

Our Inward and Outward Duty

1 Peter 2:11-17

I. A Duty to Cultivate Godly, Inward Discipline, (v. 11)

A. Inward discipline begins when with recognition of what we have received.

1.25 We are objects of God's immeasurable love!

God's Love Is...

1. Uninfluenced – there is nothing in the object of love that could draw out God's love upon it.
2. Eternal – just as God had no beginning so His love had none.

God's Love Is...

3. Sovereign – because God is God, He does as He pleases; because God is love, He loves whom He pleases!
4. Infinite – His love knows no boundaries!

There is a depth [of God's love] to which none can fathom; there is a height to it which none can scale; there is a length and breadth to it which defies measurement by any creature standard...It tells us that the love of God is so transcendent it cannot be estimated.

A.W. Pink

The Love of God

*Could we with ink the ocean fill
And were the skies of parchment made
Were ev'ry stalk on earth a quill
And ev'ry man a scribe by trade
To write the love of God above
Would drain the ocean dry
Nor could the scroll contain the whole
Tho stretched from sky to sky*

God's Love Is...

5. Immutable – His love knows no change
6. Holy – He demands purity and holiness in the objects of His love.
7. Gracious – Christ died not in order to make God love us, but because

B. Inward discipline continues with understanding where's home.

✎ We are not of this world! Our home is heaven!

Even though regeneration produces a new disposition with holy longings, that new life force remains incarcerated within the old, unredeemed human flesh, precipitating an ongoing battle between the spirit and the flesh. Nevertheless, believers are no longer slaves of unrighteousness, and sin is not their master – they are free from its dominate and exclusive power.

John MacArthur

✎ The command to “abstain” signifies that saints have the ability by the new life in the indwelling Spirit to restrain the lustful flesh.

✎ The word “abstain” means to exercise self-restraint; to be sober; to exercise soundness of mind, to think soberly, use self-control.

C. Inward discipline involves abstaining from fleshly lusts.

II. A Duty of a Godly Outward Demeanor (v. 12)

✎ The phrase “glorify God in the day of visitation” refers to the fact that God is glorified because people come to saving faith as a result of our godly behavior.

III. Application of a Godly Outward Demeanor. (vv. 13-17)

☞ The practical application in verses 13-17 is submission to Civil Authority.

It is not a derogatory concept, demanding forced submission, but rather a voluntary acceptance of a position of obedience to a superior authority. It is not the cringing obedience of spineless weaklings, but the free acceptance of the duty of submission.

D. Edmond Hiebert

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