February 4, 2024 *The Bridge Bible Fellowship* Pastor Paul S. Brown 1 Peter 1:13-16

"Stand Up & Stand Out!" "The Beauty of Holiness" – Part 1

- I. Foundation: God's provision of Salvation (1:1-12)
- II. Exhortation: Our response to so great a Salvation (1:13-5:14)A. Sanctification (1:13-2:12)

Discussion & Application:

- 1. Share a **specific opportunity** you had this week to Stand Up & Stand Out for Jesus.
- 2. What are some common misunderstandings people have about "**holiness**"? How is holiness often negatively mischaracterized?
- 3. Pastor Paul says that holiness is positive and **beautiful**. Why does he say that? What biblical support is there for that idea? What practical examples can you think of where being holy (set apart unto God; living His way for His glory) is beautiful and desirable? If you thought that holiness (as defined by God) was always beautiful, how would that help you?
- 4. There are **two commands** in 1 Peter 1:13-16: 1) **Fix your hope**; 2) **Be holy**. What kind of hope is Peter talking about? Hope in what? How do hope and holiness go together?
- 5. There are **two participles** in verse 13 that support the command to fix your hope. What does it mean to **prepare your mind for action**? What does it mean to **keep sober** *in spirit*? Give practical examples of both. How do those two spiritual disciplines help us keep our hope fixed completely on the grace to be brought to us at the revelation of Jesus Christ? What will happen to our hope if we don't practice those things diligently? Where else might we place our hope? Would you say that your hope is fixed **COMPLETELY** on the grace to be brought to you?
- 6. The NASB95 translates the beginning of verse 14, "As obedient children…" A marginal note in the NASB95 says it could be translated "**As children of obedience**." What is the difference between the two? Why might the second option be a better choice? How does it motivate us to a life of holiness?
- 7. The command in verses 14-16 is "**be holy**." To enjoy the beauty of holiness we need to get rid of other things our flesh craves (and we used to enjoy). What are some sinful "**lusts**" that people crave? In what sense is it "**ignorant**" to crave them? How do we become informed instead of ignorant when it comes to what is not sinful?
- 8. What does it mean to be "**conformed**" to something? (See Rom. 12:1-2) What are some worldly sources that encourage us to conform and lust after things that are not holy? Why do we need to get rid of those things to be holy?
- 9. How holy is God? What does it mean to be "**like**" God? "You shall be holy, for I am holy" was written in Leviticus (11:44f; 19:2; 20:7). Why did Moses write Leviticus?
- 10. How holy is heaven? Think about the "Lord's Prayer" in the phrase, "Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." Although there is a future dimension to that request (Return of Christ), what are we also asking God to do right now? How do we participate with God in the answer to that prayer? Is there anything in your lifestyle right now that you can't imagine doing in heaven?
- 11. The angels of heaven are blown away by our **salvation** (1:12). They love to watch us and see God's wisdom and grace on display (Eph. 3:10). They long to see us be like God in **holiness** (1 Tim. 5:21). They love to serve those who will inherit salvation (Heb. 1:14). How does that motivate us to recognize our identity (saved children of obedience), practice self-control in our minds, and pursue a lifestyle of obedience?
- 12. MEMORIZE **1 Peter 1:13-16**. If you memorize the entire book of 1 Peter by the time Pastor Paul finishes preaching through it, he will give you a relatively valuable prize.