

BLESSED HOPE

BHBC



BIBLE CHURCH

**Learning of Christ, Loving in Christ, Leaning on Christ, Living for Christ, Leading to Christ
Based on the Word of God**

1 PETER

LIVING FOR THE
LORD IN BAD TIMES



A RIGHT MIND IN A POLLUTED WORLD

1 PETER 1:13-16

- **THE CONTEXT:** The basic theme of 1 Peter is the proper response of a believer in Christ to suffering.
- **THE PARADOX:** All of us will face various kinds of difficulties and problems in life.
 - It is easy to become confused, frustrated, fearful, stressed, and even bitter
 - It is easy to believe that has God has somehow forgotten us, withdrawn His favor from us, or is punishing us.
 - Although a believer may become bewildered and discouraged in the midst of a difficulty, the anticipation of something great has a way of making the past and the present seem unimportant.

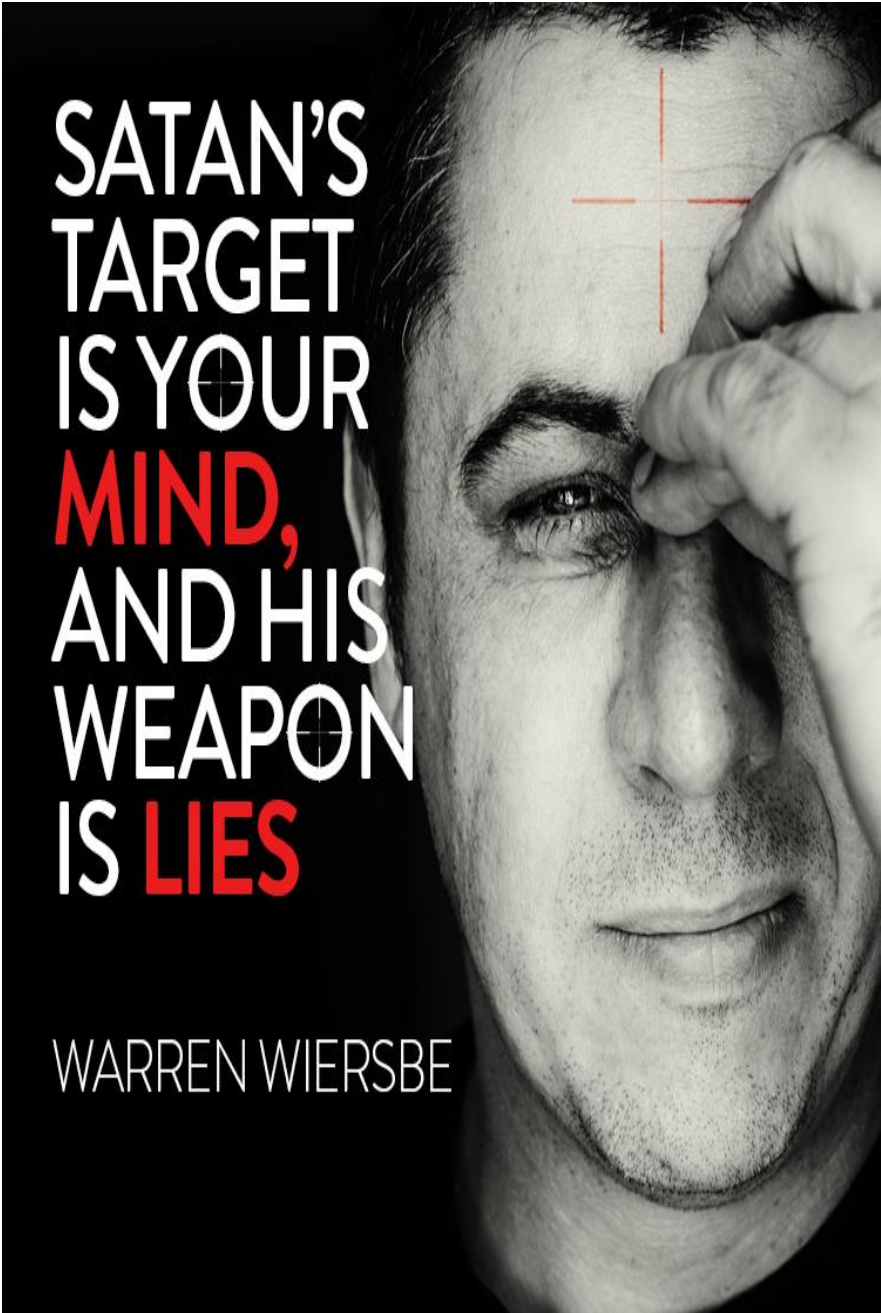
- The Believer in Christ, in spite of any difficult situation in life, has a great hope to look forward to.
 - He/she has been elect according to the foreknowledge of God (i.e., God has chosen them for His future plan)
 - He/she has been begotten again by God the Father to a living hope through the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - He/she has been begotten to an inheritance that is incorruptible, undefiled, and that does not fade away, reserved for them in heaven.
 - He/she are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time (i.e., God is keeping the believer in the faith for the inheritance).

- He/she has received, as the result of their faith in Christ, the salvation of their souls
 - They love Jesus whom they have never seen
 - They believe in Jesus whom they have never seen
 - Even though tested by trials and tribulations, their faith in Jesus is genuine and matures.
- That salvation is verified by the prophecies of the O.T. prophets who spoke of the very things that are in the gospel message—things that even the angels want to look into.
- **Lesson:** In light of what a believer is and what a believer has, the believer is to live like they have living hope, a future inheritance in heaven.
- 1Peter 1:13-16 gives us 4 admonitions.

ADMONITION #1: HAVE A DISCIPLINED MIND



- **THE APPEAL:** Therefore gird up the loins of your mind.
- **THE ANALOGY:** The image here is of a robed man, tucking his skirts under his belt so that he may be free to run or do hard work (e.g., pictures a mind prepared for active work).
- **THE ADMONITION:** This is asking the believer to be alert, focused and disciplined in his thinking.



**SATAN'S
TARGET
IS YOUR
MIND,
AND HIS
WEAPON
IS LIES**

WARREN WIERSBE

- **THE APPLICATION:** Our outlook determines our outcome—attitude determines action.
 - In times of difficulties, Satan wants to muddy up our minds and make it his playpen (e.g., with doubt, worry, fear, anger, bitterness, envy, jealousy, lust, evil thoughts)
 - A mind that is focused and disciplined is strong, composed, cool, and ready for action in a difficult situation.



- **Question:** How can we have a focused, disciplined mind?
- **Answer: Remember** what God has done for you; **Remember** who you are in Christ; **Remember** the promises of God to you; **Remember** what God has for you.



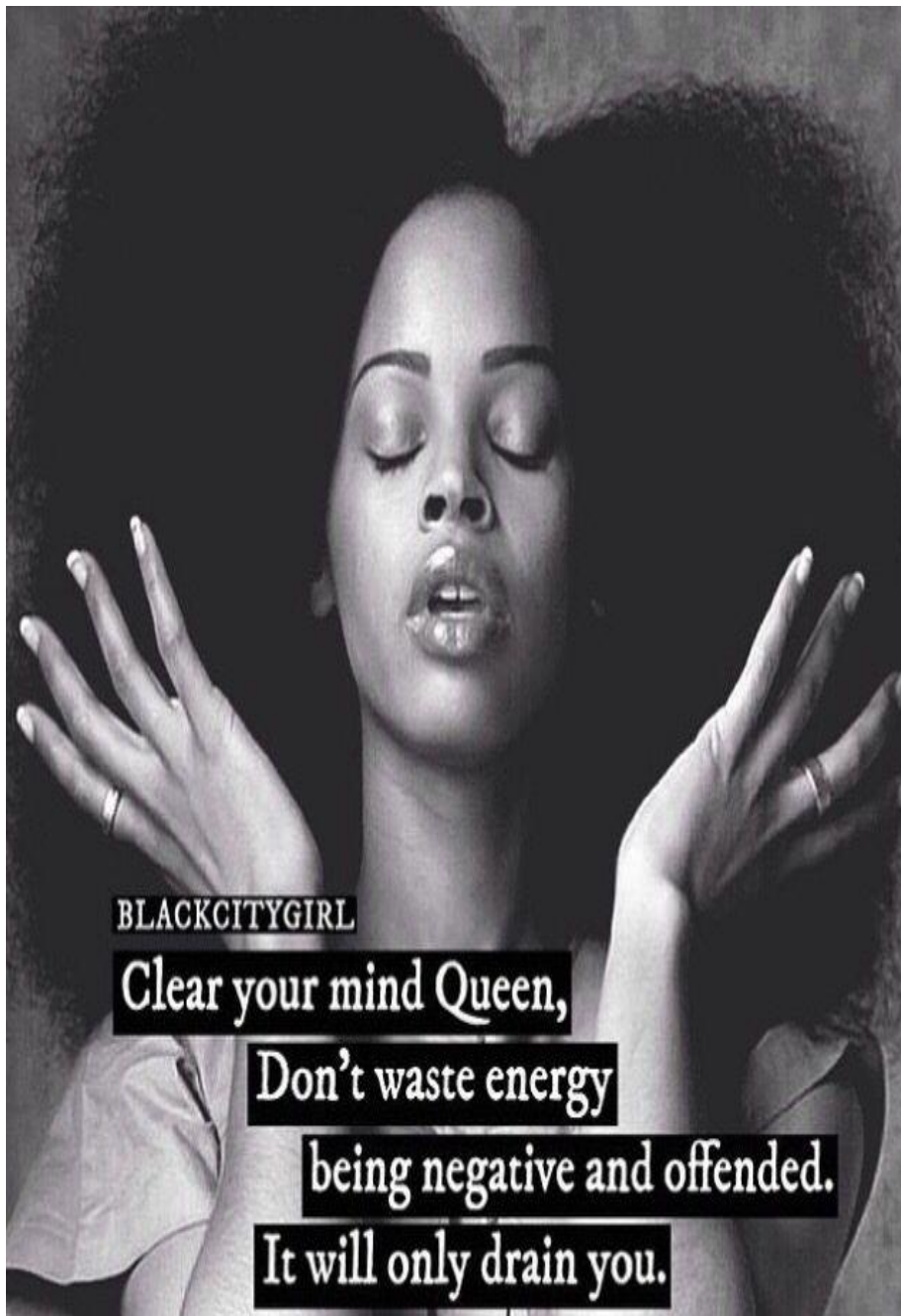
- **Problem:** Some of us feel that we can't control the evil thoughts that get into our minds.
- **Illustration:** A rat may accidentally get into our home, but we do not have to feed it and make a pet out of it!
- **Point:** We may not always help what strikes our minds, but we do not have to harbor them and foster them!

ADMONITION #2

HAVE A SOBER MIND



- **THE APPEAL:** Be sober
- **THE ANALOGY:** When people are drunk, they say things and do things that they will regret later.
- **THE ADMONITION:** This is asking the believer to be rational and clear in his thinking so that he will have sound judgment rather than emotional flippancy.



BLACKCITYGIRL

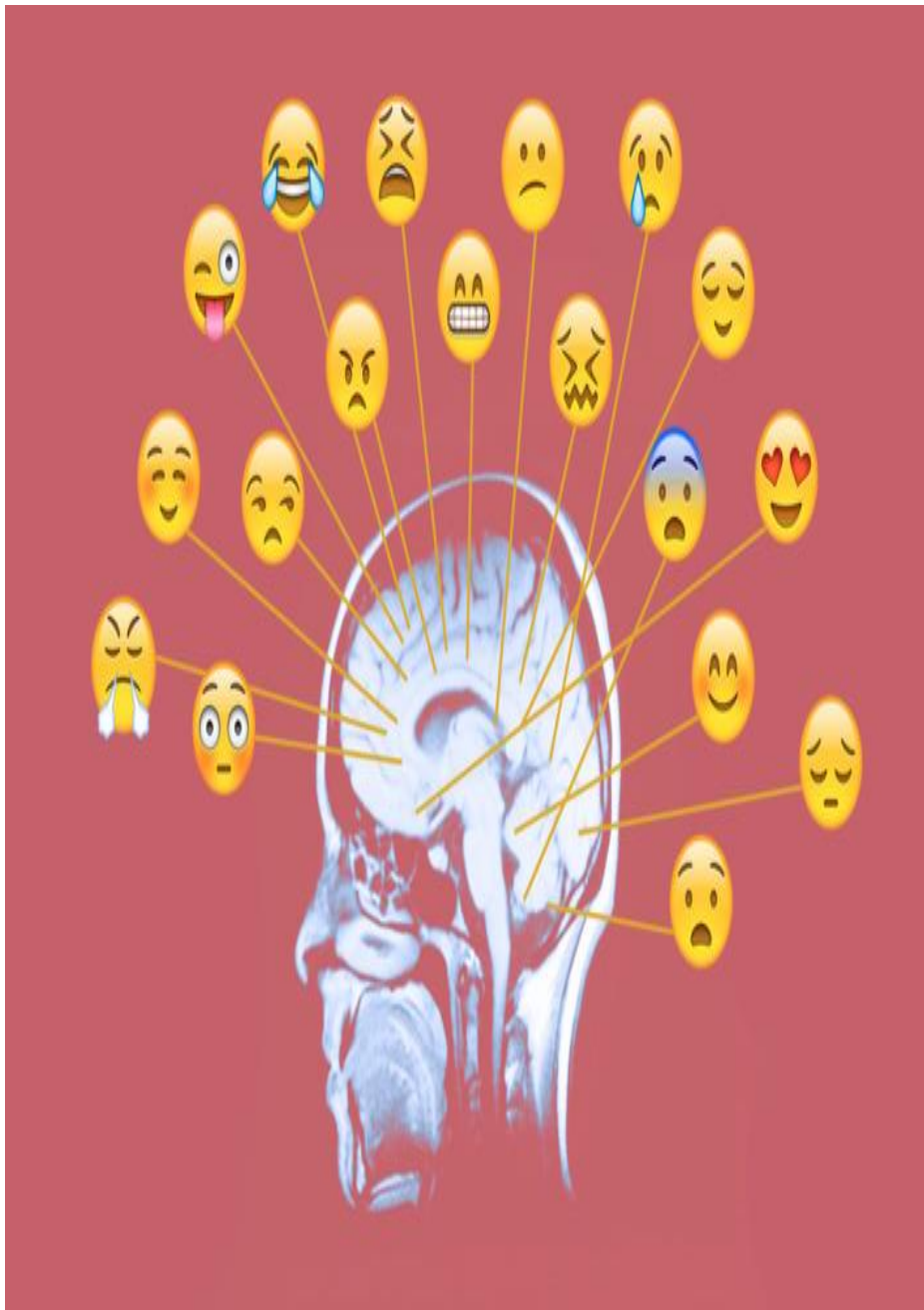
Clear your mind Queen,

Don't waste energy

being negative and offended.

It will only drain you.

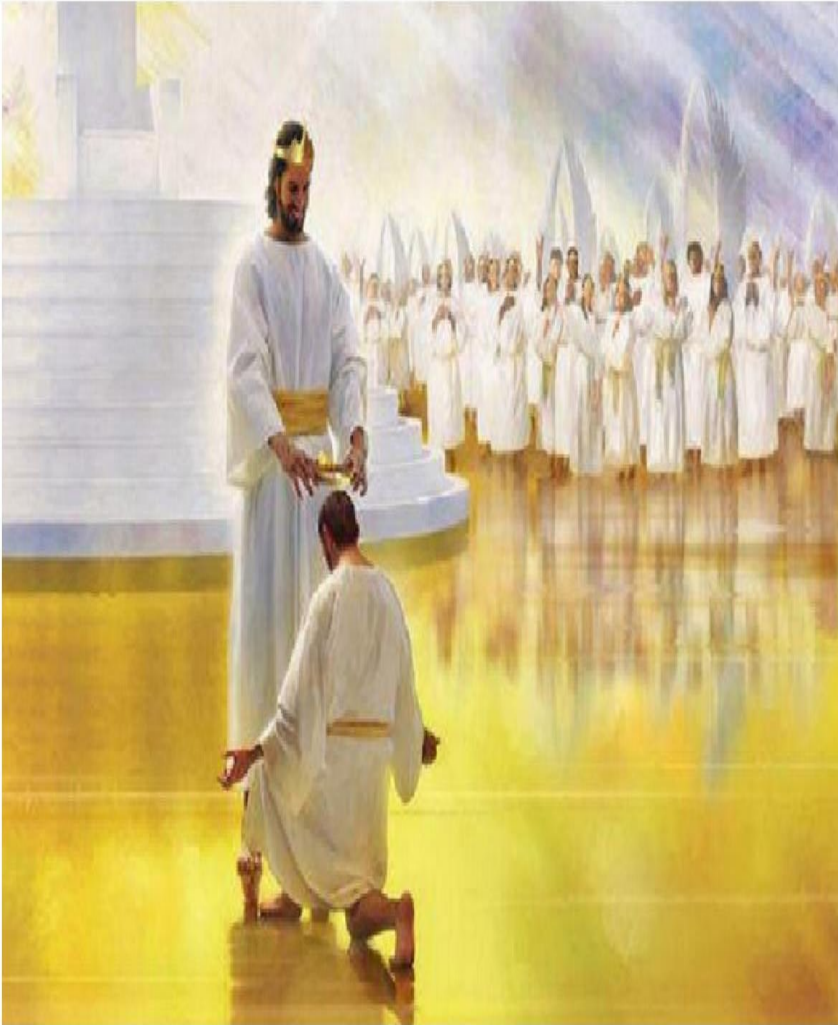
- **THE APPLICATION:** A sober mind is emotionally poised, stable, clear, and rational.
 - In times of difficulties, Satan deceives us into reacting with our feelings not with our heads.
 - A mind that is sober **thinks** before it acts



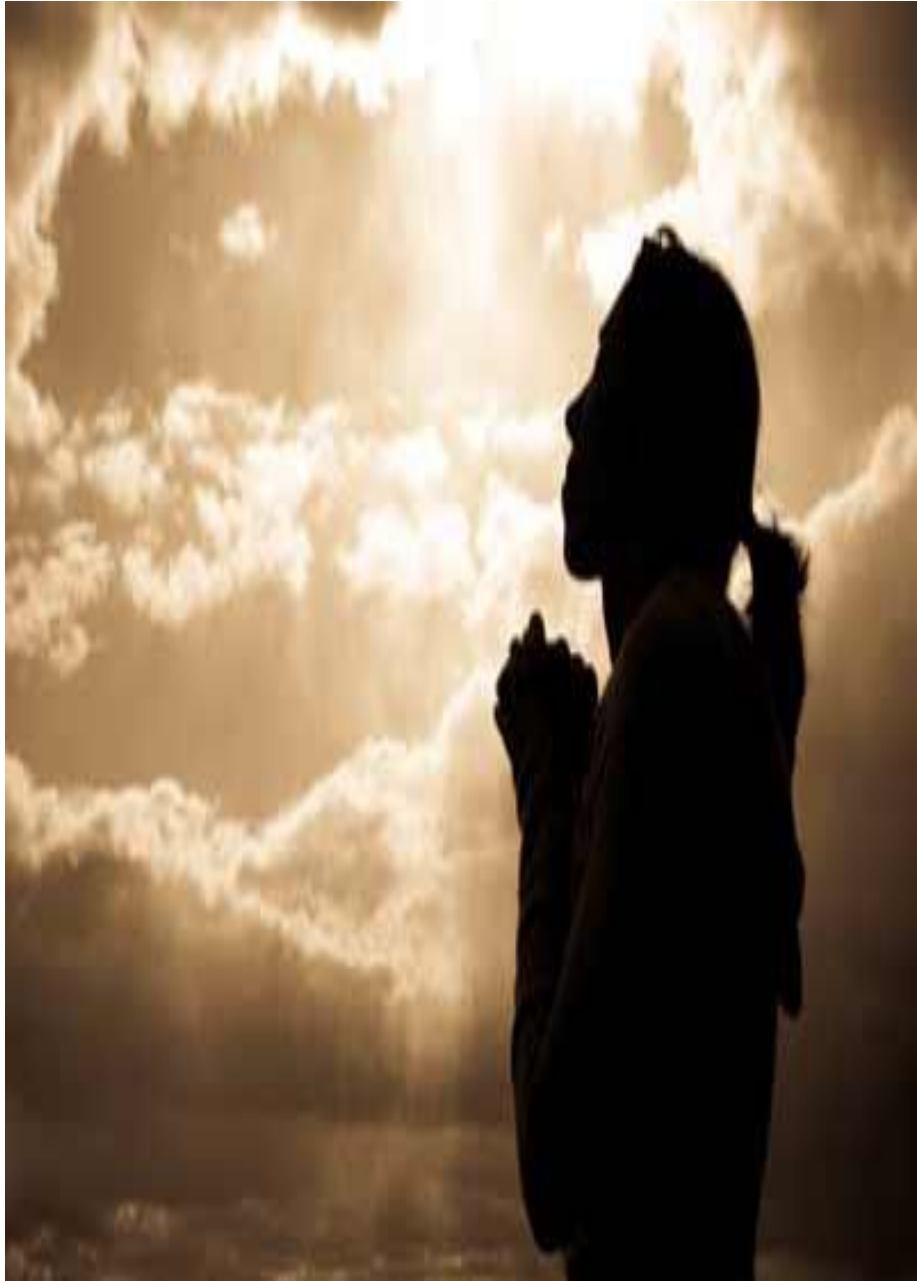
- **Question:** How can we have a sober mind?
- **Answer:** Don't be negative or over react to a problem or an offense.
- **Remember** what God has done for you; **Remember** who you are in Christ; **Remember** the promises of God to you; **Remember** what God has for you.
- Get into the study of the Word of God so that your thinking is not based on your opinion or what you hear on the radio and T.V. or read on the internet.

ADMONITION #3

HAVE A OPTIMISTIC MIND



- **THE APPEAL:** Rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.
- **THE ANALOGY:** The anticipation of Christmas presents, getting something new (e.g., house, an appliance or car), or getting a bonus brings excitement to life.



- **THE ADMONITION:**
The believer is to rest (i.e., have peace of mind) upon what he/she will receive from Christ at His appearance for the saints.
 - This inheritance is a guarantee.
 - This inheritance is based on grace
 - This inheritance will be received at the appearance of Christ for His saints

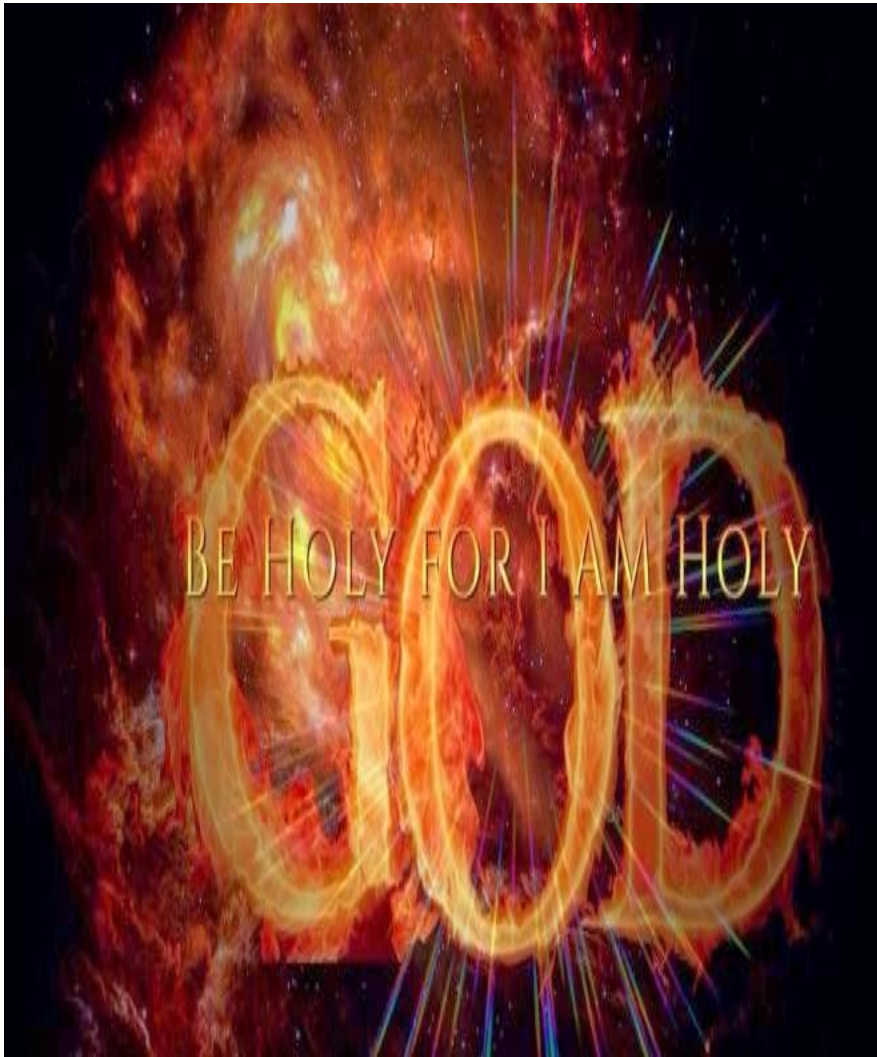


- **THE APPLICATION:** Looking forward to our future inheritance is NOT wishful thinking, but it does strengthens our faith and hope during difficult times.
 - **Question:** How can we “rest” in God’s promises during difficult times?
 - **Answer: Remember** what God has done for you; **Remember** who you are in Christ; **Remember** the promises of God to you; **Remember** what God has for you.
 - **Point:** The believer need not despair in dark times because he knows that there is a glorious future for him.



ADMONITION #4

HAVE A DEDICATED MIND



- **THE APPEAL:** Be holy in all your conduct.
- **THE ANALOGY:** God is holy, righteous, just, and good in His character, ways, speech and actions, e.g., God is NOT an evil god but a good God.

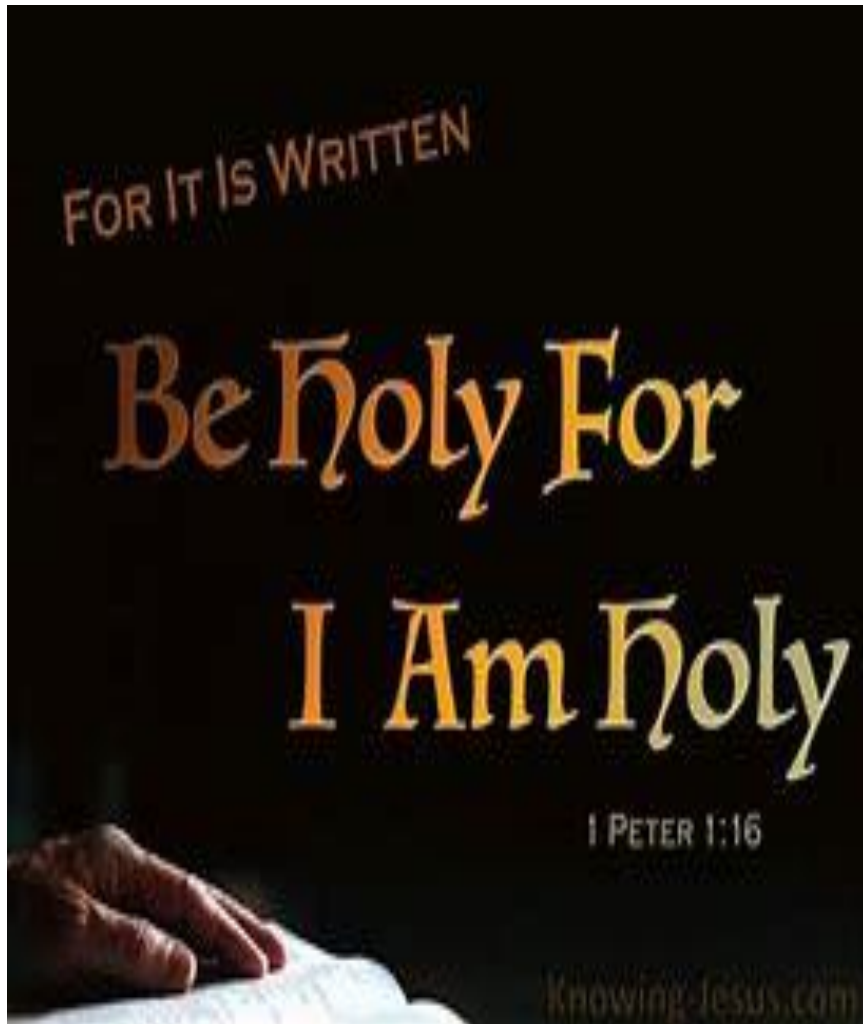


- **THE ADMONITION:** The believer is to be holy in all of his conduct because God did not save him to be unholy, unrighteous, unjust, and evil.
 - Believers are obedient children NOT disobedient children.
 - Believers no longer conform themselves to their former lusts (e.g., their old unsaved lifestyle)
 - Believers conform to the character of God who saved them.



- **THE APPLICATION:**
The believer is a changed person, a new creation with new life in Christ, and lives in anticipation of a glorious inheritance; he should not try to be like his old self.
 - This does not mean sinless perfection.
 - This means growing in maturity with, in, and through trials and tribulations

ON BEING HOLY



- What would God do?
- What would God think?
- What would God say?
- What would God hear?
- What would God see?
- What would God feel?

A CHALLENGE FOR YOU

- Do you act like you have a glorious future inheritance coming to you?



RECEIVE THE LORD JESUS CHRIST AS YOUR
SAVIOUR TODAY!!



- 1. Acknowledge** that the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, **died** on the cross for your sin, and that He **arose** again from the dead on the third day.
- 2. Admit** that you are a sinner, **guilty** of sin and **responsible** and **accountable** to a holy God for your sin, and that you are under His just condemnation and eternal punishment for your sin.
- 3. Accept** the Lord Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour by **receiving** His provision of salvation through your faith in Him alone.