

## WORSHIPING ON THE LORD'S DAY

June 7, 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!*

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Prelude

Worship Theme

God is Angry

Psalm 30:1-5: "I will extol Thee, O Lord, for Thou hast lifted me up, and hast not let my enemies rejoice over me. O Lord my God, I cried to Thee for help, and Thou didst heal me. O Lord, Thou hast brought up my soul from Sheol; Thou hast kept me alive, that I should not go down to the pit. Sing praise to the Lord, you His godly ones, and give thanks to His holy name. For His anger is but for a moment, His favor is for a lifetime; weeping may last for the night, but a shout of joy comes in the morning."

**God Calls us to Worship Before the Cross** Ps. 107:1-3

+We Adore Him

Hymn #56, "When All Your Mercies"

We Confess Our Sin

Almighty God, we acknowledge and confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed; we have not loved You with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength; we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. Deepen within us our sorrow for the wrong we have done, and the good we have left undone.

Lord, You are full of compassion and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy; there is always forgiveness with You! Restore to us the joy of Your salvation; bind up that which is broken, give light to our minds, strength to our wills, and rest to our souls. Speak to each of us, and let Your word abide with us until it has wrought in us Your holy will. Amen.

We Thank Him For His Forgiveness

Hymn #197, "Comfort, Comfort Ye My People" *Isaiah 40:1-4*

**God Calls us to Worship Thru Dedication** Ps. 107:23-25a,

We Give Him Our Offering & Concerns

28-31

We Give Him Ourselves

Hymn #609, "Why Should Cross And Trial Grieve Me?"

**God Calls us to Worship Thru Fellowship** Ps. 107:41-43

We Read His Word

Sermon

\*We Partake Of The Lord's Supper

Hymn #708, "O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go"

**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.

## Godly Living in a Hostile World: Living in Pursuit of Holiness, Pt. 1

1 Peter 4:1-6

Study Notes for June 7, 2020

### I. Introduction

Jerry Bridges wrote, "I realized that my personal life's objective regarding holiness was less than that of John's. He was saying, in effect, 'Make it your aim not to sin.' As I thought about this, I realized that deep within my heart my real aim was not to sin very much.... Can you imagine a soldier going into battle with the aim of 'not getting hit very much'? The very suggestion is ridiculous. His aim is not to get hit at all! Yet if we have not made a commitment to holiness without exception, we are like a soldier going into battle with the aim of not getting hit very much. We can be sure if that is our aim, we will be hit- not with bullets, but with temptation over and over again." (*The Pursuit of Holiness*, p. 96)

1 Peter 2:11-3:13: Thus far we have looked at how God's people were to endeavor to serve the Lord...

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| 1. In Relation to a Hostile State: Living as Citizens, 2:13-17.        | 4. In Relation to a Mixed Marriage: Living with a Rebellious Spouse, 3:1-7. |
| 2. In Relation to our Employment: Living as Servants, 2:18-20.         | 5. In Relation to All of Life: Living in Relation to All Men, 3:8-12.       |
| 3. In Relation to Unjust Suffering: Living Under Persecution, 2:21-25. | 6. In Relation to Persecution: Living as a Sacrifice, 3:13-17.              |

### II. Godly Living in a Hostile World: Living in Pursuit of Holiness, 1 Peter. 4:1-6.

#### A. The Call, v. 1a.

"Therefore, since Christ has suffered in the flesh..."

"...arm yourselves also with the same purpose."

#### The Same Purpose

The word for "purpose" here is variously translated...

Behind each translation is a word that literally means, "what takes place in the mind" (ἐννοια [*ennoia*]...)...

We are speaking here of a "conviction" or "understanding" which arises from observing/living life from the perspective of God and His word (cf. Prov. 23:19; 18:15)...

#### Arm Yourself

This was military language describing the soldier who in preparation for battle clothed himself in his armor!

We are to "arm ourselves for battle" by putting on one particular piece of armor: the "outlook" or "mind" just described. Accordingly...

Illustration: Romans 6:10-13

#### \*Where We Live

1. We are to allow the example of Christ's suffering to alter the way we think...
2. Consider...

Thomas Kelly wrote, "Ye who think of sin but lightly nor suppose the evil great here may view its nature rightly, here its guilt may estimate." (*Red Trinity Hymnal* #257, "Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted.")

Hebrews 12:3-4

## B. The Catalyst, vv. 1b-3.

### 1. Being Mindful of the Benefit of Suffering, vv. 1b-2.

Verse 1b is shrouded in Mystery

That we might not get bogged down in the controversy, let's step back from the verse and consider the point that Peter is making here (which is found in v. 2) and the concern of Peter when it comes to our holiness...

Verse 2: Not living for the lusts of men, but for the will of God!

In light of Peter's point here, we take v. 1 in one of two ways...

1. Either Peter is speaking of Christ...
2. Or Peter is speaking of the Believer...

Anonymous, who ended his poem with, "I never knew until one day by the grave, how vain are the things we spend our lives to save."

John Todd, watching his grandmother die in his arms, thought, "This is what sin does in the life of a mortal! Ought I to play with it?"

### 2. Being Mindful of the Personal Cost of Sin, v. 3.

#### Sufficient

This is one of those words that does NOT translate well into English (at least, not in this context). The English word choices for the Greek are all misleading: "enough," "satisfactory," or "sufficient."

The Greek word for "sufficient" (ἀρκετός [*arketos*]) must be understood to be negative! That being the case, the idea behind "the time already past is sufficient for you" would not be a "sufficiency of pleasure," but "a sufficiency of misery and/or shame!" And that is the idea here!...

#### The Desire of the Gentiles

"Sensuality": ἀσέλγεια (*aselgeia*)

"Lusts": ἐπιθυμία (*epithumia*)

"Drunkenness": οἰνοφλυγία (*oinophlugia*)

"Carousals": κῶμος (*kōmos*)

"Drinking Parties": πότος (*potos*)

"Abominable Idolatries": ἀθεμίτοις εἰδωλολατρίας (*athemitois eidōlolatriais*)

**Question:** What should come to mind when you think of these sins in your life? Consider 1 Cor. 4:5b and Rom. 6:21...

John MacDuff wrote, "If the best man's sins were written on his forehead, it would make him pull his hat down over his eyes!" ("Heavenly Aspirations")

#### \*Where We Live

1. Aside from its passing pleasure (Heb. 11:25), sin exacts a heavy toll upon all who engage in it!...
2. This obviously is going to be difficult. So what are we to do?

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