

Hebrews 13:10-21

**Intro:** The exhortations to live out doctrine continues in this passage. Whereas the first passage spoke of love being lived out towards others, the second passage dealt with our responsibility to ourselves in the area of sexual purity, satisfaction with what we have, and steadfastness in faith. This third passage will deal with how we live out doctrine in the area of our relationship with God dealing with separation, sacrifice, submission, and supplication.

XXXIX. Christian Behavior: In Relation to God - Part 1

A. Separation - vs 10-14

1. one of the more difficult passages to interpret in Hebrews
2. context important - review previous passage
3. What alter? - vs 10-12
  - a. some think literal
    - i. and equate it
      - to where we worship
      - right to eat refers to the lord's table
    - ii. but then
      - who are those who serve the tabernacle have no right to eat?
      - vs 11 speaks of the bodies of those animals, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin,
    - b. Some think the heavenly alter such as Rev 6, but again the rest of the context
    - c. others think that it is a figure of Christ, Jo 6:53-58 where we eat His flesh and drink His blood, but the question of who does not eat remains
4. Probably the writer is referring to the recipients of the letter
  - a. We (Jews) have an alter
  - b. (The priests) those who serve the tabernacle
    - i. normally allowed to eat portions of the sacrifices made
      - **1Co 9:13**
      - **1Co 10:18**
    - ii. not allowed to eat of the sacrifice on the Day of Atonement - Le 6:30;
    - iii. the bodies of those animals are burned outside the camp - Ex 29:14; Le 4:11-12,21; 9:11; 16:27; Nu 19:3
    - iv. The blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin
5. Jesus following the example of the Law becomes our example,
  - a. therefore Jesus also, suffered outside the gate.
    - i. like the sin offering of the Old Testament
    - ii. No consensus on location other than outside the city walls
      - just outside the city - up to 1600 ft away
      - Jo 19:20 near the city
      - Mt 27:39; Mk 15:29 accessible to passers by
  - b. our example - that He might sanctify the people with His own blood,
    - i. As the priests could not have anything to do with the people's sin,
      - offering burnt outside the city
      - couldn't eat a portion of it
    - ii. Christ identifies with the sacrifice
    - iii. Christ does so to sanctify His people
      - Christians are set apart from the world by God for His purpose
      - we are to be set apart from, not identified with, sins of the world

6. Seeking the Lord requires separation from the world

a. What is the world - 1 Jo 2:15-16

i. For **all** that is in the world that is not of the Father but is of the world.

- Desire and pride

-the lust of the flesh,

-the lust of the eyes,

-the pride of life

- does not mean

-separation from unbelievers

-escaping from the world like monks

-or following a bunch of rules that make me look godly to other people with the same standard

ii. What about those that influence me to worldly practices or thinking?

iii. Christ's prayer in reference to the world - Jo 17:15-18

- don't take them out

- keep them from the evil one

- we are not of this world

- sanctify them by your truth, your word is truth

b. example - Ex 33:1-7

i. after the golden calf incident

ii. God reiterates the promise of the land

- I will send an angel before them to drive out the inhabitants, but

- I will not go with them b/c they are stiff-necked and I would consume them

iii. The people stripped themselves of ornaments (fine clothes) at God's command while He considered options

- they got rid of the things that made them think they were something

- The people humbled themselves

iv. Moses moved the tabernacle of meeting outside the camp.

- far from the camp

- everyone who sought the LORD went out to the tabernacle of meeting

7. Identifying with Christ is equated with recognizing the temporary for what it is and acting accordingly - vs 13-14

a. Therefore let us go forth to Him, outside the camp, bearing His reproach.

i. instead of going back to Judaism and the approval of friends and family

- the standards and requirements were temporary and obsolete

- better to lose the whole world and not one's soul - Mt 16:26

ii. go on with Christ even with the reproach - 1Pe 4:14

b. For here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come. - Php 3:20; Heb 11:10,16,26; 12:22

c. the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever. - 1Jo 2:17

B. What about Sacrifices - vs 15-16

1. In Word

a. by Him - Jo 15:5

b. let us continually - 1 Th 5:18 in everything

c. let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God

i. by Him - Jo 15:5

- ii. let us continually - 1 Th 5:18 in everything
- iii. let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God
  - the fruit of our lips, - Ho 14:2;
  - giving thanks to His name.
    - it reminds us how we should live - Ps 50:14
    - it glorifies God - Ps 50:23
    - it magnifies God - Ps 69:30-31
    - it is declaring His works - Ps 107:22
    - it is calling upon Him - Ps 116:17
    - it is a natural part of the Spirit filled life - Eph 5:20
    - it is acceptable to God - 1Pe 2:5

## 2. In Deed

- a. Worship includes action that honors God
  - i. 1Jo 3:18 My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth.
  - ii. Jas 1:27 Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.
- b. But do not forget to do good and to share,
  - i. *epilanthanomai* - to lose out of mind; by implication, to neglect:--(be) forget(-ful of).
  - ii. To do good
    - would include not taking vengeance - 1Th 5:15 See that no one renders evil for evil to anyone, but always pursue what is good both for yourselves and for all.
    - would include giving - 1Ti 6:18 Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share,
    - would include everyone - **Ga 6:10**
  - iii. And share
    - *koinonia* - partnership, i.e. (literally) participation, or (social) intercourse, or (pecuniary) benefaction:--(to) communicate(-ation), communion, (contri-)distribution, fellowship.
    - God has blessed us with what we have so that we may be a blessing to others, it is our stewardship
    - Ro 12:13; 2Co 9:12; Php 4:18; Heb 6:10
- b. for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.
  - i. *thusia* - sacrifice (the act or the victim)
  - ii. Our purpose - 1Pe 2:5 you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.
    - Faith and love are acceptable forms of worship
    - 1Jo 4:20 If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?
    - Isa 58:6-7 "Is this not the fast that I have chosen: To loose the bonds of wickedness, To undo the heavy burdens, To let the oppressed go free, And that you break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, And that you bring to your house the poor who are cast out; When you see the naked, that you cover him, And not hide yourself from your own flesh?"

iii. *euaresteo* - to gratify entirely:--please (well). - Heb 11:5-6

C. Submission - vs 17

1. God mediates His rule on earth, secular and spiritual, through men
  - a. Secular - Ro 13:1
  - b. Spiritual - 1 Tim 3; Tit 1
2. B/c Church leaders represent God
  - a. *presbuteros* - older; a senior; an Israelite Sanhedrist (member of the celestial council) or Christian "presbyter":-- elder(-est), old.
    - i. Ac 14:23 So when they had appointed elders in every church,
    - ii. Tit 1:5 For this reason I left you in Crete, that you should ... appoint elders in every city
  - b. *episkopos* - a superintendent, Christian officer in charge of a (or the) church:-- bishop, overseer.
    - i. His job - **Ac 20:28**
    - ii. How he is to do it
      - **1Pe 5:2-3**
      - Tit 2:15 Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority.
  - c. Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive,
    - i. Submitting in love
      - *peitho* - to convince (by argument, true or false); by analogy, to pacify or conciliate (by other fair means); reflexively or passively, to assent (to evidence or authority), to rely (by inward certainty):-- agree, assure, believe, have confidence, be (wax) content, make friend, obey, persuade, trust, yield.
      - 1Th 5:12-13
    - ii. Equal to submission to Christ - Joh 13:20 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who receives whomever I send receives Me; and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me."
    - iii. *hegeomai* - to lead, i.e. command (with official authority); figuratively, to deem, i.e. consider:--account, (be) chief, count, esteem, governor, judge, have the rule over, suppose, think.
3. B/c Church leaders are accountable to God
  - a. for they watch out for your souls,
    - i. **2Co 12:15**
    - ii. 3Jo 4 I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.
  - b. as those who must give account.
    - i. **1Th 2:19**
    - ii. **2Co 1:14**
4. B/c Church leaders receive joy
  - a. Let them do so with joy and not with grief,
    - i. Jer 9:1-3
    - ii. Lk 13:34 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem
  - b. written to the people not the leaders
  - c. 2 Corinthians is Paul reminding them of his authority where they had little concern for how he felt
  - d. the response of Joy found in Philippians, 1 Thessalonians
5. B/c we receive joy
  - a. for that would be unprofitable for you.
  - b. it is hard to learn and grow when you hold your teacher and leader in contempt