

The Promise: Christ in Community Marked by Joy-Filled Submission

Hebrews 13:15-19
Sunday, June 3, 2012

INTRODUCTION

A. Joy-filled Submission to the Word (vv.15-16)

1. As taught by Godly Men
 - a) Teaching toward observation
 - b) **Matthew 28:18-20**

2. As a sacrifice of praise
 - a) Words keep the Kingdom near
 - (1) Fruit of lips
 - (a) Worship
 - (b) Centrality of sound doctrine
 - (2) Acknowledging His name
 - (a) Word
 - (b) Song
 - (c) Prayer
 - b) **Psalm 50:7-15**

3. In view of Christ, the redemptive means and end of every text
 - a) Redeemed for His pleasure (acceptable worship)
 - (1) The satisfying sacrifice
 - (2) The reason for our gratitude (**12:28-29**)

- b) The Great Commandment fueled and lived
 - (1) Love the Lord Your God
 - (2) Love your neighbor
 - (3) Obedience is better than sacrifice and is praise unto the Lord (doing good / sharing)

B. Joy-Filled Submission to Joyful Leaders (v.17)

1. **Vv.17-19** forms the other part of the “frame” with **vv. 7-9**
2. Obedience is as strong as it gets
 - a) In view of **vv.7-14**
 - b) **Hebrews 13:4**

3. Joyful watch of leaders
 - a) We are to keep mutual watch
 - (1) **Hebrews 3:12-13**
 - (2) **Hebrews 12:15**
 - b) Fearful joy of accountability
 - (1) Logos (speech, word, answer)
 - (2) Title for Christ in **John 1**
 - c) Happy leaders make for happy people
 - (1) It is to the joy of the body to fuel the joy of her leaders
 - (2) The joy of her leaders should be, most distinctly, the joy of Christ

C. Joy-Filled Submission to God through Prayer (vv. 18-19)

1. Prayer shows dependence upon a Sovereign God

- a) Humility
 - b) Confidence
2. Pray for a clear conscience
- a) A beautiful moral perception (for yourselves, sure, but also your leaders)
 - b) A clear conscience leads to passionate, contagious, God-glorifying conduct
3. Pray for restored fellowship
- a) Earnestly
 - b) Sooner than what? God's will?

D. Application & Implications

1. Are you interacting with the Word of God taught to you?
2. Leader, are you leading with joy in God's Word, desiring above all else to see Christ formed in those you lead?
3. Church, are you joyfully following those who lead you into truth?