

Intro: Acts 1:8

XIII. Godly Living

A. Inner Discipline - vs 11

1. Beloved

a. implies that we are objects of God's immeasurable love

b. the basis for the next phrase

2. I beg you - *parakaleo* - to call near, invite, invoke:--beseech, call for, (be of good) comfort, desire, (give) exhort(-ation), intreat, pray. Ro 12:1

3. as sojourners and pilgrims, - 1Ch 29:15; Ps 39:12; 119:19; Heb 11:13; 1Pe 1:17

a. a reminder that we are not really members of the world society - Phil 3:20

b. Synonyms describing our position to the world

i. *paroikos* - having a home near, (as noun) a by-dweller (alien resident):--foreigner, sojourn, stranger.

ii. *parepidemos* - an alien alongside, a resident foreigner:--pilgrim, stranger.

4. Conclusion b/c not of this world - abstain from fleshly lusts

a. through regeneration,

i. We have a new disposition w/ holy longings - Ga 2:19

ii. The new man lives within old, unredeemed, human flesh

iii. This causes an ongoing battle between Spirit and Flesh,

iv. but we are no longer slaves of unrighteousness - Ro 6:18, 22

b. *apechomai* - to hold oneself off, i.e. refrain:--abstain.

i. signifies that we have the ability to restrain our lustful flesh

ii. by the new life (not enough)

iii. and the Spirit - Ro 8:2, 4; 13:14; Gal 5:16, 25; 2 Pe 1:4

c. fleshly lusts

i. Not limited to sexual immorality

ii. Encompasses the evils of man's sinful nature - Gal 5:19-21

iii. Before salvation, unbelievers are dominated by fleshly lusts - Eph 2:1-3

iv. Once saved, we are commanded to stop loving the world and its lusts -

1 Jo 2:15-17

5. which war against the soul, - Jas 4:1;

a. intensifies "fleshly lusts"

b. Rom 7:14-23 For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am carnal, sold under sin. For what I am doing, I do not understand. For what I will to do, that I do not practice; but what I hate, that I do. If, then, I do what I will not to do, I agree with the law that it is good. But now, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me. For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but how to perform what is good I do not find. For the good that I will to do, I do not do; but the evil I will not to do, that I practice. Now if I do what I will not to do, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me. I find then a law, that evil is present with me, the one who wills to do good. For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man. But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

c. Gal 5:17-18 For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that

you wish. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

d. wage war

i. signifies a long term military campaign

ii. Not just antagonism, but relentless, malicious aggression

e. our focus will determine which wins the battle - Jas 1:2-6, 13-15

B. Outer Behavior - vs 12

1. to be a light or a witness in this world, our transform inner lives must be visible to the world

2. having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles,

a. **kalos** - beautiful, but chiefly good, valuable or virtuous, fair, good(-ly), honest, meet, well, worthy.

i. connotes the loveliest kind of visible goodness

ii. English synonyms - lovely, fine, winsome, gracious, fair in appearance, and noble

b. **ethnos** - a race (as of the same habit), a tribe; a foreign (non-Jewish) one (pagan):--Gentile, heathen, nation, people.

i. refers to unbelievers

ii. Lk 2:32; Ro 2:14; 15:9-12. 16; 1 Co 5:1; 12:2

3. that when they speak against you as evildoers,

a. **kakopios** - a bad-doer; (specially), a criminal:--evil-doer, malefactor.

i. specific accusations against Christians

ii. They rebelled against the Roman Government

- practiced cannibalism

- engaged in incest

- engaged in subversive activities that threatened the economic and social progress b/c they opposed slavery

- practiced atheism by not worshipping Caesar or the Roman Gods

b. **katalaleo** - to be a traducer, i.e. to slander:--speak against (evil of).

c. they may glorify God

i. we must live the opposite way proving the validity of the Gospel - by your good works - Mt 5:16; Tit 2:8; 1Pe 3:16

ii. Proving unbelievers wrong in how they slander us, - which they observe, thus glorifying God - Ro 12:17; 2Co 8:21; Php 2:15;

4. in the day of visitation.

a. an OT concept

i. Ju 13:2-23; Ruth 1:6; 1 Sam 3:2-21; Ps 65:9; 106:4; Zec 10:3

ii. When God visits mankind for either judgment or blessing

b. in the NT, has more of the idea of blessing and redemption

i. after John the Baptizer's birth, his father said, "Blessed is the Lord God of Israel, For He has visited and redeemed His people, - Lu 1:68

ii. Jesus speaking of His visit being remembered after the leveling of the temple 70 AD - "and level you, and your children within you, to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not know the time of your visitation." - Lk 19:44

iii. God's redemption is inherent in Peters reference here