

1 Peter 1:18-25
“Hope In A Hostile World”

AS YOU SETTLE IN...

- Turn to the book of (1 Peter 1:18-25) NLT

~ LET'S PRAY ~

NOTE TAKERS...

- I titled today's message: “Why Am I To Live Different?”

~ INTRO ~

NOW AS WE START TODAY...

- I want to summarize what we learned...
 - At the beginning of this study.

PETER...

- Was writing to encourage the church...
 - During difficult times – *hostile times!*
- **Time's** that increased pressure on the Church.
 - Just like what we're experiencing today.

THIS PRESSURE COMES FROM SATAN...

- But human instruments implement it...
 - Knowingly & unknowingly!

LET ME PROVIDE AN EXAMPLE:

- Here's a real time struggle for Colorado Churches:

February 26, 2021 – Colorado Senate Bill –

- Establishes a Government “Ministry of Truth”

Can you say, hello George Orwell 1984!?!

- This Bill is Titled: *Digital Communications Regulation*
 - (SB21-132)

THIS BILL...

- Was introduced by Colorado State Senator Kerry Donovan...

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“The Digital Communications Regulation... would require ANY website serving Colorado citizens, to register with the digital communications division annually or face a \$5,000 fine. A five-member panel, appointed by the governor, would be empowered to determine whether information on the site, including comments or entries submitted by others, contained "intentional disinformation, conspiracy theories, or fake news..."

“... may include business, political, or social practices, that are conducted in a manner that a person aggrieved by the practices... [thinks is] unfair or discriminatory...”

(Source: <https://leg.colorado.gov>)

POINT BEING:

- We're experiencing an increase of *hostile* conditions...
 - Toward *Biblical Truths*, as it collides with secular ideas.
- This Colorado Bill establishes Government oversight...
 - That determines viability of speech & ideas!

NOW...

HERE'S THE QUESTION WE'RE ASKING TODAY:

- Why am I to live different as a Christian?

SO FAR...

- Peter's penned a survival guide for the Church to live by.

SIX TAKE A WAYS WE'RE TO REMEMBER:

1. Think clearly (v.13)
2. Exercise self-control (v.13)
3. Fix our hope on God's grace (v.13)
4. Avoid our former life-style choices (v.14)
5. Be holy (let our actions reflect that we know God) (v.15)
6. Live in submission to God's revealed ways (v.17)

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HERE’S WHAT OUR TEXT SAYS TODAY:

- (1 Peter 1:18-25) NLT

THREE...

- **Topics** from these verse:
 - *Ransomed / Cleansed / & Born-again.*

IDEA #1 – “THE COST OF SALVATION” (vv.18-21) NLT

OUR FREEDOM...

- From an empty life has been secured...
 - As Jesus traded & gave up His life for ours.
- We’ve been *ransomed!*

NOW... THIS TRUTH CLAIM...

- Is familiar in American Culture...
 - BUT in the 21st Century... it’s held in contempt!
 - (It’s offensive / it’s despised / it’s worthless)

IN FACT...

- At this very moment... social discourse...
 - Around Christian truth is marginalized...
 - As being “*outdated*” to modern morality!
 - (It’s too narrow... It’s offensive)

(Matt. 7:13-14) NLT

“You can enter God’s Kingdom only through the narrow gate. The highway to hell is broad, and its gate is wide, for the many who choose that way. But the gateway to life is very narrow and the road is difficult, and only a few ever find it.”

CHRISTIAN...THERE’S A...

- Growing wave from the younger generations (age 40 & younger)...
 - Who are seeking asylum in secular structures!
 - (According to The New York Times.)

THE BIBLE SHOWS THE HISTORY OF MAN...

- In cycles of faithfulness / sin / suffering / & repentance...

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- Which is repeated over & over in the OT.

FOR EXAMPLE:

- Under Joshua... (Joshua 24:31) NLT
 - After Joshua (Judges 2:10-13) NLT

THIS IS OUR DAY 2021.

AN ARTICLE...

- In The New York Times (Dated: March 5, 2021).
 - Titled: The Empty Religions of Instagram.

“Many millennials who have turned their backs on religious traditions because it isn’t sufficiently diverse or inclusive [and] have found alternative scripture online. Our new belief system is a blend of left-wing political orthodoxy, intersectional feminism, self-optimization, therapy, wellness, astrology... And we’ve found a different kind of clergy: personal growth influencers.”

(Source: <https://www.nytimes.com>)

YOUNGER GENERATIONS... INCREASINGLY...

- Are missing a personal experience with God...
 - And are being taught to despise religious teachings.
 - Because morality is oppressive to a modern society!

HOWEVER... PETER...

- Tells the Church TO remain in the living truth...
 - That comes thru the ransom & resurrection of Christ!

TWO TRUTHS FOR THE CHURCH TO REMEMBER:

1. We are to **make a clean break from secular ideologies.**

(2 Cor. 6:17) NLT

“Therefore come out from among unbelievers, and separate yourselves from them, says the LORD.”

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2. We never share in OR approve of other Christian’s sin.

(1 Cor. 5:9-13) NLT

THE POINT IS:

- The cost of our salvation was paid for by Jesus’s life.

THEREFORE...

- *Christian thought & practices...* should be different!

IDEA #2 – “THE RESULTS OF SALVATION” (v.22) NLT

Read (1 John 3:7-10) NLT

UNDERSTAND THIS...

- My sin is removed...
 - When I genuinely respond to God’s truth.
- The evidence I’ve responded...
 - Is seen in a LOVE for other people...
 - Which STARTS in the house of God!
- Repentance & Practice is evident.
 - NOT... lip service with no lasting change.
 - That’s NOT salvation!

~ IN CLOSING ~

IDEA #3 – “THE LENGTH OF SALVATION” (vv.23-25) NLT

- Your new life will last forever!

(v.25)

“... *And that word is the Good News that was preached to you.*”

THROUGHOUT THE BIBLE...

- We’re told about the brevity of *Natural Life*.

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- We're told about the consequences of sin...
 - And the hope found in Jesus.
- And we're presented with an offer of GRACE...
 - In exchange for the failure of our sin!

BUT... ALL OF THIS...

- Hinges on a personal choice to accept something!
 - Something I can never measure up to.
 - Salvation from God.

IS THERE ANYONE...

- Online / in-person that needs this forgiveness today?
- If God has spoken to you please raise your hand.

~ **LET'S PRAY** ~