

Be Ye Ready!
| Peter 3:15 (8-18)

{Vs. 10-12 Cf. Psalm 34:12-16; Vs. 12 Cf. Isaiah 8:12}

I. What is meant by our sanctifying the Lord God?

- A. It cannot mean to make him _____, for he is perfect and holy,
- B. The meaning therefore must be, that we should _____ him as holy
1. To esteem or regard him as a holy being in our own _____
 - a. In _____ from all those feelings which rise up in the heart against him-
 - (1) The feelings of complaining and murmuring under his _____, as if he were severe and harsh
 - (2) The feelings of _____ with his sovereignty, as if He were partial and unequal
 - (3) The feelings of _____, as if His claims were unfounded or unjust
 2. To desire that he may be regarded by _____ as holy
 - a. To _____ towards him as holy
 - (1) To obey his laws, and yield in all his requirements, as if they were just and good
 - (2) To _____ of him as holy, in opposition to the language of disrespect and irreverence so common among mankind
 - (3) To _____ to him in trouble, not withholding our hearts from him, thus flying to other sources of consolation and support

C. "But sanctify the Lord God"-Sanctify Christ as Lord in your _____ heart

II. What is meant by to do this in the heart?

- A. More than mere _____ service or affirmation
1. For some believers, all is right on this subject in their articles of faith, while in their _____ they may be murmuring and complaining
 2. In their creeds he is spoken of as just and good, while in their _____ they may regard him as partial and unjust, as severe and stern, as unfriendly and or cruel
- B. More than a mere _____ form of devotion, in our prayers
1. How often are the feelings of the heart entirely in _____ with what is expressed by our lips?
 2. How would we feel if a professed friend approached us with the language of friendship, while every feeling of his heart denied his words, especially if we knew that his _____ words were false and hollow!
 3. If we fear God, we have _____ else to fear
 - a. The highest emotion which there can be in the soul is the _____ of God
 - b. When that emotion exists, the soul will be _____ amidst all that might tend otherwise to disturb it
 - c. "What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee," Psalms 56:3
 - d. "We are not careful to answer thee, O king. Our God can deliver us; but if not, we will not worship the image," Daniel 3:16
- C. If we sanctify the Lord God in our hearts, there will be a _____ that he will do all things well, and the mind will be _____
- D. There will be the _____ that all is safe

1. "Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for thou art with me," Psalms 23:4
2. "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?" Psalms 27:1
3. "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble: therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof," Psalms 46:1-3

III. What is meant by be ready always to give an answer?

- A. Be always _____ to have such reasons for the hope that is in you that you can _____ whenever the occasion should arise
- B. Be _____ to state those reasons when given the opportunity
 1. A Christian should have such intelligent views of the truth of his Christianity, and such constant evidence in his own _____ and life that he is a child of God
 2. Thus he/she will be able at any time to satisfy a curious seeker that the Bible is indeed God's revelation from heaven and worthy of consideration because we have truthful answers straight from our own _____
 - a. "To every man that asketh you"
 - b. "A reason of the hope that is in you"

IV. What is meant by giving our response in meekness and fear?

- A. With meekness
 1. With an _____ attitude
 2. With _____ of manner
 3. Without any attitude of _____ or false piety
 4. No matter what the spirit of the inquirer may be we should resist answering in the power of the _____, but instead in the power of the Holy Spirit
- B. And fear
 1. _____-in the fear of God, not the inquirer
 2. With a serious and reverent spirit
 3. With an _____ that we are in the presence of God who sees and hears all things.

V. Conclusion-Peter seems to be striving to get across some important lessons to the readers:

- A. Every professing Christian should have clear and _____ view of his/her own personal interest in Christianity, so as to be able to _____ intelligently it to others
- B. Every Christian, no matter what their _____ in life may become a valuable defender of the truth of Christianity
- C. That we should esteem it a _____ to bear our testimony to the truth and value of Christianity, and to stand up to the opponents of truth in the world
 1. If we may be _____ treated, it is still an honor to speak in defense of Christianity;
 2. If we are persecuted and hated, it is a privilege to be permitted to show that there is such a thing as _____ Christianity, and cherish the hope of _____