10/4/2026: I Peter 1:13-16 Holy Living for the Love of God

I Peter 1:13 Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming. 14As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. 15But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; 16for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy.”

Introduction:

Key teachings so far in 1Peter:

- The Trinity
- The Blood of Christ
- Chosen by God
- Our Eternal Hope and Destiny
- The Assurance of our Salvation
- Supernatural Joy regardless of what we see around us

We must CHOOSE to believe these truths. That is FAITH. We do not earn Salvation.

1. So, shall we go on sinning?

The Old Testament Holy Living is based on the Law, but in the New Testament, we are taught that we are saved by grace not by law, and yet there is a theme of Holy Living.

> Romans 6:1What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin so that grace may increase? 2May it never be! How shall we who died to sin still live in it? 3Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? 4Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. 5For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be in the likeness of His resurrection, 6knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin; 7for he who has died is freed from sin. 8Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, 9knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, is never to die again; death no longer is master over Him. 10For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. 11Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus. 12Therefore do not let

sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts, 13and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. 14For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law but under grace. (NASB)

So, shall we go on sinning? Once we are Saved, how do we live this transformed life as a new man?

- Some people come up with legalism and have a list of rules and regulations to follow, which is just 'religion.' That is not Christianity.
- Some people say "We have been set free from Law, so you do not have to worry about it. But Paul spells out some things we need to KNOW and some things we need to DO to reign in life as God would have us to.

1. Things we need to KNOW:

Romans 6:3Or do you not know ...6knowing this...

I Peter 1:13Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober,

John 8:32"You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

Truth has power and freedom. We can feel insecure in our place with God, but we must remember that the righteousness that is given to us 'In Christ' is not for US to see, it is for God to see.

A. As a Believer in Jesus Christ, a Follower of Jesus, God gives you an Abundance of Grace and the Free Gift of Righteousness (the Righteousness of Jesus Christ Himself).

B. You were, you HAVE BEEN Crucified with Christ, you DIED with CHRIST.

C. He who has DIED, is FREED FROM SIN.

2. What do we need to DO:

Romans 6:11Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Likewise reckon ye also yourselves... (KJV)

A. Consider it TO BE TRUE. You have been made dead to sin.

B. Line up with the NEW THOUGHT PROCESS.

> Romans 12:2Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

C. Do not let sin reign in your MORTAL BODY.

> Romans 6:12Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts, 13and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. 14For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

UNDERSTAND that even though you are SAVED, you still live in an UNSAVED BODY. Your soul is SAVED, you have been given a new HEART and SPIRIT, but your BODY is still MORTAL. You have RESPONSIBILITY TO LIVE THAT OUT. Because of what Jesus has done, we have a RESPONSIBILITY to MAKE GOOD DECSIONS with this new life that God has given to us. God is IN YOU! What are you doing with your body?

D. Do not CONFORM to how we used to think, live, talk, act.

> I Peter 1:13Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming. 14As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. 15But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; 16for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy.”

E. Out of appreciation and thanksgiving, live out your life as a reflection of that. God has done all this for you:

- A new heart
- A new spirit
- A new mind

Be careful what you do with these bodies that are The Temple of the Holy Spirit.

> Romans 12:1Therefore, I urge you, brothers, and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

> I Corinthians 6:19Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; 20you were bought at a price. Therefore, honor God with your bodies.

F. Take SERIOUSLY what God HAS ALREADY DONE for us and TAKE RESPONSIBILITY of your hands, eyes, ears as a completely new person in Christ.

G. Discipline: DISCIPLINE is different from LEGALISM. LEGALISM is saying you must do this, DISCIPLINE is something YOU CHOOSE. It comes down to making GOOD DECSIONS in life.

> I Corinthians 10:13No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it. There is no such thing as SINLESS PERFECTION.

3. Slaves to righteousness:

> Romans 6:15 What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? May it never be! 16Do you not know that when you present yourselves to someone as slaves for obedience, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin resulting in death, or of obedience resulting in righteousness? 17But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed, 18and having been freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.

Paul gives us 2 alternatives: be in slavery to sin or Righteousness. You WERE a slave to sin; you ARE NOW a slave to RIGHTEOUSNESS. Recognize the RESPONSIBILITY you have with this NEW HEART and NEW SPIRIT living inside you and begin to MAKE GOOD CHOICES, and the next thing you know, this RIGHTEOUSNESS begins to ENSLAVE YOU.

4. What if I keep sinning?

> I John 3:9 No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in them; they cannot go on sinning, because they have been born of God. (NIV)
>
> 9 No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him; and he cannot keep on sinning, because he has been born of God. (ESV)

But if we sin:

> I John 1:9If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

We all sin. But we do not continue to make a PRACTICE of sinning. Grace is not a license to SIN, in fact it is the opposite, it simply relocates the reason for not sinning from LAW to RESPONSIBILITY.

Romans 5:17 For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!

Hebrews 4:15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. 16Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

That is the TRUTH!

QUESTIONS:

1. What is a guilty pleasure? Do you have any? Should you have any? How do you control that inclination towards them? How do you feel after you indulge in one?

2. What is a truth you struggle to accept? Why do you struggle to accept it- and how do you know it is true?

3. Holy. What does holy mean? Describe a holy life. What does it look like? Is it possible to live a holy life- share.

4. What part of today's message spoke to you the most? Why- share.