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Pursuing Peace and Holiness Prt.1

Heb.12:14

'Study to show thyself approved unto God...' – 2 Timothy 2:15 The importance of reading and learning God's word is a vital part of both growing and also experiencing the blessing of belonging to God the Father through His Son, Jesus Christ.

This truth is one of the purposes why we wish to offer you these sermon notes which are to be used while listening to the sermon.

If you have any further questions relating to the sermon, sermon notes or would like to learn more about the ministry of Christ Reformed Baptist Church, please do not hesitate to contact Pastor Doug Barger email: pastor@crbc.faith or phone: #317-945-2262

Roadmap of where we have been and where we are going:

Enduring Faith Defined (11:1) Exemplified (11:2-40), and finally Commanded (12:1-26).

<u>INTRODUCTION</u> – Today we begin to tr into the part of the Epistle to the Hebrews that calls us to Sanctification as New Covenant believers.

- ➤ *First* Chps.1-4 he taught us the Superiority Christ.
- Second Chps. 5-10 he taught us the Priesthood of Christ and His Covenant.
- ➤ Third Chp. 11-12:13 he taught us how to run the Race as NC Runners.
- ➤ Fourth Chp. 12:18-29 he will remind us of the Superiority of the NC Kingdom.
- ➤ Lastly Chp.13 he gives final directives for serving God through 'Gospel Living'.

HOW THEN ARE WE GOING TO CONSIDER TODAY'S TEXT?

1) Structure of the passage.

- (a) A command to do something. "follow" "pursue" This is not a suggestion.
- (b) One command with TWO specific 'NC' duties.
- (c) Necessary frame of mind (v.15).

2) NC Duty #1 – Pursue Peace with all mankind.

- (a) Assumed pre-requisite NC participation.
- (b) Nondiscriminatory
- (c) What does this look like?
- (d) Do we have boundaries?

3) NC Duty #2 – Pursue Biblical Holiness (Sanctification).

- (a) Definition is vital and dangerous.
- 1. Examples of wrong definitions, concepts, and ideas of holiness.
- (b) What holiness can and cannot do.
 - 1. Justification and Sanctification carefully guarded and defined.

- 2. God's Holiness and Our holiness.
- 3. The limits to Holiness.
- (c) What is the source of this Holiness?
 - 1. Jesus' blood and Covenant.
 - 2. The Trinity's role and involvement.
- (d) How is holiness lived out?
 - 1. Practical or sensational?
 - 2. What does 'pursuing' holiness feel and look like?

4) NON-NEGOTIONAL - The necessity of Holiness.

- (a) Understanding the grammar and syntax of the text.
 - 1. Does it mean what it appears to be saying?
 - 2. Errors of wrong interpretation (current and past).
- (b) Why is this so necessary?
- (c) Danger of self-deception.

I. <u>Structure of the Passage.</u>

- (a) Command to do something.
- <u>KJV 'Follow</u> peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:'
- <u>NIV</u> '<u>Make every</u> effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.'
- **ESV** 'Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord.'

<u>NASB95</u> '<u>Pursue</u> peace with all men, and the sanctification without which no one will see the Lord.'

διώκω diốkō, dee-o'-ko

- 1. to make to run or flee, put to flight, drive away.
- 2. to run swiftly in order to catch a person or thing, to run after.

Translational occurrences: persecute (28x), follow after (6x), follow (4x), suffer persecution (3x), miscellaneous (3x).

- (b) One command with TWO specific 'NC' duties.
- 1. Pursue peace with all mankind.

- 2. Pursue holiness (sanctification).
- (c) Necessary frame of mind.

KJV "Looking diligently..."

NASB95/ESV "See to it..."

ἐπισκοπέω episkopéō, ep-ee-skop-eh'-o

The original Greek carries with it the idea to inspect and look after, to look upon carefully, to beware of neglect.

II. NC Duty #1 – Pursue Peace with all mankind.

- (a) <u>Assumed pre-requisite NC participation.</u>
- (b) Nondiscriminatory

1828 Webster Dictionary – Peace:

- ~ To be at peace to be reconciled; to live in harmony.
- ~ To make peace to reconcile, as parties at variance.
- ~ To hold the peace to be silent; to suppress one's thoughts; not to speak.
 - (c) What does this look like. Col.3:1-15

CONCLUSION: