

③ Appeal #2: Love one another

☰ Context of "idlers" + over-realized eschatology

▶ calls them to the hard + high ethic of love

Aside: Christian sexual holiness + love ethic not opposed or contradicting. Today "love" = sexual permissiveness; Debate is over what love is; We can't for a minute cut tie between sexual holiness + love.

1. "Now concerning brotherly love you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by Θ to love one another"

= Θ Himself, by the Holy Spirit, teaches, even propels Christians to love one another Cf. 4:8
Romans 5:5

2. "for that is indeed what you are doing..." = love for other Christians is mark of true faith/H.S.

3. "But we urge you brothers, to do this more + more" = We are called to grow in earnest, accurate, committed love.

➔➔➔ Cannot love w/o commitment + presence in community

Balanced
By 4. Love for Christians + outsiders is

- aspire to live quietly
- mind your own affairs
- work w. your hands
- walk properly... be dependent on no one

} Secular -
is this ethic
attractive?

GIVING

Redeemer Offerings for 2017

May total: \$12,330

Actual YTD: \$108,794

Target YTD: \$130,000

Net Difference: \$-21,206

2017 Target Budget: \$338,000

2017 Target reflects the Session's hope for giving in 2017 based on current giving and needs. Thank you for giving so cheerfully and faithfully.

COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss from the passage of Scripture the following four points of Christian ethics: (1) Jesus' Gospel and Jesus' ethic can't be separated, (2) There is a Christian moral standard (path) and motivation; (3) By definition, Christians are walking this path and at the same time are called to continual growth in holiness; (4) God's mighty grace - past, present and future - is the foundation for Christian ethics.
2. What strikes you about Scripture's appeal to sexual holiness?
3. Share with each other (as you are able) areas of sexual brokenness. Pray for each other.

3 Paul's defense ► appeal for Christian ethic

Xtian "Jesus Christ takes hold of a man/woman at the center of his/her life" Bonhoeffer... sex + love

secular Isn't the Christian ethic/Christians attractive?

① PRIMER ON CHRISTIAN ETHICS

1. "Ask + urge you in the LORD JESUS" ... "for you know what instructions we gave you through the LORD JESUS" = Jesus' Gospel + Jesus' ethic can't be separated "Jesus bled for your holiness"
2. "that you received from us how you ought to walk and to please Θ ." = There is a Xtian moral standard/path ("will of Θ ") and motivation which will be in contrast w. culture + religions
3. "just as you are doing, that you do so more + more"
= By definition, Christians are walking this path and are called to continual growth b/c Θ holiness is infinite
Ryan's parents
4. "Now may our Θ + Father himself, and our LORD JESUS ... make you increase + abound in love for one another and for all ... establish your hearts blameless in holiness."
= Θ 's mighty grace - past, present + future - is the foundation for Xtian ethics.
∞ Paul's Prayer 3:11-13 ► ethical appeal 4:1ff
∞ Christian hope of return of Jesus frames

② Appeal #1: Sexual holiness

1. It is Θ 's will that you be sanctified, sexually holy
 Θ created sex. Good gift. But b/c sin, broken, distorted, idolized Thessalonica ... Today ... Conversation w. Jacob
 2. That you abstain from sexual immorality, lit.
"cut/break" ... examples
 3. That you lit. "each of you should learn to acquire his own vessel in holiness + honour."
interpretation 1 = Know how to control his body
interpretation 2 = take a wife for himself Stott
Conversation w. Jacob ... 1 Cor 7:8
 4. That having a holy fear of Θ , you would respect Θ 's boundaries holiness + honour vs. passion of lust
- ➔ Jesus comes between you + other person and is an "avenger in all these things" (vs. 6)
5. That in great regard to Θ , and w. the help of the Holy Spirit you will earnestly step into your calling to holiness, specifically sexual holiness

INTENSE! HARD! DEFEATED! ASHAMED! ... "ask"

- Everyone is sexually broken
- Jesus redeemed every part of you + gave you Mighty Spirit, have hope
- "more + more" ... take baby steps