



"A Life Transformed by a Holy God"

August 31, 2025

The Big Idea: Peter teaches us that our living hope, our great salvation does not simply impact our **future**; it is to mark the way we live **today**.

3 Historic Approaches to Dealing with "The World"

- ✓ Hermits
- ✓ Monks
- ✓ Utopians

Contemporary Attempts at Holiness

- ✓ Modern Day Pharisees: Radical **separation** & maximum **effort**
- ✓ Modern Day Zealots: The angry **activists**
- ✓ Modern Day Monks: Reflective **loners**
- ✓ Modern Day Samsons: Power without **Godliness**

Biblically, Christians are called to ...

- ✓ Live a distinctively different kind of life than the world, while **not** withdrawing from the world. That different kind of life is called "holiness".

Leviticus 11:45(ESV)

⁴⁵ For I am the LORD who brought you up out of the land of Egypt to be your God. You shall therefore be holy, for I am holy."

Definition: Holy people (and things) simply put, **belong to God**. They are **set apart** for His use. At their core, Christians are called to be different.

- Call of Scripture is that we are to live what we have **already** become (since we belong to God). It is not that we start trying to become something we are **not**.

Peter 1:13-21 (ESV)

1 ¹³ **Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.**

"Therefore" → because of what was just said. Peter offers us the **logical** basis for a challenge he is about to deliver.

Literally, "gird up the loins of your mind"

"sober-minded" → **a clear head**

IMPERATIVE #1 – "Set your hope fully"

- The only hope any of us has is **"grace"**

¹⁴ As obedient children, **do not be conformed to the passions** of your former **ignorance**, ¹⁵ but **as he who called you is holy, you also be holy** in all your conduct, ¹⁶ since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy." ¹⁹ but **with the precious blood of Christ**, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

¹⁷ And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially **according to each one's deeds**, **conduct yourselves with fear** throughout the time of your exile, ¹⁸ **knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers**, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, ¹⁹ but **with the precious blood of Christ**, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

²⁰ **He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you** ²¹ **who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.**

"ignorance" → literally, **"not knowing"**

IMPERATIVE #2 – "you also be holy"

- ✓ You **know** some things you didn't used to know.
- ✓ "Holy" conduct is a product of a **relationship** with God.
- ✓ Holiness is rooted in the very **nature** of God.

IMPERATIVE #3 – "Conduct yourself with fear" → **"reverent fear"**

He is the God...

- Who is both our **Father** and **Judge**
 - It is the fact that God is Judge that should drive us to His **grace**- filled offer to be our Father!
- Who **ransomed** you from a life of **futility**.
 - **By the blood of Christ**
- Who **planned** this before our world existed
- Who gladly **reveals** Himself to us
- Who did all that was **necessary** for our salvation and faith
- Who gives us reason for **hope**.
Biblically, hope is **confidence**

How to Be a Christian in a World We're Passing Through:

- (1) Remember, it starts with **spiritual birth**, a gift of God.
- (2) Know that the rest of this life is to be lived out of an understanding that God's Grace makes us different and we are to live in a completely different way **than we could** before. **Christ in you, the hope of Glory!**
- (3) Living Holy can be encouraged by asking 3 questions:
 - We ask, "How will this impact **eternity**?"
 - We ask, "How will this impact **God's reputation**?"
 - We ask, "What does God say to **do in this situation**?"

"If Christ be God and died for me, then no sacrifice is too great for me to make for him."

■ C.T. Studd