

The Holy Lamb of God

I Peter 1:13-21

1. Intro

1. God's Word calls us to evaluate ourselves
 1. Look back at your old ways (14)
 2. Look forward to what will come (13)

2. Life Without Christ

1. A life without Jesus is an empty life (18b)
 1. Empty
 1. How can our lives be empty because they are more full and busier than we ever imagined.
 2. Yet in the middle this busyness, people more lonely, more lost, more empty than ever before.
 1. Ever feel that way?
 3. And when things finally stop and your life ends, what is that laughing sound you hear?
 1. Satan, he has consumed your life.
 2. Futile
 1. A futile way of life is like running and getting nowhere.
 1. It is called the "rat race."
 2. Does what I am doing really matter. It all seems pointless, futile. (Ecc 1:2)
 3. Vain
 1. Includes the notion of living to be seen by others, to receive their adoration and praise and so make life meaningful. (Matt 6:1-6)
 2. It is the Pharisee's in Jesus' day who fasted and prayed and did their good works to be seen by others. (Luke 18:9-14)
 3. In our TV and internet age a person's worth is now measured by their 15 or so minutes of fame.
 1. How many Facebook friends they have, or how many hits their blog or web site or YouTube video gets.

3. Redeemed

1. But there is good news, we can be redeemed from our empty, futile, vain life.
2. The very idea of being redeemed or ransomed is a freedom from bondage, freedom from slavery. (18a)
 1. It means to be set free from the emptiness, the futility, the vanity.
 2. To be set free and given something better.
3. You have been redeemed not with perishable things such as silver or gold (18c), but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or spot. (19)
4. You were redeemed.
 1. Because we couldn't, Jesus did.

2. The Holy Lamb of God who knew no sin, but became sin for us, that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.
3. He came to pay the ransom for our freedom, not with dollars and coins, but with His flesh and blood.
4. That in Him, we might be pure and holy again.

4. Becoming Pure and Holy

1. Satan tried to lure Jesus into despair, into vanity, into an empty busyness, but Jesus would not be enticed, He would not be fooled, He would not be defiled. (Matt 4:1-11)
2. From start to finish, His life was focused on one thing only: to do the will of His Father. (John 8:28-29)
 1. To be the pure and holy Lamb of God.
 2. To lay down His life on the cross and pour out His blood for you. His blood which cleanses us from all guilt. His blood which sets you free.
3. And when you put your faith and trust in Jesus you were cleansed by His blood.
 1. The things that marked you as a dead man walking are taken away, and in their place the sign of the cross which marks you as a child of God.
 2. You are a child of God whose life has meaning and purpose.
 3. You are a child of God whose value is not measured by the things of this world but by the fact that your life was worth the life of the Son of God.
 4. You are a child of God not lonely, empty, and lost, but filled with the Holy Spirit and in fellowship with your Father in heaven through Jesus Christ.
 5. You are a child of God no longer a slave to sin, but free in Christ. Free to live in confidence and love.

5. Conclusion

1. We need to be reminded of who we are; people that are pure and holy, ones that have been redeemed, by the Lamb
 1. Not people that are empty, futile, or vain.
2. As we reflect on our brokenness, we remember that we are forgiven.
3. Our doubts need to be calmed by His love.
4. Our hearts need to be filled with His presence.