

## 1 Peter 1:13-19

### A holy life



This seems to be such an obvious topic that it's almost beyond the need to mention ... but the Bible makes no apology for doing so, and doing so repeatedly. But just what do we understand by that word "holiness"? It has to be more than merely religiousness. Think perhaps in terms of *being different* (from "the world") for the sake of God – and actually becoming more like your Saviour.

#### ➤ **A matter of conduct**

"Conduct" occurs twice here (as noun (15) and verb (17)). If it's a question of being different, is the emphasis on what we are becoming different *from*, or what we are instead becoming similar *to*? So what do you consider to be "holy conduct"? (Examples?) Do "religious" things count? Do things that an unbeliever can also do count?

#### ➤ **A matter of mind-set**

As with so many things, it's not just a question of outward conformity, but inward attitude. How many references can you find here that specify or imply the need for a renewed *mind*?

"To become more like Jesus Christ is your destiny, so it needs to become your objective, too." Does this attitude help?

But what are we to do when our emotions, our gut feelings, our desires, clamour loudly demanding to be satisfied? Instead of simply saying No (though this is still good – Titus 2:12), can we aim to redirect our affections to something (righteous and) better? Isn't this going to be seeing things more as they *really* are, anyway?

#### ➤ **"Do not be conformed"** (14)

"be conformed" (the technical word for this form: *passive*)

"fashioning yourselves" (AV) (*middle* or *reflexive*)

Aren't both ways of looking at this command worth hearing?

#### ➤ **"You shall be"** (16)

And can this be seen as both command and promise?

Do you need *both* the challenge of the one, *and* the comfort of the other? Perhaps more one than the other at different times or stages of your life, though?