

Holiness & Humility – Closing Thoughts 1 Peter 3:8-12

The first and worst cause of errors that abound in our day and age is spiritual pride. This is the main door by which the devil comes into the hearts of those who are zealous for the advancement of Christ. It is the chief inlet of smoke from the bottomless pit to darken the mind and mislead the judgment.

-C.S. Lewis

I. The Call

II. The Comfort

Into the Bible

Keeping perspective under persecution is difficult because it is very immediate in its effects. What can help us regain the long view of God's promises to us? (2 Chronicles 16:9, Hebrews 4:13, Proverbs 15:3, Romans 12:19, Revelation 21:4)

Application

It is important while reading this passage to remember the context and audience that Peter is writing to. These Christians were suffering due to active persecution probably sponsored by the very authorities that Peter is urging submission to. Given those circumstances, how unnatural is the behavior he is asking in response? How is this even possible? Who do we have as a model? (Luke 6:27-30, Philippians 3:10, 1 Peter 2:23, 2 Timothy 4:8)

It might seem possible in the face of persecution not to respond in kind, but Peter quotes from Psalm 34 cautioning his audience to guard their tongues. Why do you think this is an essential reminder in the face of persecution? (Proverbs 18:21, Ephesians 3:29, James 3:6-10)

For Families

Talk with your children about how to respond to people who don't like us as Christians.