

We Give Him Ourselves

Hymn #449, "We Rest On Thee"

God Calls us to Worship Thru Fellowship

Josh. 1:8

We Read His Word

Sermon

*We Partake Of The Lord's Supper

Hymn #648, "My Jesus I Love Thee"

God Blesses us in the Benediction

Welcome and Announcements

Postlude

(Containers have been placed at the front for communion cups and small trash)

+You are invited to raise your hands during the prayer of adoration.

*Visitors, please see note below on the Lord's Supper.

Godly Living in a Hostile World: Living with All People, Pt. 2

1 Peter 3:8-12

Study Notes for March 8, 2020

I. Introduction

The Good Life (cf. Gen. 12:1-2a; 2 Chron. 7:14; 1 Tim. 2:1-2; 1 Thes. 4:10b-11a)

This sounds like the “health and wealth” theology of Christless Christianity. But it is not. No doubt passages in this category have been used by “health and wealth” theologians, and so we must be very careful here. Yet we must see that Christianity is not combative to the natural order of creation, but restorative! And as such, it can and, many times, does result in temporal blessing.

A Contrast Between Wretched Living (cf. Prov. 14:12; 1:32; 7:23) and Godly Living (Prov. 17:22a; 4:18; 15:15)

The text at which we are looking this morning was written in light of this. Heretofore, Peter has given multiple reasons for why the child of God ought to remain steadfast: On Account of...

1. Our Eternal Inheritance, 1 Pet. 1:4, 13.
2. Our Future Reward, 1 Pet. 1:5.
3. The Tempering Nature of Trial and Suffering, 1 Pet. 1:6-7; 2:4ff.
4. The Holiness of God, 1 Pet. 1:15-16.
5. The Imperishable Quality of Salvation, 1 Pet. 1:23.
6. The Fact that we Lose Nothing who Gain Christ, 1 Pet. 2:9-10.

...all that NOT withstanding, in our text Peter turns to yet another motive for godly living: the promise of temporal blessing. Notice with me that 1 Pet. 3:8-11 has a Chiastic element to it...

A: V. 8: A Call Addressing our Attitude.
B: V. 9a: A Call Addressing our Conduct.
C: V. 9b: The Blessed Life
C¹: V. 10a: Loving Life & Seeing Good Days.
B ¹ : VV. 10b-11: A Call Addressing our Conduct.
A ¹ : V. 11b: A Call Addressing our Attitude.

II. Godly Living in a Hostile World: Living with All People, 1 Peter. 3:1-7.

- A. Our Attitude as it Relates to the Family of God, v. 8.
- B. Our Conduct as it Relates to the World, v. 9a.
- C. **Our Motive, v. 9b.**

That you might inherit a blessing

At first glance the wording of this text is a little odd and so difficult to understand. Yet, let's break it down...

1. The first part of the verse, “you were called for the very purpose” looks back to vv. 8-9a, indicating that God's will for all of His children in Christ is to sport the Attitude and Conduct of these verses!
2. But then Peter adds the closing statement, essentially saying, “In so doing you may inherit a blessing.” Some Commentators take this in reference to the eternal reward given to us at the Second Coming of Christ.

Other Commentators are quick to point out that the emphasis and focus of Peter here clearly is on temporal

blessings detailed in vv. 10-11- such as...

Loving life

Seeing good days

Refraining his tongue from evil

Turning away from evil and doing good

Seeking and pursuing peace

So, which is it? Is the focus here on our Eternal Inheritance or Temporal Blessings? Clearly the focus is on the Temporal Blessings that oft-times accompany right living. In fact, this is an emphasis in this entire epistle...

Temporal Results of Godly Living

Verse	Right Conduct	Promised Temporal Blessing
1:08	loving Christ	unutterable joy
1:09	continuing faith	more benefits of salvation
1:17	holy life with fear	avoiding God's fatherly discipline
2:02	partaking of spiritual milk	growing up toward salvation
2:19-20	trusting God and doing right while suffering	God's approval
3:1-2	submitting to husbands	husbands won for Christ
3:07	living considerately with wives	prayers not hindered
4:14	enduring reproach for Christ	spirit of glory and of God rests upon you
5:07	casting cares on God	(implied) he will care for your needs
5:9-10	resist the devil	God will restore, establish, strengthen you

...based on the immediate context as well as Peter's broader use of the promise of temporal blessing for godly living, we take Peter's encouragement here about "receiving a blessing" as a reference to the many temporal blessings that can accompany righteous living on this side of the grave!

Dan Doriani wrote, "So Peter has explained how we might find a good and peaceful life. If we avoid evil words and deeds, do good to all, and submit to proper authorities, it will ordinarily lead to a good life in the present." (*1 Peter*, REC, p. 133)

Wayne Grudem put it this way, "Verses 8 to 12 therefore teach that one proper motive for righteous living is the knowledge that such conduct will bring blessings from God in this life." (*1 Peter*, TNTC, p. 157)

That having been said, we recognize that there is no guarantee when it comes to temporal blessing!

D. The Basis, vv. 10-12.

Vv. 10-11

What we read here is pretty straight forward. If we guard our heart, tongue, and lives and so refrain from sin... but instead do positive good, generally speaking we will reap a life worthy of delight!

V. 12

As referenced above, Christianity is not combative to the natural order of creation, but restorative! And as such, it can and, many times, does result in temporal blessing which is the point of v. 12. Though this world is fallen, nevertheless in the here and now godliness continues to be its own reward.

Illustration: The Foolish Christian College Student

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