

## **WE CALL HIM FATHER**

**Scripture: 1 Peter 1:17-21**

### **Introduction:**

- A. Father means the originator of, the planner of, the progenitor of, the head of the family.**
- B. This letter was written to the elect according to the fore knowledge of God the Father.**
- C. It was written to those who have been begotten again; those born again; people saved by the grace through faith in the crucified, buried and resurrected Jesus Christ; those who have an incorruptible inheritance reserved in heaven; those who are kept by the power of God. It was written to children of God.**
- D. We who are saved CALL GOD OUR FATHER, AND TRULY, HE IS OUR FATHER.**

### **I. GOD MADE PLANS TO BE CALLED FATHER.**

- A. Verse 20 reveals that these plans were conceived and made in eternity past -- before the foundation of the world.  
*Hebrews 13:20. the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant.***
- B. Verse 18 reveals that this plan included the fallen, sinful human race.
  - 1. A vain sinful people lost and condemned and on their way to hell.**
  - 2. A people who possessed nothing that could deliver them from this ruined worthless way of life passed on to them by their earthly fathers.****
- C. Verse 19-21 reveals that these plans were perfected in the gospel of Jesus Christ.
  - 1. The ransom paid for our redemption was the costly, bloody sacrificial death of Jesus Christ as God's Lamb without spot or blemish.**
  - 2. God raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory.****
- D. Verse 20 reveals that the plan was made manifest in these last times for you.
  - 1. God the Spirit used human messengers to make clear God's plan to make us His children.****

2. Had God not done this, we would not be saved. We would not be the children of God. We could not call Him Father.
- E. Verse 21 God's plan bore fruit when we believed in Him who raised Jesus from the dead. AND now through all of this, our faith and hope is in God – AND WE TRULY CAN CALL HIM FATHER.

## II. LET US GET ACQUAINTED WITH OUR FATHER.

- A. He is the eternal self-existent God, Creator of all that exists.
- B. He is Love and because He is love, He gave His only begotten Son to die to pay our sin debt.
- C. He is our Provider; all we have or hope to have must come from Him; from Him all blessings flow.
- D. He is our Keeper and so much more.
- E. Verse 17 reveals Him to be a Father of JUDGMENT.
  1. He judges all
  2. He shall judge in the future.
  3. But this verse uses the word *judgeth*. That is present tense. He judges NOW.
- F. He judgeth according to every man's work.
- G. His judgment is without respect of person; it is without partiality.

## III. IF WE CALL HIM FATHER:

- A. We should treat Him as the loving caring Father that He is and call on our Him as our Father.
  1. To call on sometimes means that we visit Him just to say "Hello."
  2. To call on sometimes means ask, "Do you have something you need me to do for you?"
  3. To call on sometimes means, "Father, I need your help."
  4. All of these are important and we should make them a habit of life.
- B. We should pass the time of our short stay on earth in FEAR.
- C. Fear does not mean Afraid of but respect for authority.
- D. Fear as used here is a reverential fear that controls our life in matters spiritual and moral.
- E. Fear is also the knowledge that our failure to control our conduct will be met with Fatherly chastisement.
- F. Fear is also a wholesome concern over pleasing our Father.
- G. Fear is best expressed in our OBEDIENCE TO OUR FATHER.

## **CONCLUSIONS:**

**A. Let each of us make sure that we know God is our Father.**

**B. If for sure God is our Father; Does my life prove to others that I am truly a child of the KING?**

## **MINING FOR TRUTH**

**Scripture: 1 Peter 1:22-25**

### **Introduction:**

**A. Note the meaning of my subject.**

**1. Truth is defined by Jesus Himself.**

**a. Jesus said, "I am the truth."**

**b. Jesus in His prayer to the Father said, "Thy word is truth."**

**2. Mining means to dig beneath the surface.**

**3. We must dig beneath the surface to learn the truths this section of Scripture holds for us.**

**B. These verses were written:**

**1. to those who are the elect of God according to His foreknowledge.**

**2. to those who had been born again unto a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.**

**3. to those who were being kept by the power of God.**

**4. to those whose faith was being tried.**

**5. to those referred to as obedient children who called God their Father.**

**6. to those who had been redeemed by the blood of Jesus Christ as the Lamb of God.**

**C. In these verses Peter set forth ONE basic command expected of God's people – "(you) see that you love one another with a pure heart fervently." Everything else in these verses express the why and the how to accomplish what God expects of us.**

**D. The two words that hold the truth of this lesson are the English words LOVE and WORD.**

**E. Each of these words has more than one meaning and each must be mined if we are to get the message. We must dig beneath the surface to find the eternal truths God has for us.**

## **I. LET US MINE THE WORD LOVE TO LEARN WHAT GOD EXPECTS OF US.**

**A. V. 22 begins by recognizing that this people have purified souls because they have obeyed the truth of the gospel by the power of the Holy Spirit.**

**B. It also teaches that they have “unfeigned love” for the brethren.**

**C. Then these same people are commanded to “love” one another with a pure heart fervently.**

**D. First they are recognized as having LOVE for the brethren and then they are commanded to LOVE one another with a pure heart fervently.**

**E. Two completely different Greek words are both translated LOVE.**

- 1. The first “love of the brethren” is translated from the Greek word “Phileo” and refers to a friendly sort of love without the deep inner feelings. It is a natural love conditioned on what the other person does. A lost person can demonstrate this kind of love.**
- 2. The word LOVE contained in the command “se that you LOVE one another with a pure heart fervently” is translated from the Greek word “agape.”**
- 3. Agape love is the love of God. It is divine love. It is unconditional love.**
- 4. Agape love is the nature of God. John wrote, “God is love.”**
- 5. Peter tells us that all who have been born of God have been made partakers of the divine nature. 2 Peter 1:2**
- 6. People born of God have the ability to love with this AGAPE love which is unconditional.**
- 7. God loves us unconditionally. No matter what we do, God still loves us.**
- 8. And God commands His born again children to love each other no matter what they do.**

## **II. MINNING THE WORD “WORD” FOR THE TRUTH.**

**A. Peter tells us that the secret to keeping the command to love is tied up in the WORD of God which liveth and abideth forever.**

**B. The English word “WORD is best defined as a vehicle which transfers thoughts from one person’s mind to another person’s mind.**

**C. There are three different kinds of “the Word of God.”**

**1. The spoken word**

**2. The written Word**

**3. The LIVING WORD**

**D. The LIVING WORD is Jesus Christ.**

**1. John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God.**

**2. John 1:14 And the WORD was made flesh and dwelt among us.**

**3. 1 John 5:7 There are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.**

**E. Peter speaks of the LIVING WORD in these verses.**

**1. Verse 23 declares that we are born again by the Word of God which lives. This speaks of Jesus Christ the Living Word.**

**2. Verse 25 speaks of the WORD which by the gospel is preached unto you.**

**a. What is the gospel? How that Jesus Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures and that was buried and rose again the third day according to the Scriptures.**

**b. And this is the LIVING WORD of the Lord which endureth forever.**

### **III. WHAT IS THE PRACTICAL IMPORTANCE OF THIS LESSON?**

**A. Peter has set forth the basic reason the “agape” love – unconditional love is impossible for the natural man.**

**1. Verse 23 reveals that our natural birth was from a corrupted seed, thus by nature we are corrupted and can not please God.**

**2. Verse 22 has taught that our souls are impure before salvation.**

**3. Verse 24 teaches that by nature we were as grass and the flower of grass.**

- B. Verse 25 sets forth the only way sinful, lost human beings will ever be able to express the “agape” love – the unconditional love of God.**
- C. It is only through Jesus Christ – the LIVING WORD of God.**
- D. It is through the gospel – how that the living Word of God died for our sins according to the Scriptures – the written word of God and how that He – the living Word of God was buried and that rose again the third day according to the Scriptures – the written word of God.**
- E. These verses clearly point out that people are saved when they obey the truth of the gospel by the regenerating power of the Holy Spirit.**

#### **CONCLUSIONS:**

- A. Have you found it hard to love God’s people with a pure heart fervently? unconditionally?**
- B. To fail to do so could be because of one or two things.**
  - 1. You are saved, but not surrendered to the will of God the Father.**
  - 2. The other could be that you have never purified your soul by obeying the truth of the gospel.**
- C. The invitation is made to both classes who may be present.**
  - 1. If you have never repented of you sin and trusted Jesus Christ to save you, please do so now.**
  - 2. If you know yourself to be saved and you find it impossible to love God’s people with an unconditional love, as God to help you obey His command to love one another with a pure heart fervently.**

## **SOUL FOOD VS JUNK FOOD**

**Scripture: 1 Peter 2:1-3**

**Introduction:**

- A. To whom did Peter write these words?**
  - 1. The elect of God the Father**
  - 2. Those who has been born again of the Spirit of God**
  - 3. Those who were being kept by the power of God**
  - 4. Those whose faith was being tried**
  - 5. Those who were challenged to be obedient children of God the Father.**
  - 6. Those who had been redeemed by the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.**
  - 7. Those who had been challenged to love one another with an unconditional love.**
- B. Peter now addresses a problem that has troubled the work of God on earth in every age of man's existence – behavior of God's children.**
- C. Peter pinpoints that problem as being caused by the diet eaten by the children of God – the world's junk food or heaven's soul food.**

### **I. LEARN THAT GOD'S CHILDREN ARE NOT BORN FULL GROWN – MATURE.**

- A. Verse 2 speaks of newborn babes. These were not, but had been.**
- B. 1 Corinthians 3:1-3 Brethren, I could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as babes in Christ.**
- C. Hebrews 5:12, 13 refers to God's children who have not matured as still being babes.**
- D. Many of God's children are slow to grow up and some never go on to perfection – mature. They remain babes in Christ all their earthly lives.**
- E. Those to whom Peter wrote were still demonstrating the need to grow up – to mature spiritually.**
- F. These were guilty:**
  - 1. Of malice – a spirit of ill-will; a desire to get even.**
  - 2. Of guile – deceitfulness – not honest in dealings.**
  - 3. Of hypocrisies – claiming to be what you are not**
  - 4. Of envies – jealously and its kindred feelings.**
  - 5. Of evil speakings – back biting**

**G. All of these are symptoms of malnourishment – of feeding on the world’s junk food.**

## **II. LEARN WHAT IS GOD’S REMEDY FOR MALNOURISHMENT IN HIS CHILDREN.**

**A. Helping us to recognize that we are malnourished.**

**-- That is the purpose of verse 1 – laying aside the evidences of**

**B. Verse 2 calls on the malnourished to consider themselves to be as newborn babes.**

**C. Verse 2 commands the malnourished to desire to grow up – to grow to be spiritually mature -- to be able to teach – to be the kind of spiritual example babes in Christ need.**

**D. Verse 2 commands the malnourished to change their diet from the world’s junk food to heaven’s soul food.**

**1. Set a time to partake of heaven’s soul food -- the milk of the Word of God.**

**2. Be regular in attendance in God-provided classes to drink deeply of the sincere milk of the Word.**

**a. Do your home work – Sunday School and BTC lessons**

**b. Prepare yourself to participate in the lessons**

**3. Make Sunday services a priority time – a time to feast on Heaven’s soul food at the two banquets where the sincere meat of the word is served along with the pure milk of the word.**

## **III. LEARN THAT TASTING OF THE LORD’S GRACE ENCOURAGES US TO LAY ASIDE THE WORLD’S JUNK FOOD AND FEAST ON THE SOUL FOOD FROM HEAVEN.**

**V. 3**

**A. The word “if” establishes the possibility that some might not have ever tasted that the Lord is gracious.**

**1. Since we are saved by grace through faith, such a person would still be lost – would not even be a newborn babe in Christ.**

**2. This would explain why some people never have a hungering for the word of God and have little interest in the hearing the sincere milk of the Word preached and taught.**

**B. The word “if” also leaves room for any person who “has forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.” 2 Peter 1:9.**

**C. To translated verse 3 as “Since you have tasted that the Lord is gracious,” you are duty bound to obey God’s command to “desire the sincere milk of the word” – heaven’s soul food and to avoid the world’s junk food ,**

## **CONCLUSION:**

- A. Have you ever tasted that the Lord is gracious? Are you saved?**
- B. Have you a desire for the sincere milk of the word?**
- C. Do you wish to grow into maturity in the work of the Lord?**
- D. To do so, you must lay aside the world's junk food and feast of heaven's soul food – the Word of God.**

## **THE TRUE STONE**

### **Scripture 1 Peter 2:4-8**

#### **Introduction:**

- A. Peter has called upon these saved people to lay aside the old carnal habits and way of life.**
- B. He has called on them to drink of the sincere milk of the Word that they might mature as Christian people.**
- C. He has pointed out that the Lord is gracious to those who do this.**
- D. In our present lesson Peter proceeds to elaborate on our relationship to the Lord Jesus Christ. In this he presents both the present and the prophetic look. These two views will be blended together in this study of Jesus as the True Stone.**

### **I. LEARN SOMETHING ABOUT THE ONE TO WHOM WE HAVE COME – JESUS CHRIST.**

- A. Jesus is the elect One and chosen of God the Father.**
  - 1. Verse 4 – He was chosen of God.**
  - 2. Verse 6 – He was the elect of God.**
  - 3. Revelation 13:8 declares that He stood as the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.**
- B. Jesus is the Living Stone v.4**
  - 1. It is contained in the Scriptures that the Rock Moses struck in the wilderness was Jesus. 1 Corinthians 10:4**
  - 2. Daniel spoke of the stone cut out of a mountain without hands. Daniel 2:34,35 The Stone grew and filled the whole earth. This Stone is Jesus Christ.**

**C. Jesus is the chief corner stone. Verse 6**

1. **Isaiah 28:16** *Therefore thus saith the Lord God, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste – shall not be confounded?*
2. **Matthew 21:42** *Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and is marvelous in our eyes?*
3. **Acts 4:10-12** *“this is the Stone which was set at naught of you builders, which is become the head of the corner.*

**C. This Stone is precious. Precious to the Father and to those who believe. Verse 4 and 6**

**D. This Stone is the Stone of stumbling and judgment.**

1. **Verse 8** a stone of stumbling, even to them which stumble at the word.
2. **Matthew 21:44** *And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken: but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind them to powder.*

**II. LEARN SOMETHING ABOUT THOSE WHO COME TO THE LIVING STONE – JESUS CHRIST.**

**A. Verse 5** They become living stones – no longer dead in sin, but alive unto God.

**B. Verse 5** “Ye are built up a spiritual house.”

1. Peter did not say “we” ; he said “ye”. He did not include himself in the spiritual house built of these people.
2. Peter was a living stone in the spiritual house (church) of his membership.
3. God has many spiritual houses – each true church is a spiritual house.
4. Paul made this clear in his letter to the Ephesians 2:22. *In Whom (the Lord) ye also are builded together for AN (not THE) habitation of God through the Spirit.*

**C. Verse 5** These were a holy priesthood who could offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable unto God by Jesus Christ.

1. God's true people do not need some earthly priest to intercede for us before the throne of God.

2. Each child of God serves as his own priest. We can go directly to God the Father through our Lord Jesus and offer up our petitions to HIM.

3. These are made acceptable unto the Father by Jesus Christ.

D. Verse 6 All who come to the living Stone shall not be confounded – put to shame – disappointed.

E. Verses 4, 6 He is precious to all who come to Him believing on Him.

### **III. LEARN SOMETHING ABOUT THOSE WHO FAIL TO COME TO THE TRUE STONE – JESUS CHRIST.**

A. Verses 7, 8 identifies them as those who are disobedient – disobedient to the Word of God – disobedient to the revelation of God.

1. These had been confronted with God's revelation of Himself and had been disobedient – refused to believe.

2. The choice was theirs. They could have believed; but did not.

B. Verse 8 states that the TRUE STONE was a stone of stumbling and a rock of offence to them who stumble at the word.

1. These heard the word; but were offended by the word and therefore they stumbled at the word.

2. What does this reveal about the way our nation is moving?

C. Verse 8 ends by revealing the unbelievers have an appointment to meet -- That appointment is a meeting with the TRUE STONE .

### **CONCLUSIONS:**

A. Luke 20:18 *Whosoever shall fall upon that Stone shall be broken; but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder.*

B. Have you ever in conviction and sorrow for your sin come to the True Stone – Jesus Christ – and cast yourself upon Him in repentance and faith? Are you a living stone? Is Jesus precious to you?

C. If you have not, the time will come when He will fall on you and grind you to powder – send you to your appointed place – hell.

**SOME THOUGHTS ON WHO WE ARE**

**Scripture: 1 Peter 2:9-12**

**Introduction:**

**A. This was written to an elect people –**

- 1. A people sanctified by the blood of Jesus Christ 1:2**
- 2. A people born again to a living hope 1:3**
- 3. A people kept by the power of God 1:5**
- 4. A people whose faith was being tried 1:7**
- 5. A people called obedient children of God the Father**
- 6. A people challenged to love each other unconditionally 1:23**
- 7. A people challenged to lay aside the old way of life 2:1**
- 8. A people built into a spiritual house founded on the Chief Corner Stone, Jesus Christ – a church of the Lord Jesus Christ 2:5**

**B. In this present lesson, Peter calls on us to remember what we were and what we have become. He then calls on us to live lives worthy of the Name we wear.**

**I. LET US BE REMINDED OF WHAT WE WERE.**

**A. V. 9 We were in spiritual darkness.**

- 1. In Matthew 4:16 Jesus quoted the prophecy of Isaiah in referring to man's natural condition as "people which sat in darkness saw a great light: and to them who sat in the region and shadow of death light has come."**
- 2. Romans 2:19 speaks of them which are in darkness.**
- 3. Ephesians 5:8 calls the members of the church at Ephesus to remember that were in darkness.**

**B. V. 10 We were not a people – just a part of the human race, but not a people with identity.**

**C. V. 10 We had not obtained mercy – we were lost, condemned, and hell bound.**

**II. LET US TAKE A MOST THANKFUL LOOK AT WHAT WE HAVE BECOME.**

**A. V. 9 tells us that we are now in His marvelous light.**

- 1. Paul told the church of the Thessalonians "Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day.**
- 2. Marvelous means to gaze upon in wonder – wonderful**

**B. V. 10 identifies us as A PEOPLE – people with an identity – the people of God.**

**C. V. 9 identifies us as a chosen people – chosen of God.**

- D. V. 9 identifies us as a ROYAL priesthood – people who can approach God without some human priest.**
- E. V. 9 identifies us as an holy nation – an holy people – a people set apart unto God.**
- F. V. 9 also identifies us as a peculiar people – not strange, but different – different to the world’s people around us.**
- G.V. 11 identifies us as strangers and pilgrims --**
  - 1. Paul reminded the church at Philippi “our citizenship is in heaven.**
  - 2. This world is not my home, I’m just a passing through.**

### **III. LEARN WHAT MAKES THE DIFFERENCE.**

- A.V. 10 tells us that this is all true because we HAVE OBTAINED MERCY.**
- B. Titus 3:5 declares *Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost.***
- C. God could not extend mercy without payment for sin.**
- D. Jesus came and suffered and died to pay our sin debt, was buried and rose again the third day for our justification.**
- E. God mercy offers salvation to all who admit their sin, ask His forgiveness and trusts Jesus to save them.**
- F. These obtained mercy by repentance toward God an faith in the Lord Jesus Christ -- MERCY MADE THE DIFFERENCE.**

### **IV. LEARN WHY GOD HAS BLESSED US SO MUCH.**

- A. V. 9 that ye should show forth the praise of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.**
  - 1. The lives we should display praise to God – hold high the name of our God.**
  - 2. Praise is to show forth God’s excellences, His virtues, His perfections.**
- B. Paul put it this way, *Ye are created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.***
- C. Jesus left no doubt when He personally commissioned His church – a commission set forth as the duty of every true church.**
- D. V. 12 reveals that all this was to cause those outside this church to glorify God in the day of visitation – the day our Lord returns for His people.**

**V. LET US BE INSTRUCTED IN HOW GOD'S PURPOSE CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED.**

**A.V. 11 We are to abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul.**

**B.V. 12 living our lives honest before the Gentiles – Saved people are spiritual Jews; lost people are spiritual Gentiles.**

**1. The people of the world will speak against God's people; even to calling us evildoers.**

**2. But we are to live God fearing lives before them.**

**C.This will bring glory to God in the day of visitation.**

**1. Some will be saved because of the influence of our godly living.**

**2. Others will fail to trust Jesus and go to hell.**

**D.Either way, God will be glorified – The saved will glorify His love and mercy and the lost will glorify His righteousness and justice.**

**CONCLUSION;**

**A.We who are saved now know who we are and know what God expects of us. Let us be thankful and pledge ourselves to live the life God expects of us.**

**B.Any who are yet lost should now desire to be saved. You can be right now by silently in the secret recesses of your mind confess your sin to God, admit to your self that Jesus died for your sin, believe that He rose again for your justification, and call on God to save you. – He will. – now confess Him before men.**

## HEAVEN'S CITIZENS UNDER EARTHLY GOVERNMENTS

Scripture: 1 Peter:13-17

Introduction:

**A. These words were written to an elect people**

1. People sanctified by the blood of Jesus Christ 1:2
2. People born again to a living hope 1:3
3. People kept by the power of God 1:5
4. People whose faith was being tried 1:7
5. People referred to as obedient children 1:14
6. People challenged to love each other unconditionally 1:23
7. People challenged to lay aside the old way of life 2:1
8. People who have been built into a spiritual house founded on the Chief corner Stone – Jesus Christ 2:4, 5
9. People who make up a royal priesthood 2:5
10. A People who are holy, separate 2:9
11. A people identified as peculiar 2:9

**B. In this present lesson, Peter deals with the civic duty of heaven's citizens to the earthly government under which we live.**

### **I. LEARN THAT GOD'S PEOPLE ARE FREE PEOPLE.**

**A. Verse 16 identifies God's people as a free people with the liberty to do as we choose.**

1. John 8:32 Jesus said, You shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free.
2. John 8:36 Jesus said, If the Son therefore shall make you free, Ye shall be free indeed.
3. Romans 6:18 declares that the saved are free from sin.
4. Romans 8:2 declares that we are free from the law of sin and death.
5. 2 Corinthians 3:17 declares Where the Spirit of the Lord is; there is liberty.
6. Galatians 4:31 declares that we are not the children of the bond woman, but of the free woman.
7. Galatians 5:1 speaks of the liberty wherewith Christ has made us free and verse 13 speaks of our being called unto liberty.

**B. This does not mean that we have the right to do as we please without restrictions.**

**C. Spiritually speaking, this does mean that as citizens of heaven, we are free from sin and free from the law of sin and death.**

**D. We are citizens of heaven living under the laws of the government of our country.**

## **II. LEARN HOW GOD EXPECTS CITIZENS OF HEAVEN TO CONDUCT THEMSELVES ON EARTH.**

### **A. General instructions**

- 1. We are not to use our liberty as an excuse for sin.**
  - a. Verse 16 *not using your liberty for a cloke of maliciousness***
  - b. Galatians 5:13 *use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh***
- 2. But we are to use our liberty to serve God.**
  - a. Verse 16 *but as servants of God***
  - b. Galatians 5:13 *but by love serve one another***

### **B. Specific instructions**

- 1. Verses 13, 14 *Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man, whether the king or governors***
- 2. Verse 17 *Honor all men***
  - a. Honor men as men created in the image of God.**
  - b. Respect each person as God's creation – no matter his station in life.**
  - c. Never think of anyone as “he's a nobody” – he deserves no respect.**
- 3. Verse 17 *love the brotherhood* – the brotherhood that makes up the spiritual house built on the Chief Corner Stone – Agape love**
- 4. Verse 17 *fear God* – respect God – reverence God – hold Him up in high esteem.**
- 5. Verse 17 *honor the king***

**C. All that God expects of us can be summed up in the two word phrase recorded in verse 15 -- *WELL DOING*.**

## **III. LEARN WHY WE SHOULD PRACTICE WHAT GOD EXPECTS.**

- A. Verse 13 *for the Lord's sake* – on account of the Lord – for God's advantage – for His benefit.**
- B. For our own sake – our own benefit**
  - 1. Verse 14 to keep from being punished as an evil doer by the authorities.**
  - 2. Verse 14 for the praise of the authorities.**
- C. Verse 15 that we might put to silence the ignorance of foolish men.**
- D. Verse 15 because it is the will of God. This in itself is reason enough.**

**CONCLUSION:**

- A. Let us conclude by saying – God expects the citizens of His heaven to obey Him by obeying the laws of the land in which we presently live.**
- B. Let us purpose to please Him and live so as not to bring shame on the King and the country to which we go.**