

Christmas Means Transformation

1 Peter 1:17-25

1. Christmas brings a reverential _____ of God. (vv. 17-21)

The word fear here does not mean we should live in _____ of God, as if He were capricious or evil.

First of all, the eternal Son of God has taken on flesh and blood for our _____. (v. 20)

Second, we should _____ Him. Our own selfishness and lack of faith should cause us to fear for ourselves.

Peter says we should not forget that we will all stand before Him to give an _____.

Third, God our Heavenly Father is a _____ and impartial Judge.

And God has the _____ to judge us because He has not only created us, He has also redeemed us from hell.

2. Christmas brings _____ for one another. (vv. 22-25)

We must behave _____ toward one another because God is love.

We are to show this kind of love _____.

We are to show love from the _____.

Calvary Connection Group

Discussion Questions for the week of Dec. 3, 2023

Getting to Know Me

- In brief form, how did you come to live in Wickenburg right now? That is, where were you born, where have you lived, gone to school, worked, etc., up to now?

- What real person, historical or of your own acquaintance, do you admire most? Why?

Into the Bible

- What one thing stood out to you in this week's sermon as something important to understand and apply?

- Notice that Peter calls God our Father and our Judge in the same breath (v. 17). How does fearing God reconcile with God as a loving Father? (See 1 John 2:28; 4:17-18) *Hint: Even though they use the same Greek word, John is using fear in a bad sense, like terror, and Peter is using fear in a good sense, like reverence and awe.*

- Compare and contrast 2 Cor. 5:9-11 and 1 Cor. 3:10-15. What do these passages tell us about a Christian's judgment at the Bema Seat (the Judgment Seat of Christ)?

- Why is it important that we understand that agape love is not an emotion? Where does this kind of love come from? *Hint: what's the "seed" Peter is speaking of in v. 23? Where is that seed?*

Application

- How does your hope for the future that God has promised help you in your daily life? What are the things that tend to water down this hope in your life? What happens when we lose sight of our hope?

- This study has been about faith, hope and love (vv. 21-22). Which one of these do you need to grow in the most? How can we pray for you in this area?