

I Peter 1:13-2:3 - Part 1

EMC Wednesday Night Bible Study - 4-4-18

Hope is Ready (1:13)

Section begins with a “therefore”

- Grammatical _____ - “What is it there for?”
- The imperatives of Christian living always begin with therefore
 - Theology → practice
 - Theologically: All Christian life is _____
- God’s redemptive work underlies all of Peter’s calls to obedience

“fix your hope completely”

- Imperative + “completely” = heightened command
 - All of our hope in all of him
- Hope’s object = “the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ”
 - Hope means setting our gaze on Christ’s return
 - Hope is always _____

“prepare your minds for action”

- Mind = more than intellectual faculty. That which guides and directs _____.
 - Full-orbed reasoning from which your behavior flows.
 - Essential for loving God and neighbors (Mark 12:30).
 - Also the instrument of self-destruction when exercised without God’s light and power (Lk 1:51; Eph 2:3, 4:18; Col 1:21).
- Lit. “gird up the loins of your mind”
 - Recalls Israel in _____ (Ex. 12:11)
 - Recalls the commands of _____ (Luke 12:35-46)
- Being prepared for action involves _____ (v. 13)
 - Self-control, clarity of mind.
 - 4:7 - “be of sound judgment and sober spirit for the purpose of prayer.”
 - 5:8 - “be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.”
 - Our joyful hope is expressed in alert wisdom that seizes opportunities to serve the Lord (cf. Eph. 5:15-21)

The Holiness of the Father’s Children (1:14-17)

The focus on the coming of Christ should have significant impact on how we live our lives now

- V. 13 - “fix your hope on the return of Jesus” → V. 17 - “conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your stay on earth”
- Vv. 14-15 - what that looks like: _____

Contrast v. 14 with vv. 15-16

- Old patterns of thinking/behaving (cf. Eph. 4:17-19) vs. the pattern of our Heavenly Father (cf. Leviticus 11:44-45; 19:2; 20:7; Matthew 5:48; Eph. 5:1; I Thess. 2:12)
- “Father” means God has given us his _____
 - Grace transforms - his life touches our life
 - His Spirit dwells in us, empowering us for life and godliness
- Holiness must **never** be reduced to a list of “dos” and “don’ts”
 - Not endless, encyclopedic list of directives and prohibitions
 - Flows from the heart and its key is _____.
 - To be holy = to love God and neighbor (Luke 10:27-28; Mt. 22:36-40)
 - “On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets.”
 - God sheds the love abroad in our hearts (Rom. 5:5; Mt. 5:44-48; Lk. 10:27, 33, 37; I Pet. 1:22-23)

Holiness with an eschatological orientation

- Hope and holiness - both look back and _____ (cf. II Peter 3:10-14)
- Our holiness/works don’t save us, they are the _____ / _____ of our salvation (James 2:14-26; I Cor. 3:13-15)

Summary

- A hopeful people are a _____ people
- A ready people are a _____ people
- A determined people are a _____ people