True Believers Love Life – Part 2

Introduction and Review

- □ **Personal eschatology** is the study of last things that affects true believers, false believers & unbelievers.
- Only true believers can truly <u>love life</u> & have <u>good days</u> in this present life & throughout all eternity.
- □ Only true believers have peace with God which begins when a sinner is born again (1Pe. 1:3; Jn. 3:3).
- □ Peace with God is the result of justification (Rom. 5:1).
- □ This right relationship with God enables a believer to fulfill the first great commandment (Mt. 22:37-38).
- I. Seeking and Pursuing Peace (v. 11b)
 - A. Peace with God

COVERED IN REVIEW ABOVE.

B. Peace with other believers

The ability to truly love other believers also begins when a sinner is born again (1In. 4:7-8, 20-21; In. 13:34-35). Peace with other believers has many facets or aspects: unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart & a humble mind (1Pe. 3:8; Rom. 14:13-19). Peace with other people [believers & unbelievers] involves forgiveness (1Pe. 3:9; Eph. 4:32; Rom. 12:18). Christ is the basis of peace between believers (Eph. 2:14-18). True peace with other believers is essential for unity (Eph. 4:1-3). To be born again enables a believer to keep the second great commandment (Mt. 22:39).

Believers have peace with God & with each other because we have a right relationship with Jesus – OUR PERSONAL ESCHATOLOGY.

- II. Turning Away From Evil (v. 11a)
 - A. Evil deeds

Revenge & retaliation must not dominate the thinking of one who has been born again (1Pe. 3:9; Rom. 12:17a, 19). The believer must make love for God & His reputation priority when suffering unjustly (1Pe. 2:19-21). The believer must find joy & patience in suffering through prayer (Rom. 12:12). The believer must learn to bless & do good to those who bring suffering (1Pe. 3:9; Rom. 12:14). The believer must control his/her words & attitude (1Pe. 3:10; 2:1; Eph. 4:29-32).

B. Evil people

True believers must be very discerning about fellowship & long-term relationships. True believers avoid false believers that bring shame to the name of Christ (2Tim. 3:1-5). True believers avoid wicked people attempting to entrap them in wickedness (1Co. 6:18; Tit.3:9; 1Th. 5:22).

Believers willingly turn away from evil deeds & evil people because we have a right relationship with Jesus – OUR PERSONAL EASCHATOLOGY.