

Intro: 1 Peter 1:13 preparing your mind for action.

Peter starts his epistle re-emphasizing who they are in Christ and how they are going to be tried. They will go through God's uncomfortable grace in preparation to proclaim the gospel with information that Angels and prophets did not have.

Peter is speaking to a group in exile who are going to be interacting with an unbelieving culture on a regular basis. The Harvest

His appeal to them is to be prepared mentally, spiritually, self-controlled, obedient, holy in thought and conduct, ruling over their sinful passions, which is the real spiritual battle they will face not the harvest.

They are going to need a lot of grace in their coming days.

Jesus Christ is revealed. Peter has already spoken of the Savior's return 4 times and the accompanying ultimate stage of salvation. 5, 7, 9, 13.

A. How to prepare your minds for action

- a) Embrace the truth: The problem is sin, mine, yours, or nature. That brings hope, Jesus died for sinners not victims.
- b) Expose the lies that attempt to influence our minds: e.g., Situations, circumstance, biology, as causative in the battle in counseling, culture, and how to change.
- c) Grasp the vital necessity of setting our minds on truth and recognizing the lies concerning the source of truth and how we change and grow. This is what we have; this is the power we draw from 2 Pet 1:3-2:3, 1 Cor. 2:4-5, PS 19:7.
- d) Secular Psychology does not have this power because they do not have God, they have rejected God and put him aside. PS 10:4, PS 36:1
- e) The Noetic effect of sin (on the mind) will deceive thru corrupt desires. 1 Cor. 2:14
- f) What is your epistemology? What are your presuppositions and foundations of knowledge and what is their extent and validity? Your source of truth. How do you

know what you know? If you are not getting your information from God's Word, then where are you getting it from?

- g) We cannot think like the world and serve Christ therefore we must "think inside the book." PS 119:111, PS 1
- h) Without the Spirit fallen humanity engages in speculations, myths, even demonically inspired false truths! James 3:13-18, 2 Cor. 11:3
- i) The tragedy of world religions and human philosophy, psychology, and so-called science. 1Tim 6:10, Col.2:8
- j) Christian counseling integrated with psychology does not have this power because they are either ignoring scripture or misquoting scripture which nullifies its power; there is no power in misquoted scripture Mark 12:24
- k) Recognize the dynamic and rhythm in scripture that when the Bible speaks to a problem it then speaks to the person of Jesus Christ; realize this is not changing the subject but providing the answer. The problem is not the issue - the issue is your relationship to Christ.

#### 1. Be self-controlled. Sober-minded

- a) Gal. 5:23- it is a fruit of the spirit therefore every true believer has it.
- b) 2 Peter 1:6- it should be increasing by additional effort on your part.
- c) It takes every bit of diligence and effort a Christian can muster, along with the enabling power of the Holy Spirit, to exercise self-control to "escape the corruption in the world through evil desires".
- d) In Acts 24:25 -it is displayed by Paul under duress
- e) In Pro. 25:28- without it your defenseless
- f) In 1 Cor. 9:25- it has been utilized by athletes
- g) In Titus 1:8,2:2 -It is a requirement of spiritual leadership.
- h) Its identical to *soberminded* and *governor*

Govern: In a calm self-controlled demeanor rather than being dominated by outside influences. Eph. 2:2

Believers should be directed from within, governor. Kubernetes: 1 Cor 12:28 administration, Acts 27:11.

#### 2. Set your Hope.

- a) Prepared by hope, Christians live in the future tense; their present actions and decisions are governed by this future hope.
- b) "Set your hope fully" Holy living demands determination.

c) A believer's hope is to be set flawlessly (teleiōs, completely or unchangeably), and without reservation on God's grace. Titus 2:13

3. Prepared by Grace: e.g., "Lot" 2 Peter 2:7-9

- a) 1 Peter 1:15–16 do not speak of legal constraints but are a reminder of a Christian's responsibility in his inner life and outer walk.
- b) In speech and conduct Eph. 4:29
- c) John 1:16-17- In an Environment of suffering.
- d) John 3:16-God's love displayed in the climate of Grace.
- e) John 14:15- Our love proven in that grace.
- f) Heb 4:16- Grace bestowed in the moment of need.
- g) 2 Peter 3:18- We are to grow in Grace.

4. Prepared as obedient nonconformist (syschēmatizomenoi), Rom. 12:1

- a) Rather as "children of obedience" they were to mold their characters and prepare their minds to Christlike living.
- b) Our default system of old man habits must be recognized, abandoned, and replaced. They are referred to here as;
- c) evil desires (1 Peter 1:14)
- d) of their past sinful lives Eph. 4:17
- e) when they were ignorant of God Eph. 4:18

5. "be holy" in all they did (1 Peter 1:15). Their lifestyle was not to reflect their former ignorance (agnoia), but the holy (hagioi) nature of their heavenly Father who gave them new birth and called them to be His own.

- a. There is strenuous mental preparation called for here. Christians in conflict need a tough-minded holiness that is ready for action.
- b. Absolute experiential holiness can never be achieved in this life, (perfection is not the goal excellence is) all areas of life should be in the process of becoming conformed to God's perfect and holy will.
- c. Holiness: God is different, so we live differently than the world. To live godly holy lives while surrounded by worldliness now. PS 50:21, Isa 43:10-11,45:5
- d. The gospel means a changed life, a different life. Rom. 12:2

B. Prepared by having the mind of Christ.

a) Phil 2:5 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus.

- b) This is not out of reach or only something experts or professionals have; it is yours. Romans 15:14, 2 Cor. 3:5
- c) The mind of the Lord implies all God's people can understand spiritual truths in the same way the Lord knows them. 1 Cor. 2:9-13
- d) The mind of Christ is unavailable to unbelievers. 1 Cor 2:14-16

The mind of Christ is characterized and defined as. Phil. 2:6-8

- 1) Surrendered life V6
- 2) He became nothing V7.
- 3) Humility V8
- 4) Obedience V8
- 5) Sacrifice V8
- 6) Submission to the father. 1 Pet.2:13-21

The Bible is about things that counseling is about, these are counseling issues.

#### C. Prepare a united heart.

- 1. What you believe will dictate how you think, and remnants of worldly and psychologized belief must be dealt with harshly, mortified and replaced. Col. 3:5 Mortify put to death
- 2. Ps 86:11 teach me your ways O Lord that I may walk in your truth unite my heart to fear your name.
  - a) Word: teach me your ways O Lord
  - b) Walk: that I may walk in your truth
  - c) Wisdom: unite my heart
  - d) Worship: to fear your name.

David longs for inner renewal "Wisdom" so that he may "Walk" in God's "Word" and in the fear of the name of the Lord. "Worship"

Jer. 24:7 I will give them a heart to know that I am the LORD, and they shall be my people and I will be their God, for they shall return to me with their whole heart.

#### D. Prepared by the word of God.

- 1. The Bible is not a resource it is the source of all truth. John 17:17
- 2. The Bible is Sufficient source to change you 2 Peter 1:3

3. The Bible is Sufficient for the changes meaningful to God 1: 6-8

4. The Bible is Sufficient to increase the changes. 1:9-14

16 since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

1. You are becoming this way because God Is.

2. Notice Peter begins to talk about the person and work of Jesus Christ.

3. The problem is not the issue the issue is your relationship to Christ.

4. Jesus is the word he is the reason he is the answer he is the purpose.