

1 Peter *(opening slide)*

Review: The Supremacy of Salvation. It's important for us to understand just how big a deal salvation is. God didn't have to save any of us, but he chose to make a way for everyone to be saved. And, it's his spirit who works in us to be sanctified and obedient. In his great mercy God generously offers us a fresh start! It's like being born all over again. And, it's not only a fresh new start, but we have a fantastic future ahead of us as well... Christ is returning soon with an inheritance that can never perish and even our bodies will be transformed. So we rejoice. Even the prophets wished for our time and even angels long to look into this salvation that we have received. Salvation is supreme! So keep the faith and rejoice!

The Response to Redemption

1 Peter 1:13-2:3

v. 13 Therefore...

Because of this great deal we have in salvation... we ought to think, feel, and behave differently. There should be a change in us...

The Matters of the Mind:

Be Ready...

v. 13 Be alert (gird up the loins of your mind) (prepared for action) (not lackadaisical)

Luke 12:35-36

"Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning, **36** like men waiting for their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when he comes and knocks they can immediately open the door for him.

Show Restraint...

v. 13 Be fully sober (not frivolous; not irresponsible)

The word means "to be calm, steady, controlled; to weigh matters."

1 Thessalonians 5:6

So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be alert and self-controlled.

1 Peter 5:8 (why?)

Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

Be Resolute...

v. 13 Set your hope (keep your focus; don't be distracted)

We should also have an optimistic mind. "When the outlook is gloomy, try the uplook!" It has to be dark for the stars to appear.

Colossians 3:1-2

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. **2** Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

Outlook determines outcome; attitude determines action. A Christian who is looking for the glory of God has a greater motivation for present obedience than a Christian who ignores the Lord's return.

The Character of the Conduct:

Submit to Christ

v. 14 as *obedient* children; don't conform to evil desires

The argument here is logical and simple. Children inherit the nature of their parents. God is holy; therefore, as His children, we should live holy lives. God's grace for sinners to become saints always involves responsibility, and not just privilege.

We are to submit to Christ and be obedient.

v. 18-21(always remember...)

It was a high price that God paid... the precious blood of Christ

Romans 12:1-2 (how to be obedient and avoid worldly conforming)
in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God — this is your spiritual act of worship. **2** Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

Colossians 3:5 (how to deal with evil desires)

Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature

Be Set Apart

v. 15-16 Be holy

Hebrews 12:14 (why?)
without holiness no one will see the Lord.

Matthew 5:48 (to what extent?)
Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

2 Corinthians 7:1 (how?)
let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God.

Philippians 2:14-15 (how else?)
Do everything without complaining or arguing, **15** so that you may become blameless and pure

The Habits of the Heart:

Live as foreigners

v. 17 (temporary resident) (citizens of another country) (you're not from around here, are you?)

v. 23 (remember...) You have been born again; Of imperishable seed; Through the living word of God

John 3:6
Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.

Hebrews 11:13-14
they admitted that they were aliens and strangers on earth. **14** People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own.

v. 17 (what is different?) In reverent fear (awe)

Proverbs 28:14
Blessed is the man who always fears the Lord, but he who hardens his heart falls into trouble.

v. 17 (don't forget that...) God judges impartially (he looks at the heart)

Galatians 2:6

God does not judge by external appearance

Live on the Word

v. 22 Purified yourselves by obeying the truth

Psalms 19:7-8

The law of the Lord is *perfect*, reviving the soul. The statutes of the Lord are *trustworthy*, making wise the simple. **8** The precepts of the Lord are *right*, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the Lord are *radiant*, giving light to the eyes.

John 17:17 (the Spirit of God uses the Word of God to sanctify the child of God)

Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.

v. 2:2 Like newborn babies crave pure spiritual milk (babies demand food)

Matthew 18:3-4

I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. **4** Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

v. 2:2 So you may grow up

2 Peter 1:5-8

make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; **6** and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; **7** and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. **8** For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

v. 2:3 You've tasted that the Lord is good

Love each other deeply (intensely)

1 John 4:20

If anyone says, "I love God," yet hates his brother, he is a liar.

1 Peter 4:8 (this is paramount)

Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.

Romans 12:10 (practical demonstration of love)

Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves.

Love is intentionally doing something caring or helpful for another person in Jesus' name, regardless of the cost or consequences to oneself.

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 (what does love look like?)

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. **5** It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. **6** Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. **7** It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

In the Bible, love is described by action words, not by lofty concepts. Paul is not writing about how love feels, he is writing about how it can be seen in action. True love is always demonstrated by action.

There's a Response to Redemption

Since we've received such a great salvation, it should result in a response from us... A response in  **the Matters of our Minds**; always ready, showing restraint and resolute; a response in **the Character of our Conduct**; submissive to Christ and set apart; and a response in **the Habits of our Heart**, living as foreigners, living on the Word, and loving each other deeply.