



LESSON TWO: ***The Holiness of a Christian***

Sunday AM Sermon by Ray Reynolds (7/31/11)
GULF SHORES CHURCH OF CHRIST

Text: I Peter 1:13-25

Introduction: Last week we began a study of the book of I Peter. I pointed out some facts about the authorship, date, audience, and purpose of the letter. The theme is the encouragement of Christians in suffering. Rome was just starting to persecute the Christians, and Peter in his wisdom chose to prepare them for this spiritual battle. I Peter addresses some issues, provides an explanation for the fiery trial, and lifts up the community of believers. Peter views the suffering of Christians through the agonies of Jesus, and recognizes the divine purpose of Christian suffering in light of the atonement of Christ. I believe he wanted Christians to establish an unstoppable faith. Specifically, we will be looking at the holiness of a Christian today. Let's study together. . . .

Discussion:

I. Holiness of Mind (1:13-16)

- A. Christians must prepare their minds for service and have self-control.
- B. Christians must recognize the difference between the old and new life.
- C. Christians must understand the difference between good and evil.
- D. Christians must seek the image of their Heavenly Father.

II. Holiness of Body (1:17-21)

- A. Christians are judged by their works.
- B. Christians are supposed to be living a new worthwhile life.
- C. Christians have been purchased by the blood of Jesus.
- D. Christians are chosen to be Christ's disciples.

III. Holiness of Spirit (1:22-25)

- A. Christians have pure souls.
- B. Christians have true love.
- C. Christians have been born again.
- D. Christians have a living message.

Conclusion: Every Christian should have an unstoppable faith. You can run us over. You can hurt us. You can even kill us. But, you will NOT stop us. We are Jesus strong! We are filled with the Spirit of God! And, we have a hope that will keep us motivated to move forward. How's your faith? Have you committed your life to Christ?

WORD OF THE DAY = "HOLINESS"