

THREE ADMONITIONS TO CHRISTIAN LIVING.

6-15-2025 AM

INTRO.:

A. Read text: 1 Peter 4:7-11.

B. Regarding the text:

1. In many spheres of life, BALANCE is essential to success.
2. The Christian life is not just DOING certain things, NOR is it attitude without action.
 - 1) Balance between the two is essential.
 - 2) Desire coupled with proper action produces proper results.
3. In our text, Peter gives three great truths which help us maintain this balance: These show HOW to walk in truth and maintain faithfulness!

I. TAKE ADVANTAGE OF EACH DAY (VS. 7).

A. "... the end of all things is AT HAND..."

1. "AT HAND" = approaching - The Lord will come as a thief; He is "ready" (1Pe 4:5) to judge the world at any moment (1 Peter 4:5 "Who shall give account to him that is ready to judge the quick and the dead.")
2. At hand is used in various ways:
 - 1) Matthew 3:2 - to announce the kingdom (soon to come).
 - 2) 2 Timothy 4:6 - Paul said his departure was at hand (close).
3. The Christian will take advantage of every day - and be prepared.
 - 1) 2 Peter 3:10 "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night..."
 - 2) Sober, Watchful, and Prayerful.

B. Be sober about life and its priorities (1 Peter 5:8).

1. Sober = to be in one's right mind; proper thinking. Serious in our thinking.
2. Watch unto prayer = Be discreet and sober, that ye may be able to prayers.
3. Think properly each day. Take advantage of your time (James 4:13-17).

C. Song: Swiftly we're turning life's daily pages, Swiftly the hours are changing to years... Take advantage of today. The end is closer than yesterday.

II. PRACTICE BIBLICAL LOVE (VS. 8-11).

A. Note: "above all things have fervent charity among yourselves..."

1. Colossians 3:14 "And above all these things put on charity..."
2. What is fervent love? Strong's "without ceasing..." Thayer's "stretched out."

B. This fervent love will "cover a multitude of sins."

1. Does not mean to overlook or fail to recognize sin.
2. We are to demonstrate our love in all things (Romans 12:9).
3. This love rebukes sin: Galatians 6:1; 2 Timothy 4:2.

C. This love practices hospitality.

1. Vs. 9 "Use hospitality one to another without grudging."
 - 1) Hospitality = fond of guests. In a time when the saints were persecuted, there was a need for hospitality.
 - 2) "Without grudging" = without complaining of the hardship of doing it; of the time, and expense, and trouble required in doing it. The idea of grudging, in the common sense of that word--that is, of doing it unwillingly."
2. This "stretched" love goes beyond our own selves and looks to the needs of others.

D. Such love also ministers (vs. 10-11).

1. Note: "received the gift, even so minister the same one to another..."
2. By the use of one's ability, the church is strengthened.
3. Today we are without the "spiritual gifts," yet we are to be good stewards of the abilities which we have.
 - 1) 1 Corinthians 12 is a clear example of unity in effort.

2) **1 Corinthians 3:10.**

III. GLORIFY GOD (11).

A. Vs. 11 "... that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ..."

B. Make sure our motive in all that we do is to honor and glorify God.

1. How did **Jesus** glorify His Father (**John 17:4**)?

2. How do **we** glorify the Father?

1) By bearing fruit (**John 15:7-8**).

2) By being a proper example to others (**Matthew 5:16**).

C. Remember, God did not just command us to do something. We glorify His name by obeying Him in all things.

IV. CONCLUSION.

A. Verses 12-13 Endure hardships knowing that joy awaits the faithful.

B. Take advantage of each day; demonstrate Biblical love; and glorify the Father in all that we do (1 Corinthians 10:31**).**