

I Peter 3:10-12

To See Good Days And Have The Privilege Of Prayer

I. Introduction:

A. Christians are to be aware, diligent, and wise knowing the days are evil (**Ephesians 5:14-17**).

1. We know the earth is not full of good people (**I John 5:19**).
2. At some point reality sets in (**Ecclesiastes 6:11-12, Ecclesiastes 7:14, Ecclesiastes 11:8, and II Timothy 3:13**).

B. So, shouldn't we be greatly interested in how to live godly, in an evil world, and be able to have good days that we can enjoy (**Psalms 128:1-6**)?

1. Think about what was said regarding the wealthy (**Ecclesiastes 5:18-19 and I Timothy 6:17**).
2. Righteousness doesn't have to be accompanied with misery (**Psalms 32:11, Romans 5:11, and Galatians 5:22-23**).

II. Body: *"For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile: Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it. For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil"* (**I Peter 3:10-12**). Cf. **Psalms 34:12-16**

A. You can love life (**Ecclesiastes 3:12-13**).

1. There is the life that now is and that which is to come (**I Timothy 4:8**).
 - a. Certainly, the faithful look forward to eternal life (**II Peter 3:10-14**).
 - b. Looking forward to eternal life doesn't mean you have to be miserable now (**Ecclesiastes 8:15**).
 - c. Use this world without abusing such (**I Corinthians 7:31**).

2. As Christians, we have a new life in Christ that we can live in this world (**Romans 6:4 and II Corinthians 5:17**).

3. Even of old, with Israel, their lives could have been good on this earth and even prolonged had they obeyed God (**Deuteronomy 30:20 and Proverbs 3:1-8**).

B. You can see good days if you choose to have a proper focus (**Psalms 9:2, Romans 12:12, and Philippians 3:1**).

1. You don't want to be so focused on the bad that you sound like Job (**Job 7:7**).
2. You can even take the bad and look at it from a different perspective (**Luke 6:22-23**).

C. For such to occur, refrain your tongue (**James 1:19; 1:26**).

1. Using wisdom (**Psalms 39:1-2, Proverbs 15:2, and Colossians 4:5-6**).
2. Understanding the danger of the tongue (**Proverbs 10:19**).

3. Speaking no guile [craft; deceit], like Jesus (**I Peter 2:22**).
- D. Eschew [avoid] evil and do good (**Psalms 37:27** and **Proverbs 4:13-18**; cf. **Psalms 97:10** and **Romans 12:9**).
1. Not just for immediate reasons, but eternal consequences (**John 5:28-29**).
 2. Doing good, not in our eyes, but according to the Lord's will (**II Timothy 3:14-17**).
- E. Seek peace, follow after it (**Romans 14:19** and **Hebrews 12:14**).
1. Division is inevitable (**Matthew 10:34-39** and **Luke 12:51-53**).
 2. As Jesus told the disciples, there is no peace in this world (**John 16:33**).
 3. We know where peace is and why (**I Corinthians 14:33**).
 4. Sometimes, because of this world, the only peace we can find aside from the assembly is from within (**Isaiah 26:3** and **Philippians 4:6-8**).
- F. Prayer is a privilege reserved for the righteous (**Proverbs 15:29**).
1. We should take note that this verse is not saying God only sees the righteous (**Proverbs 15:3** and **Isaiah 59:1-3**).
 2. It is more about whom He looks upon favorably as the whole verse points out (**Psalms 66:18-19**, **Proverbs 28:9**, and **John 9:31**).

III. Conclusion: Our Next Study; *“And who is he that will harm you, if ye be followers of that which is good? But and if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy are ye: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled; But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear: Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ. For it is better, if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well doing, than for evil doing”* (**I Peter 3:13-17**).