

# PURSUE Peace & Holiness

**Main Scripture:** 1 Timothy 3: 15; Hebrews 12:14-29;

**Supporting Scriptures:** Genesis 25: 29- 32; Matthew 5:28; 1 Corinthians 6:18; Romans 3:4; Romans 7:23-2; Corinthians 6: 17-18; Romans 2:16; 2 Corinthians 5:10; Revelations 20:12; 2 Peter 3:10-13; Revelation 21:1; Deuteronomy 4: 23 -27

## Notes:

The Church is the pillar and ground of the truth.

You need to know how to behave in the church of the living God - Work at living in peace with everyone. This is the challenge for every believer to live in peace with those who oppose us. Peace with those we see from day to day. The believer ought to work. In other words, follow peace. You will not always see peace but one should seek out a peaceful relationship with everyone. Work at living a holy life.

Seek peace and pursue it. Whatever it takes, make sure you have a relationship of peace. Pursue it, chase after it, whatever it takes you have to search out to ensure we are following after peace and holiness.

Let the brotherly love care for each other as Christ cared for us.

There is a great danger, warning the church against the root of bitterness.

Follow after peace and holiness and seek diligently lest any root of bitterness trouble you.

Issues that will defile the believer:/ Danger to be aware of:

- Bitterness (Hebrews 12:15)
- Fornicator or Profane person
- Refuse the one that speaks to us.

No wonder the writer begins by encouraging us to follow after peace, if we don't seek out peace it makes room for the root of bitterness. Not long after we will live in malice.

We have folks who want to tell the Lord what the church should be like. They are so educated they know much more than what the word of God says. Many scribes who won't take heed to the word of God. Men living in sin and instead of repenting they find another way to pacify their lust.

What was godless about Esau? (Genesis 25: 29- 32)

Here we note two desires from two men. Esau wanted the world and Jacob had a spiritual hunger (he wasn't mature enough to believe by faith that it was his as the lord said the elder shall serve the younger) Esau sees Jacob preparing a stew and if you do a careful study the scripture was clear to let us know what Jacob was doing - preparing stew from the red lentils and it was Jacob preparing the meal. At that time in Hebrew culture this meal that was being prepared by Jacob was considered a meal of Mourning because they believed at this time Abraham had died and we find Jacob preparing the meal because the immediate family members were not supposed to prepare the meal. So the question is in the time of mourning Esau had gone gaming looking for a kill to take home. Came back fainting, and all he recognizes is what good is this birthright. Watch the spirit of Esau - I am at the point of death what profit is the birthright? - the

Birthright was not only material inheritance but they became the priest of the family and one of his primary responsibilities was a spiritual one. And he chose the world over the spiritual responsibility.

We have this in the church today - there is a spirit that moves in the assembly and we don't see the great Divine privilege placed on us and we sell it out for a portion of meat.

What is the scripture saying? - we don't understand the spiritual responsibility we have.

The exchange that was made that could not be recovered.

God is serious about holiness in his Church and his bride being spotless.

The holiness of God touched down on Mount Sinai and when the presence of the Lord touched down the place was consumed with fire what an awesome presence. Even Moses was afraid.

We have an attitude where men can think and do as they please and we don't recognize that we stand in the awesome presence of God.

The new covenant is God's grace. Man has to receive the grace of God that will transform your mind to teach you to deny ungodliness and worldly lust and bring you in the presence of Jesus Christ. That's what we have come to.

Here we must understand that this experience supersedes the experience that the Israelites experienced. Because they experienced an external one (which passes away) this experience will never pass but move us into eternity.

This passage calls for diligence.

First experience is external - but this world and its heavens will pass away but there is something that will remain, the heavenly experience. Jesus Christ is the mediator but also the judge of the sinners and the Church

The time of reckoning is coming!

The fear of God must be present in a believer's life. If you receive the grace of God you must also respond with Godly fear. A fear that draws you to submission to God and will cause a man to want to fulfill the purpose of his life. Why? Because God is a consuming fire.

No escape for closed minded individuals. You must make up in your mind to respond to what is required of You.

2 Peter 3:10

We see in the book of Leviticus on all the animals that were killed, we now have a more precious blood for our remission of Sin. The revelation of Jesus Christ supersedes all these sacrifices. Jesus is the real thing. There is a spirit of backsliding in the Apostolic church and we believe that only a formula will sweep you through the gates but what we need to understand is that God demands a holy lifestyle. FOLLOW

PEACE and godliness and pursue it without it no man will see God. If God will scatter his people back then for disobeying then he will do it now. The man who reverences God will receive Him.

There is a spirit of Esau - selling out your Godly heritage for the pleasure of this world. What's in gaming and recreational activities in comparison to the wonderful revelation.

He placed a demand on Abraham to give up his son, how much more us? He bled in agony and we expect to give him a half hearted effort? Holiness is what he demands of God.

Church is the pillar and ground of truth.

Ask Ananias and Sapphira what happened when they decided they didn't want to take part in the truth experience? or Esau?

God doesn't need our money or gifts he wants you!

Some folks have lost their vision and everything as it relates to their relationship with Christ. Satan has you on a high mountain showing you the things of the world but the God of the universe you have rejected.