

**A Better Way  
A Better Walk  
Hebrews 13.1**

**Hebrews is the book of the Better Way**, in Hebrews we have seen,

- **Our Superlative Savior**

- Jesus Christ is not another way to heaven
- Jesus Christ is not a better way to heaven
- Jesus Christ is the **ONLY WAY** to heaven

*John 14:6 - Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*

- **Our Better Purging** – We are fully Pardoned from our sins when Jesus Christ,

*Hebrews 1:3 - . . . by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;*

- **Our Better “So Great A Salvation”** (2.3)
- **Our Better Word From God** – This King James Bible
- **A Better Anchor of the Soul** (Heb 6)
- **A Better Blood** (Heb 9)
- **A Better Faith** (Heb 11.1)
- **A Better Race** (Heb 12.1)
- **A Better Chastening** (Heb 12.4)
- **A Better Place** (Heb 12.18) – Mount Sinai or Mount Zion

**Today we discover our Better Way**

**Read Text – Heb 13.1-17**

## **Illustration** – Road Rage, the Police Officer, and the Christian Bumper Stickers

Christians and non-Christians alike know that there are certain characteristics that ought to manifest themselves in the lives of Christians. Whenever a proclaiming Christian shows worldly human characteristics the world will respond with a statement similar to, “I thought you were a Christian? Where is that attitude coming from?” Or “That is not very Christ-Like?”

### **Characteristics of a Godly Life,**

#### **1. Brotherly Love (vs 1) - *Let brotherly love continue.***

Mark 12.29

- The Greatest Commandment

*Mark 12:29–30 - And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: <sup>30</sup>And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.*

- The Second Greatest Commandment

*Mark 12:31 - And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.*

#### **2. Hospitality (vs 2) - *Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.*– Be Kind.**

To be a good host to those we know and especially to those who are strangers ought to be an evidence of our Love for your Lord Jesus Christ.

We are to Love those our Lord Loves. Who does our Lord Love? Everybody.

#### **3. Empathy (vs 3) - *Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them; and them which suffer adversity, as being yourselves also in the body.* - This is simply to care and show you care about those around you.**

1 Pet 4.12

The type of bonds in view here are those bonds that are the result of persecution. Those who are placed in bonds for no fault of their own, usually for proclaiming the Gospel of Christ and the Word of God.

**2 Timothy 3:12** - Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

**1 Peter 4:12–16** - Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:

<sup>13</sup>But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy. <sup>14</sup>**If ye be reproached for the name of**

**Christ, happy are ye;** for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified. <sup>15</sup>**But let none of you suffer as a**

**murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters.** <sup>16</sup>Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf.

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There is nothing wrong with jail and prison ministries as a part of our gospel ministry, but we must always remember to give special care to those who suffer for simply being faithful to our Lord.

Then there are those who suffer from other types of afflictions such as handicaps, sickness and such.

We must always be compassionate and caring for those around us enduring all kinds of hardships.

4. **Morality (vs 4)** – God's Morality - *Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.*

1 Cor 6.9

### **Immorality brings God's Judgment**

**1 Corinthians 6:9–11** - Know ye not that **the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God?** Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, <sup>10</sup>Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, **shall inherit the kingdom of God.** <sup>11</sup>And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

Gal 5.19

**Galatians 5:19–21** - Now the **works of the flesh are manifest**, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, <sup>20</sup>Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, <sup>21</sup>Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, **that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.**

### The Godly Spiritual Walk,

**Galatians 5:22–24** - But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, <sup>23</sup>Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. <sup>24</sup>And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

Matt 18.15

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While it is true that even born again Christians can enter into all kinds of worldly and abominable sins. There is also the Scriptural teaching that these very sins may reveal that a person never was truly born again.

It is very hard for us Christians to discern whether a person living in rebellious sin is Carnal, Prodigal, or Lost. It is for this reason that our Lord taught us to assume they are lost.

**Matthew 18:15–17** - Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. <sup>16</sup>But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. <sup>17</sup>And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: **but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.**

1 John 3.1

What is the difference between a Pagan and a Heathen. A Pagan believes in many God's, a heathen does not believe in any God. If a person claims to be a Christian and continues in blatant sin then we are to assume they do not really believe in God, because if they did believe in God they would know that judgment is coming and that would undeniable affect the way they live their life.

Christians, who believe they will one day soon stand in front of the Lord Jesus Christ in judgment, at the Judgment Seat of Christ, will seek to prepare themselves for that occasion.

**1 John 3:1–3** - Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>**And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.**

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Morality, or Godliness, ought to mark our Christian Journey. The Way we live our lives.

5. **Contentment (vs 5-6)** - Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. <sup>6</sup>So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

To be satisfied with what the Lord has given you and to have surrendered everything God has given you to His ministry is a mark of Spiritual Christianity.

Greed and pride concerning this worlds corrupt stuff will lead us to many a sin and cause us to fail in our Lord's ministry.

We must be careful to be content and sacrificial with our Lord's worldly stuff.

6. **Sound Doctrine (vs 7-17)** - Remember them which have the rule over you, **who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow,** considering the end of their conversation. <sup>8</sup>Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.

### The Importance of Sound Doctrine

**Hebrews 13:9** - **Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines.** For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats, which have profited them that have been occupied therein.

Eph 4.14

## The Winds of Doctrine

*Ephesians 4:14–15* - **That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;** <sup>15</sup>But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

**How do we know these deceptive doctrinal winds?**

*Ephesians 4:11* - *And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;*

*Hebrews 13:7* - *Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.*

*Hebrews 13:17* - *Obey them that have the rule over you, **and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls,** as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.*

**This is none other than the sound preaching of the Word of God. What are the important principles for the sound preaching of the Word of God?**

**A Christian and a Church must,**

- **Hold the Word of God – This King James Bible**
- **Hear the Word of God – Know your Bible, Read It, Study It, **Proclaim It. Preach The Word of God.****

*2 Timothy 4:1–3* - *I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;* <sup>2</sup>**Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.** <sup>3</sup>*For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;*

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**A Pastors Primary role in the Church is the Ministry of the Word and the Preaching of the Word! It is not to minister to every ache and pain in the people of the Church. That is the DEACONS ministry! Read the Word of God and Heed it.**

**The Preaching of the Word of God and protecting the Sound Doctrine of the Church is the Pastor's highest priority. This lost on most Churches and Christians today.**

- **Heed the Word of God** – Surrender to the Word of God and its revelation.

**Will you be Pastored? It is impossible to Pastor people who will not be pastored!**

*Hebrews 13:17 - Obey them that have the rule over you, **and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls**, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.*

**How are people led in our day?**

- **By the multitudes** – Our Social Media; Facebook, Twitter, Google and much more.
- **By a lost Worldly Society** – The woke culture and the accepted societal standards of our day.
- **By their entertainment** – Music has a huge influence on the minds of people, then there is Television and its corrupt influence.

*Romans 1:22 - Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools,*

7. **Communicate (vs 16)** – *But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.* - Be a Testimony and Witness in deed and word.

This is the proclamation of the Word of God.

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It is to witness to the Lost world around us, to be a light in their Spiritual Darkness with the lamp of the Word of God.

It is to also proclaim the truth of the Word of God to a wayward and lost world that cannot find its way into the Truth of God.

Christian, Do these things mark your Christian Walk? If not, why Not?

What would our world be like if these characteristics marked everyone's life?

One day in heaven they will.

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- 5. Contentment**
- 6. Sound Doctrine**
- 7. Communicate**

CrossRoads Baptist Church, Jan 30, 2022