



Lesson #14: What Will God Find You Doing? (1 Peter 4:7-11)

The Bible is abundantly clear. Christ will return. He will judge the earth and draw history, as we know it, to a close. Jesus is coming again! In the 260 chapters of the New Testament there are over _____ references to the Lord's return. That's _____ in every _____ verses. In fact, for every _____ prophecy about Christ's second coming there are _____ prophecies about his first coming.

As we come to 1 Peter 4:7-11 we come to the end of Peter's discussion about our responsibilities in our relationships. Now as the Spirit of God moves Peter addresses what is our greatest motivation – the fact that Christ could return at any moment. Jesus Christ is coming and because He is you should want to be found in the way of righteousness. Every Christian needs to live in light of the Lord's _____.

1 Peter 4:7-11 gives us 3 _____ if we would be ready.

THE LORD WANTS TO FIND YOU _____ WHEN HE RETURNS (4:7)

With the consummation at hand God wants to find us on our knees praying and so he gives 2 clear words of instruction for those who would pray well.

A. Pray with a _____ mind

The word "sober" (v. 7) literally means having a "_____ of mind." Peter is actually saying that you need to be in your right mind. The literal idea here is to have your mind set and functioning well. This is a very important consideration in Scripture. The Pastoral Epistles will challenge pastors _____x to "be sober." Since it is a command in our text, not a suggestion, it means that you are responsible to consider how you are thinking in light of Christ's coming.

B. Pray with a _____ mind

As we continue reading in verse 7 we note that Peter says we are to "watch unto prayer." A searching mind is one that is ever looking. It's the mind of one who waks up thinking, _____! The brevity and command nature of this section calls us to keep our task in front of us no matter what the challenges are that we face.

THE LORD WANTS TO FIND YOU _____ WHEN HE RETURNS (4:8)

The Christian life is a life lived in _____. God wants us to give ourselves in love to one another as we live together in the local church. Love, then, is the chief of the virtues.

A. God places a _____ on love

"Above all keep loving one another earnestly." Love is vitally important to the church. Did you realize that as Peter writes he brings up this theme of love in _____ chapter? What then does Peter mean when he says we should love? Peter is saying that we should love one another _____ and _____.

B. God expects _____ in love

When we open ourselves up to one another, it doesn't take long for people to learn how messy things can get. When you get close to people in the church they will _____ you. This is why Peter quotes Proverbs 10:12 when he says, "Love _____ a multitude of sins." The challenge to persevere in love is ever at hand.

THE LORD WANTS TO FIND YOU _____ WHEN HE RETURNS (4:9-11)

It is because everything is in the context of love that Peter now says to serve.

A. God's gifts are _____ distributed

When God come he wants to find you serving by being _____. If you did a little Bible search you would find that God challenges us to be hospitable some _____x. This command is repeated because we need to hear it.

B. God's gifts are _____ distributed

You may wonder if you actually matter to God but Scripture makes it clear that every Christian has been _____ by God. Everyone has been given something that they ought to do in light of the Lord's return.

C. God's gifts are _____ distributed

When God gave us these gifts he did so with a _____ in mind. God has gifted you so that you will use that gift to serve who? What does verse 10 say, "Use it to serve _____."

Concluding Thoughts

This morning we started with an audacious question: How should we live to _____ for the end of the world? In 1 Peter 4:7-11 we are given a list of what to do - _____, _____ and _____. How are you doing? Are you lethargically living your life with no consideration of Christ's imminent return? Or, are you prepared for His second coming?