

R E M E M B E R Y O U R

H O P E

*1 Peter 1:13-2:3*

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# Introduction

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- Peter describes what it means to live with an eternal perspective, with your hope in heaven.
- He gives four instructions for how to live in response to God's grace:
  - (1) set your hope fully on the grace ahead
  - (2) be holy in your whole way of life
  - (3) love one another earnestly
  - (4) crave pure spiritual milk

We are called to set our hope  
fully on grace and to be holy  
in our whole way of life

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# Called to Be Holy

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- 1 Peter 1:13–21
- The “therefore” that begins verse 13 connects this section with the one we studied last week.
- We have an incredible inheritance waiting for us in heaven, therefore, we can set our hope fully on that glorious future (verse 13).
- The “therefore” also introduces this new section. Because we have this inheritance waiting for us in heaven, we are children of God (verse 14).

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# Called to Be Holy

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- Therefore, we are to live like He would, reflecting His character to the world.
- Like father, like son.
- The imperatives of Christian living, then, are not a way to try to earn your way to heaven.
- There is another aspect of “therefore” - it is a response to what God has already promised us, what God has already done for us.
- Our salvation and future inheritance are the gift of grace.

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# Called to Be Holy

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- Peter gives his readers four imperatives for how to live the Christian life in light of the Gospel:
  - set your hope fully on the grace ahead (1:13)
  - be holy in your whole way of life (1:15)
  - love one another earnestly (1:22)
  - crave pure spiritual milk (2:2)

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# Called to Be Holy

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- Set Your Hope Fully on the Grace Ahead
- The biblical idea of hope is not a kind of wishful thinking. It's an expectant anticipation (like going to Disney World).
- But we can trust 100 percent in God's promise of salvation.
- We have a confident expectation that we will receive grace and mercy, not condemnation, at the day of judgment because of Christ (Romans 8:1).
- So we can put our hope fully in our future inheritance in heaven.

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# Called to Be Holy

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- We can be confident in our future hope because it is based in something that has already happened, the sacrifice of Christ (1:18–19).
- In describing Christ as a “lamb without blemish” and focusing on “His precious blood” (v. 19), Peter is calling to mind the Passover lamb of the Exodus and showing us how the new covenant is superior to the old.
- Israel was ransomed from slavery in Egypt, but we have been ransomed from slavery to sin. The Passover lamb saved Israel from death one time (Exodus 11-2), but the blood of Christ saves believers from sin and death.

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# Called to Be Holy

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- We were ransomed by the precious blood of Christ (1 Peter 1:19).
- The verses tie these first two imperatives together in saying that though Jesus has existed forever with God, before creation began (1 Peter 1:20; John 1:2).
- He became flesh at just the right time both to die for us and to give us an example of how to live (1 Peter 1:20–21).
- His death gives us hope and His life gives us the example.

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# Called to Be Holy

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- The Greek that is translated as “preparing your minds for action” more literally means “girding up the loins of your mind” (verse 13).
- It is a Hebrew idiom that describes tucking up a long robe into a belt so you can run or fight more easily.
- In the Exodus, God commanded the people to eat their last meal, the Passover, with their sandals on, their staffs in their hands, and their loins girded so they would be ready to run (Exodus 12:11).

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# Called to Be Holy

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- To be “sober-minded” it means that we prepare for our future hope by resolving to live in light of this future hope now.
- We aren’t supposed to just sit around and wait for this future hope but live it out in our day-to-day lives in the here and now.
- This is what it means to live with an eternal perspective, to keep our mind focused on the future inheritance so that it affects how we live today.
- The next three imperatives give us more detail about exactly how to do that.

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# Called to Be Holy

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- Be Holy in Your Whole Way of Life
- Peter quotes a phrase that was repeated throughout the book of Leviticus.
- “You shall be holy as I am holy” (Leviticus 11:44). As Israel’s holiness was based on their relationship to a holy God, so it is with believers.
- When God called His people out of Egypt and gave them His Law, He said that when they followed His Law, the other nations would look at them and say what an incredible God they must have to have such righteous laws (Deuteronomy 4:5–8).

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# Called to Be Holy

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- Peter describes a life of holy living grounded in their relationship to God as their Father (1 Peter 1:14–17). We are part of His family; we live by His rules.
- That's what it means to “fear God” as our Father: to honor and respect Him not just with our words, but with the way we live.
- Holy living doesn't mean we do everything perfectly all the time, it means we strive to live by God's law rather than by what the world says is right.
- We are set apart for Him, a people of His own possession (2:9).

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# Called to Be Holy

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- Paul wrote in Romans, we should no longer be conformed to the ideas, thoughts and patterns of this world, but should “be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect” (Romans 12:2).
- In the same way, Peter focuses on preparing our minds for action, being sober-minded (1 Peter 1:13).
- Holy living doesn’t mean following a list of rules; it means our entire worldview is changed. Holy conduct starts from the inside. It’s a changed heart, not behavior modification.

We are called to love  
one another earnestly

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# Love One Another

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- 1 Peter 1:22–25: Love One Another Earnestly
- We don't just love other people because God said so. We love other people because we have been loved by God (1 John 4:19).
- We love other people because we have been born again by the Holy Spirit (John 3). Not just because it's the right thing to do, but because God has changed our hearts.
- He has put His Spirit in our hearts, so He has given us His love for people.

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# Love One Another

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- Peter quotes Isaiah 40, the same chapter in which we find the prophecy about a voice crying in the wilderness “prepare the way of the Lord” (Isaiah 40:3).
- A chapter that declares the good news of a coming king who will rule with might but tend his flock like a shepherd (40:10–11).
- A chapter that describes the day of the Lord, when the glory of the Lord shall be revealed (40:5).
- It also says a voice will cry out that our flesh will wither like the grass, but the word of our God will stand forever (40:6–8).

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# Love One Another

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- Love is a defining attribute of being a Christian.
- Those who really love God will love His people (1 John 4:20).
- Real love is a defining attribute of a holy life, a love that is different from the world's love, because this kind of love can only come from God.
- Just as people were attracted to the love and unity they saw in the first church at Pentecost, they will be attracted to this love in us (Acts 2:42–47).

We are called to long for  
pure spiritual milk

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# Spiritual Milk

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- 1 Peter 2:1-3: Long for the Pure Spiritual Milk
- In 1 Corinthians 3, Paul uses milk as a contrast with solid food to tell the Corinthians that they should be beyond the elementary teachings and into deeper things.
- Peter doesn't draw that kind of contrast here, but instead uses "spiritual milk" as a symbol for spiritual nourishment, as it was commonly used in Judaism at the time.

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# Spiritual Milk

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- The Greek word for “pure” (adolos) is a negative of the word translated “deceit” (dolos) in the previous verse. In this “spiritual milk” there is no watering down, no deceit, no falsehood.
- “Logos,” the Greek root for the word “spiritual” here, is the same word used for God’s Word.
- Some translations (New American Standard) renders it “the pure milk of the word” meaning they should long for the pure teaching of Scripture.

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# Spiritual Milk

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- This summarizes what Peter said in the previous section, that the Word of God will last forever.
- He alludes to Psalm 34:8, “taste and see that the Lord is good,” encouraging them that a taste is not enough.
- If they have tasted that the Lord is good, they should long to grow deeper in their relationship with Him.
- Those of us who have the Holy Spirit within us should crave God’s Word the way babies crave their mother’s milk.

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# Conclusion

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- Set your hope fully on the grace ahead.
- Be holy in your whole way of life.
- Love one another earnestly.
- Crave pure spiritual milk.

Application:

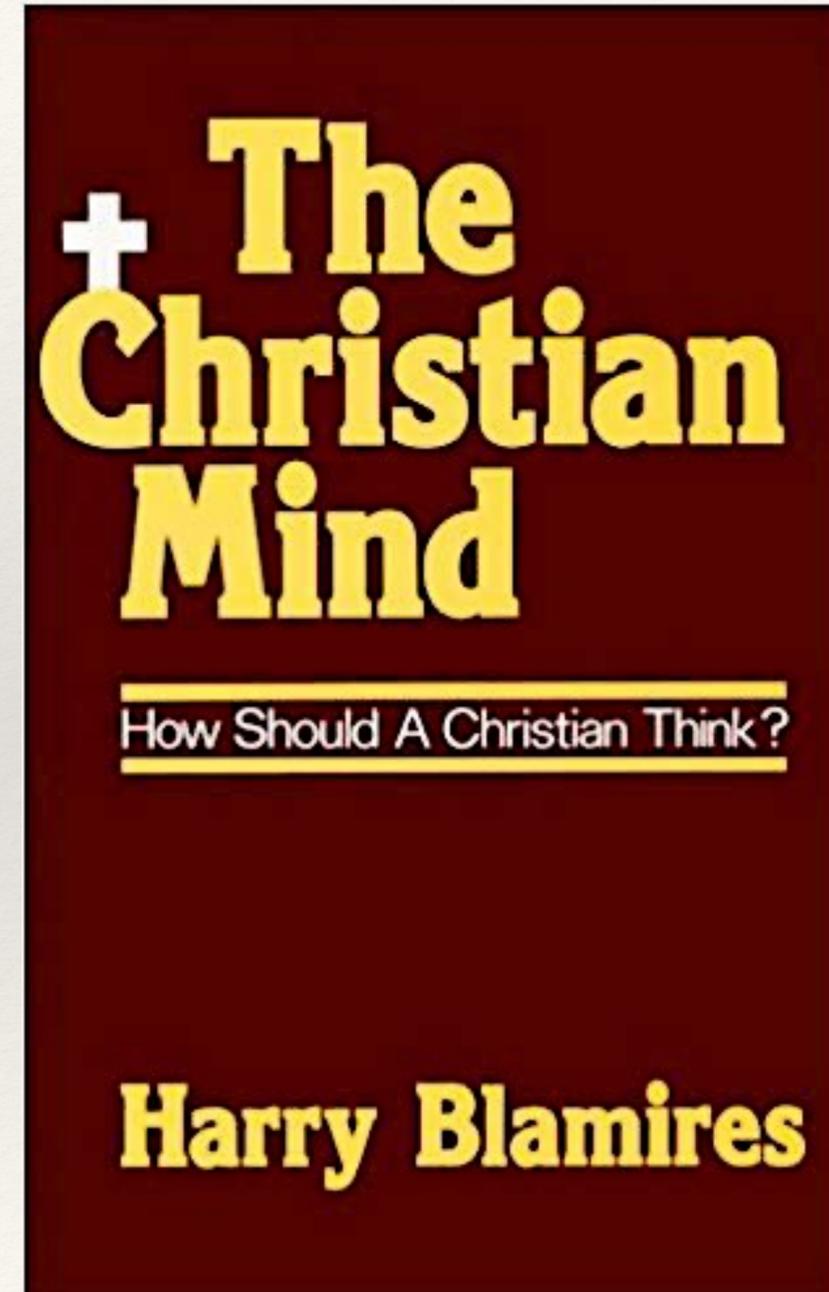
Holy Thinking and Holy Living

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# Prepare Your Mind

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- Prepare your mind
  - Discipline your mind
  - Gird up the loins of your mind
  - Get your mind in gear.
  - We need to think Christianly



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# Prepare Your Mind

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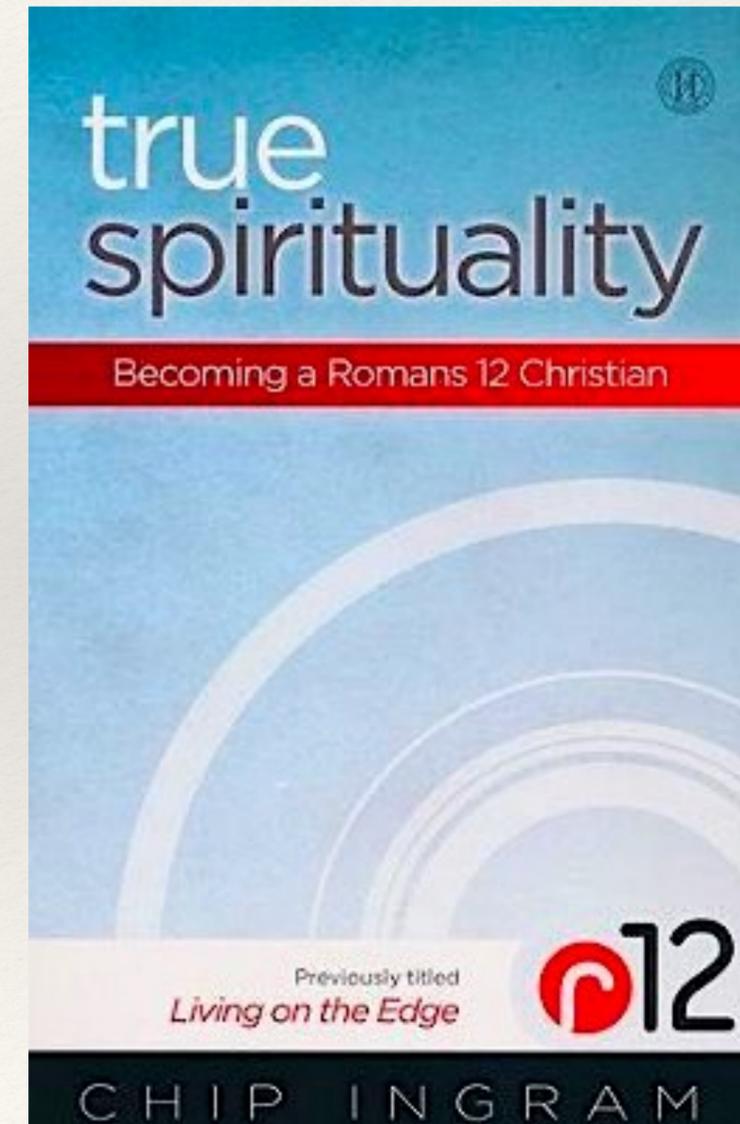
- Prepare your mind – discipline your mind, gird up the loins of your mind, get your mind in gear. We need to think Christianly.
  - **Concentration** – concentrate on God’s word, Proverbs 23:7
  - **Elimination** – sober in spirit, means “wineless.” It means sober-minded in mind, soul, and spirit. It involves prayer in spiritual warfare.
  - **Anticipation** – set your mind on Jesus. When I look horizontally (depressed) and when I look vertically (blessed).

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# Not Conformed

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- Do not be conformed – deepen your morality, the true standard is not man's standard but God's standard.
  - Don't be conformed to this world.
  - Be holy in all your conduct.
  - Be holy in every thought, word, and deed.



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# Discover Your Calling

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- Discover your calling in life
  - Find the central purpose of your life.
  - Be holy in your calling.
  - Do all for the glory of God.

