

The Christian's Daily Life

Introduction

- A. There is nothing more important for the believer than daily obedience to God. Almost every promise and commandment in the Bible is some way tied in with the attitude and actions of faith, love and hope.
- B. The Bible constantly reminds us that simple obedience will bring God's blessing while disobedience will bring limitation, hindrance, failure and disappointment. (Deut. 28; Matthew 5)
- C. In the New Testament the old English word "conversation" is often used to translate the word referring to "behavior" or "manner of life". Because of this the impact of these verses is limited for most readers.

I. The Explanation Related to Our Daily Life.

- A. The description of the believer's past life, Ephesians 2:2,3.

Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience, among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

Observation: Here we are taught that our daily life was once patterned by the blueprint of the world's sinful and selfish goals and by the plans of the enemy for the human race. As a result we lived according to "lust". In all simplicity this means that we once lived for ourselves and we were our own authority.

- B. The relationship of redemption to the believer's past life, I Peter 1:18,19.

Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

Observation: The way of living (goals, attitudes, actions, motivations) that we have received due to being born into a sinful race was dealt with by Jesus Christ in His death. The believer has been redeemed from his former manner of life.

- C. The responsibility of the believer regarding the past life, Eph. 4:22-24.

That ye put off concerning the former conversation, the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and he renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

Observation: Since the believer is redeemed and the old man (sinful principle) has been dealt with, we are told to "put off" the former pattern or manner of life. We must seek renewal of mind and choose to live according to the "new man" in righteousness and holiness.

II. The Importance of the Believer's Daily Life.

- A. The daily life may be a source of personal comfort and a way whereby others are helped, II Corinthians 2:12.

For our rejoicing is this, the testimony of our conscience, that in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom, but by the grace of God, we have had our conversation in the world, and more abundantly to youward.

Observation: The Apostle Paul recognized the importance of his daily life. Here he states he rejoiced in how he saw the grace of God in his life and how God used this to reach others.

- B. The daily life is to be a means of instruction to others, I Timothy 4:12.

Let no man despise thy youth, but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

Observation: The young preacher Timothy is exhorted by the Apostle Paul to be an example to his flock. Every Christian learns how to live the Christian life, not only from the Bible, but by fellowship with other believers. Many have been seriously confused by the inconsistency among Christians.

- C. The daily life of Christian leaders is to be followed, Hebrews 13:7.

Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the Word of God, whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.

Observation: Here the believer is told to carefully consider the way leaders in the church live. The word "end" in this verse means "way or issue of life". The word "follow" is really the Greek word "mimic". The seriousness of this verse is apparent to all of us. It is a tragedy that many church leaders do not live correctly. It is also a tragedy that many Christians are not concerned about their daily life and why their pastors live the way they do.

- D. The daily life of the believer will be used by God to reach others, I Peter 3:1,2.

Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands, that if any obey not the Word, they also may without the Word, be won by the conversation of the wives, while they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear (reverence).

Observation: This is a great premise and Biblical principle. The life of the godly Christian can be used to win others! None of us know the extent of the impact our daily life has on others. We must ask, "What are my attitudes and actions saying to other people?"

Conclusion: If living the Christian life were illegal - would you be arrested?

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