

FINAL EXHORTATION

Page 1

INTRODUCTION

1. The author closes this book with a series of quick exhortations.
 2. These are meant to encourage us to go on to perfection in Christ.
 3. He also gives one more quick warning about the danger of false teaching.
 4. We will take a few minutes to look at each.
-

Golden Rule In Practice

- A. Jesus' teaching and the giving of the "Golden Rule".
 1. Matthew 7:12
 2. Jesus - from the Sermon on the Mount.
- B. "*But to do good and communicate forget not*" v. 16
 1. Do good - an inclusive term.
 2. Communicate - to share - help - assist.
 3. With such sacrifices God is well pleased".
- C. "LET LOVE OF THE BRETHREN CONTINUE" v. 1
 1. Already there
 2. See that it continues.
- D. "Forget not to show love unto strangers"....who are they?
 1. Non brethren, or non Christians.
 2. Or ...Christians with whom they were not personally acquainted.

NOTE: "Entertained angels unaware"...

1. What does it mean?
 2. Who, and How are they angels.
 3. Is this something we may literally do (entertain angels)\
 4. Or is it an illustration from events in the past (Abraham) to encourage us in our showing love.
 5. **You never know, the author says "what hospitality might bring."**
- E. REMEMBER (care for) them that are in bonds as bound with them.
 1. Why they were in bonds - and the dangers in going to them.
 2. What they would suffer.
 3. Only care they received could well be from the brethren.
 4. Remember Matthew 25:31ff
-

STRANGE TEACHINGS

- A. WHAT IS STRANGE TEACHINGS (divers, or different)
 1. Does not mean weird,\
 2. Rather any teaching that is different or alien to that which they had received from inspired apostles.
 3. Knew that many false prophets would arise.

FINAL EXHORTATION

Page 2

Strange Teaching, cont.

- B. What are some of the “STRANGE DOCTRINES” that he warns against?
1. Marriage v. 4.
 - a. Has there been anything new or strange suggested since the close of inspiration?
 - b. From ignoring God’s instruction for marriage to homosexual marriages
 2. “Be free from the love of money” v. 5
 - a. As Paul wrote to Timothy (I Timothy 6:10). Love of money.....
 - b. “Seek ye first the kingdom of heaven (Matt. 6:33).
-

OBEY THEM.....

- A. Twice in this chapter the writer exhorts the brethren to respect, obey and help those who have the rule over you” vv. 7; 17.
- A. Who are those of whom he speaks?
 - B. V. 7. The author has in mind those who first evangelized the community of his readers.
 - C. V. 17 “obey your leaders, submit to them;
 - D. Thus, this includes those who taught, are teaching and watching over their spiritual lives.
- B. This would have been:
- A. Early teachers, apostles, etc.
 2. The ones they presently had....teachers....Elders
-

Additional Exhortation

- A. “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today, yea and forever” v. 8.
1. Some miss use of it today...esp. By “healers” etc.
 2. Was given here as a word of encouragement - As Jesus cared for those earlier who had lived by faith....
 3. So will he care for us...He changes not!
- B. “I will in no wise fail thee, neither will I in any wise forsake thee” v. 5.
1. So be of good courage.
 2. Never a time, nor place that we cannot have Christ as our helper.
-

FINAL EXHORTATION

Page 3

CONCLUSION

A. “For we have not here an abiding city, but we seek after the city which is to come” v. 14.

1. *“And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God”.....having the glory of God: her light was like unto a stone most precious, as it were a jasper stone, clear as a crystal....and the city lieth foresquare....and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent as glass...and the city hath no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine upon it, for the glory of God did lighten it, and the lamp thereof is the lamb....” Rev. 22*

2. *“And the Spirit and the bride say, COME. And he that heareth, let him say, COME. And he that is athirst, let him COME: he that will, let him take of the water of life freely”. (Rev. 22:17).*

B. Is there anything that will help us keep on keeping on....more than keeping our eyes on the heavenly city.

Santo