

1 Peter 1:13-2:5 (Called to Be Holy)

- Opening comments (Perspective and Call to be Holy)
- Opening prayer
- Introduction – Sayings
- Don't forget where you came from.
- Expand with story.
- I'm going to take a look at 1 Peter 1:13-2:5 today.
- The first part of the chapter talks of the hope and saving faith,
- That was made possible as we were redeemed,
- By the saving blood of the unblemished lamb.
- Here Peter is going to be giving them instruction
- On where to go from this point.
- Let's start from verse 13 and read to the end of the Chapter.

¹³ Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. ¹⁴ As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, ¹⁵ but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, ¹⁶ since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy." ¹⁷ And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, ¹⁸ knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. ²⁰ He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you ²¹ who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

²² Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, ²³ since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; ²⁴ for "All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, ²⁵ but the word of the Lord remains forever."

- This is a great reminder

- That our work and our behavior,
- And the way that we conduct our lives,
- Did not end at the cross.
- Instead, this is where it all began.
- This is where the rubber hit the road.
- And it's crucially important on how we proceed with our lives.
- It's where we put on our big people's clothes.
- It's where we put away all our toys.
- It's a time when we put aside all our childishness.
- It's what separates the men from the boys,
- And the women from the girls.
- It's what separates all of us as believers.
- It separates those who are living a victorious Christian Life
- From those who are living a defeated Christian Life.
- It is through a combination of God's grace, and our faith,
- That we were able to walk through that door of grace.
- We came to the simple understanding that the biblical truth is,
- That we were redeemed by the precious blood of Jesus Christ.
- We were not redeemed by any corruptible things,
- That we paid for ourselves,
- Because we could never pay the debt of our sin.
- When I gave my message on Forgiveness,
- And I used the example of the Unmerciful Servant.
- He had a debt so large that he could never ever repay it.
- He was forgiven.
- But if you remember that he didn't forgive the one,
- Who had owed him just a little?
- He seemed to have forgotten about the mercy,
- He forget all about the grace,
- He forgot about the forgiveness that he had received himself.
- And what happened to him when his master found out?
- And here comes in that old expression,
- Never forget where you came from.
- Having made the decision to walk through that door of grace,
- We now have the hope based on the precious and solid promises of God,
- That we have eternal life, which no one can take away from us.

- But at the same time, Peter reminds us that we are no longer who we were.
- And shame on us,
- If we ever take for granted just what God did for us.
- We should never forget how much God loved us,
- We should never minimize what God did for us by sending
- His son to be as a ransom for us,
- A complete sacrifice for our sins.
- Never are we to forget the pain and torture that was required of our L&S.
- We should never forget what it meant for us, .
- That we have been born again of an imperishable seed.
- That each and every one of us has become a new creation.
- And all old things have passed away and all things are become new.
- What became new?
- The way we think. - The way that we act.
- The way we speak. - The way that we treat others.
- The way we conduct ourselves everyday of our lives.
- The level of integrity that others see in us.
- You see, our integrity is crucial.
- Whoever claims to be in Him must walk as Jesus did.
- It's not a matter of telling people how to,
- It's a matter of modeling how Christians should act.
- Again, it's the level of integrity that others see in us.
- And that is the confidence and a trust that one has who truly follows Jesus.
- And when that confidence and trust is evidenced,
- It encourages and lifts up every one of us.
- The faith that we have in Jesus brings about the fruits that are in our lives.
- It's trusting in the power and love of Jesus Christ.
- It's living and overcoming the difficult times and turns of life.
- It's by living in the unshakeable mercy and grace of Jesus.
- It doesn't mean that we are perfect.
- It means that we battle it and rest in the unshakeable security of the Lord.
- The Apostle Paul was far from perfect as well, but what did he say?
- I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

- We have been born again through Jesus Christ.
- And we have gained an incorruptible inheritance that will never fade away.
- Despite all the inequities and inequalities of our world today,
- We have the assurance that God is present.
- He is present everywhere.
- We are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.
- He never leaves us nor forsakes us.
- Are we living our lives like we are kept by his power?
- Are we living a holy and victorious life?
- Is it evident in our life that He is with us?
- Is he pricking our hearts when it's needs to be?
- Are we turning away when we need to turn away?
- Are we living a life that is circumspect?
- A Life that is intentional and prudent?
- A life that is obedient and holy?

And this word is the good news that was preached to you. ² So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. ² Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— ³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴ As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵ you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

- So how are we doing here?
- Have we put away all malice?
- Are we intentionally trying to harm or hurt another person?
- Has someone said something that has hurt us?
- Is there something that remains unforgiven?
- Are we trying to gain something by making our star appear to shine brighter?
- Is there hypocrisy in our lives?

- Are we talking out of both sides of our mouths?
- Are we telling others how to live a holy life,
- Yet ours is mired in sin?
- Are we envious of the good fortune of others,
- Do we become bitter and hateful?
- Do we gossip and slander?
- Slander is hateful gossip,
- It is saying something that may not even be true,
- Said only to drag someone down and destroy them.
- So when Peter says to put it all away,
- He's telling us to knock it off. Stop it!
- If we have been born again by the Holy Spirit, we need to act like it.
- Verse 4 tells us that we are to be a living stone.
- One that has a solid faith and a strong foundation with Christ.
- The world may hate us.... But God loves us.
- We are chosen and precious.
- We are children of the Living God.
- Let's not forget where we came from.
- Close in prayer.