

Holy Living (Part 1): Money, Marriage and Brotherly Love Hebrews 13:1-6

- I. **BROTHERLY LOVE** (1-3; Jn 13:34-35; 1 Jn 3:14)—We are family.
- A. **Practice Hospitality** (2)—to welcome, entertain and provide for guests, visitors or strangers
1. **A Christian Virtue** (Rom 12:13 & n 16:23; 1 Tim 3:2 & 5:10; Tit 1:8; 1 Pet 4:9; 3 Jn 1:8)
 2. **A Big Extended Family** (Heb 2:11-17)—believers you don't know
 3. **A Possibility of Entertaining Angels** (Gen 18:1-21 & 19:1-3; **Heb 1:14 & 12:22**; Rev 22:9)—fellow servants with us
- B. **Remember the Persecuted** (3)—those being mistreated or in prison
1. **Awareness** (Phil 2:4)—Remember, think about, keep conscious
 2. **Empathy** (1 Cor 12:26)—solidarity (unity, common interest, mutual support)
 3. **Action** (Mat 25:37-40; **Heb 11:24-25**)—practical ministry
- II. **MARRIAGE** (4)—A holy life is faithful and sexually pure.
- A. **Honor Marriage** ()—respect, hold it in high esteem, do not violate covenant
- B. **Sexual Purity** (**Heb 12:15-16**; 1 Jn 3:4)—God's Law reserves sexual relations *exclusively* for marriage, and within those bonds He *blesses* sex.
1. **Holiness demands sacrifice.** (Rom 12:1)—Jesus is worth it!
 2. **Christians may be holy in marriage or in celibacy.** (Mat 19:1-10)
Maintain sexual purity both outside and inside of marriage.
 - a. **Fornication** is sexual immorality outside marriage
 - b. **Adultery** is sexual immorality inside marriage—breaking covenant
 3. **The Law of God is for our good.** (1 Jn 3:4)—sin harms us and others
- C. **God's Judgment** ()—Fear of God should regulate *every* part of life, *including* sexual behavior.
1. **He has a right to judge.** (Gen 1-2)—AUTHORITY as the AUTHOR

- a. **God created us**.—our souls and bodies
- b. **God designed sex**.—it is good
- c. **God instituted marriage**.—exclusive, life-long relationship between one man and one woman (as long as both live)
 - > For mutual help, bonding and babies, to demonstrate the love of God (Eph 5:32)

2. He will judge us. Every person will give account to Jesus for his or her own life and behavior.

- a. **How we treat each other in marriage**—love and serve
- b. **Our sexual behavior inside and outside of marriage**

3. Jesus forgives and redeems the repentant. (Jn 8:11; Rom 6:-12; 1 Cor 6:9-11; 1 Jn 3:6;)—from sin, to righteousness

III. MONEY (5-6; Ps 118:6; 1 Tim 6:6-10, 17-19)—A holy life is free from the love of money.

A. Freedom ()—Who is your master?

- 1. **Love of money is a root of all kinds of evil**. (1 Tim 6:10)
- 2. **You cannot serve two masters**. (Mat 6:24)—God or Money

B. Contentment ()

- 1. **A Christian Virtue** (Lk 3:12-14; 1 Tim 6:6,8)
- 2. **Satisfaction with God** (Ps 16:5-6, 9, 11)

C. Confidence (Mat 6:31-32; 1 Tim 6:17-19)—kingdom cannot be shaken

- 1. **Fear is a diagnostic indicator of worship**. (Isa 57:11; Ps 62:5-8 & 118:6)—“In God We Trust”
- 2. **Greed is a type of idolatry**. (Col 3:5)— “In Money We Trust”
- 3. **Faith assures us we have an unshakable kingdom**. (Heb 10:34-45 & 12:27-28)—more and better; the best is yet to come
- 4. **God is with us**. (Deut 31:6; Mat 28:20; Rom 8:35-39)—right now & forever