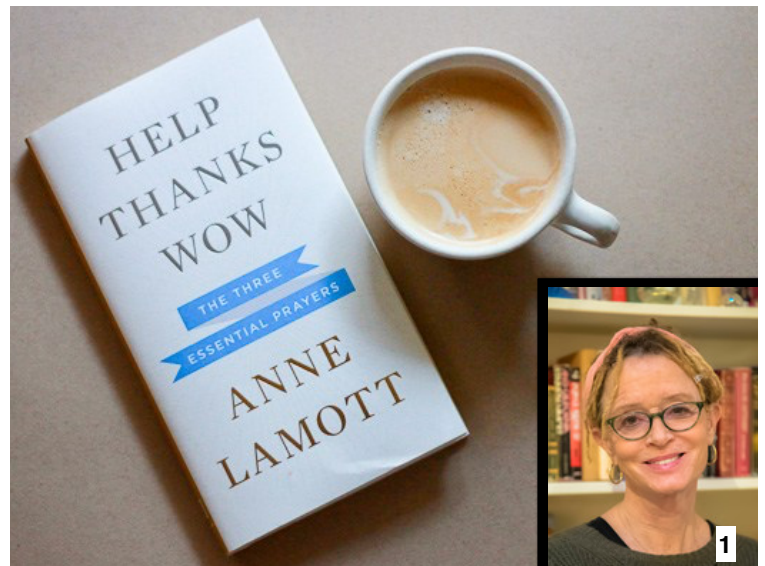


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THE BEREANS

ACTS 17:11

1 Peter 1:17-21
Lesson #8
Awesome
09/27/2020




1 Peter 1:17-21

Three “Wow” factors
in the Christian Gospel

Holy Standard
Holy Sacrifice
Holy Status


Three Elements of
Christian Worship



2

1 Peter

*Operations Manual for Alien
Ambassadors in a fallen world*



This is who we are “in Christ” This is how we should express our identity

	Indicative	Imperative				
“chosen”	Salvation	Sanctification	In the church		Shepherding	
Introduction	“salt” “light”	Three WOW factors	Submission	Suffering		Conclusion
“aliens”			In the world			
	1:1-2	1:3-12	1:13-2:10	2:11-3:12	3:13-4:19	5:1-11
	Christians are called out of the world — and then sent back into the world.					

3

1 Peter 1

“17 And if you address as Father the One who impartially **judges** according to each man’s work, conduct yourselves in **fear** during the time of your stay upon earth;

18 knowing that you were not **redeemed** with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, 19 but with precious **blood**, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ.

20 For He was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but has appeared in these **last times for the sake of you** 21 who through Him are believers in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.”


4

The immediate context of vs. 17

1 Peter 1

“10 **As to this salvation**, . . . 14 As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance, 15 but **like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior**; 16 because it is written, “**You shall be holy, for I am holy.**”

How is saving grace compatible with the holiness of God?



5

1 Peter 1

“17 And if you address as Father the One who impartially **judges** according to each man’s work, conduct yourselves in **fear** during the time of your stay upon earth;”

God’s “judgment” here is **the affirmation of how God sees sin**, not the “condemnation of the believer”.

Interpretive paraphrase

“If you claim God as your Father you must remember that **His view of sin does not change** (even though your sins are covered by the blood of Christ). So while you are on this earth, **honor and revere** Him as His children.”

6

1 Peter 1

“17 And if you address as Father the One who impartially **judges** according to each man’s work, conduct yourselves in **fear** during the time of your stay upon earth;”

#1 Worship respects the **Holy Standards** of God

- If there is no holy judgment, there is no deep explanation for many **common phenomena**: (physical death, social injustice, pain and suffering, corruption of nature).
- If there is no holiness, there is no deep explanation for **many human longings, hopes, and fears**.
- If there is no holiness there is no basis for the universal impulse of “**awe**” and **worship**.

7

Romans 1

“18 For the **wrath of God is revealed** from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, . . .

21 For even though they knew God, they **did not honor Him as God, or give thanks**; but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. . . .

24 Therefore God gave them over in **the lusts of their hearts to impurity, that their bodies might be dishonored among them.**”

*This is the **1st spiritual responsibility** of mankind.*

**1. Our worship response before God -
Bow in honor and thanksgiving.**

8

False beliefs

God serves rather than saves man.

1.

**God is created
in man’s image
and for his glory.**

2.

**The two great
commandments
are reversed.**

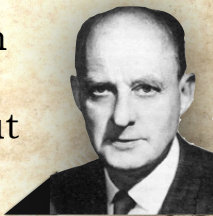
God’s wrath is
incompatible with
love.

Ethics are reduced
to social / economic
justice.

9

“The theology of liberal protestantism was a God without wrath who brought men without sin into a kingdom without judgment through the ministrations of a Christ without a cross.”

H. Richard Niebuhr



10

The Cross of Christ tells us:

- ✓ God **is holy**.
- ✓ God **takes sin seriously**.
- ✓ God is **not passive toward injustice**.
- ✓ God does **not change His standards in the name of grace**.



**If we claim to love God
we cannot disrespect His
nature, will, & calling.**

11

1 Peter 1

"18 knowing that you were not **redeemed** with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, 19 but with precious **blood**, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ."

**#2 Worship respects
the *Holy Sacrifice* of Christ**

This punctuates the point of the previous verse. **The standards of the moral Law and the nature of God are not relaxed or ignored but rather must be and are met.**

12

False beliefs

1.
**God's grace ignores
the demands
of the Law.**

The standards of
holiness are removed so
that they **NEED NOT** be
respected.

2.
**God's grace enables
human fulfillment
of the Law.**

The standards of
holiness are lowered so
that they **CAN** be met by
the believer.

13

Illustration of false belief #2

"obedience . . . stems from
the new covenant work of
the Holy Spirit, . .
This Spirit-wrought
obedience results
in eternal life."

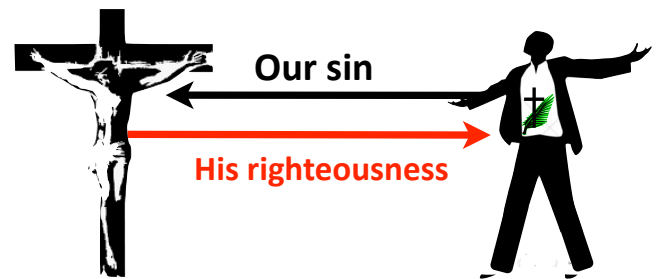
Tom Schreiner
(Southern Baptist
Theological Seminary)



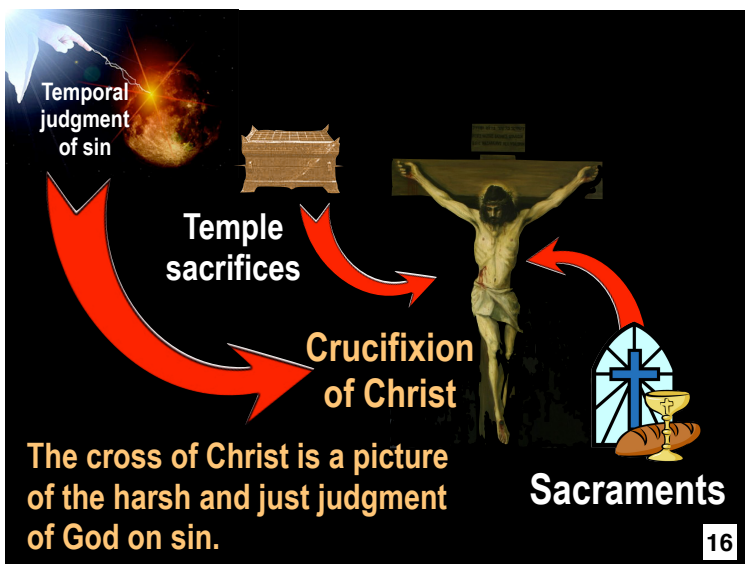
14

2 Corinthians 5:21

"He made Him who knew no sin to be
sin on our behalf, so that we might
become the righteousness of God in Him."



15



16

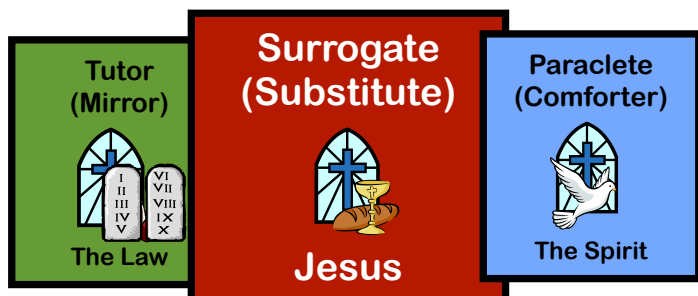
**The good news of the Gospel is
that we are justified by *faith*
in the work of Christ
*FOR us not THROUGH us.***

**The bad news is that God's
holiness standards are so high that
only one person has ever met them.**

***The good news of the Gospel is
that only one person ever had to.***

17

The means of our salvation is not
the Spirit empowering us to keep the Law.



The Law is
to lead us
TO the Cross

The Cross is
the site of our
reconciliation

The Spirit is
to remind us
OF the Cross

18

Hebrews 1

“¹ God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, ² in these last days has **spoken to us** in His Son, whom He appointed **heir of all things**, through whom also He **made the world**. ³ And He is the **radiance of His glory** and the **exact representation of His nature**, and **upholds all things** by the word of His power. When He had **made purification of sins**, He sat down at the **right hand of the Majesty on high**,”

This is the **heart** of the Gospel message.

2. Our worship response before Christ -
Stand in “Awe” before the Cross.

19

1 Peter 1

“²⁰ For he was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but has appeared in these last times **for the sake of you** ²¹ who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that **your faith and hope are in God**.”

#3 Worship respects
the **Holy Status** of people.

- We are the **recipients** of a blessing that was on God's books from before creation.
- Christ has **linked** us to God through faith.
- This link gives us **courage** in this life as well as **faith and hope** through the resurrection for glory in the life to come.

20

1 Peter 1

“²⁰ For he was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but has appeared in these last times **for the sake of you** ²¹ who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that **your faith and hope are in God**.”

3. Our worship response before people
Show respect and compassion.

1 Peter 2

“⁹ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a **holy nation**, a people for God's own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who has called you out of darkness into his marvelous light; ¹⁰ for you once were not a people, but **now you are the people of God**; you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.”

21

Reasons for respecting the dignity
of God's people.

1. They are created in the **image of God**.
2. They are redeemed by the **grace of God**.
3. They are anointed with the **Spirit of God**.
4. They are called to be **ambassadors of God**.

James 3:9

“With it (the tongue) we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been **made in the likeness of God**,”

22

Our salvation rests with our positional
holiness not our practiced holiness

Positional holiness in the Old Testament



23



The temple priest was ceremonially sanctified with water before he performed his sacred duties.

This had to do with his official position not his personal character.

Water baptism is our “positional” washing as believer priests.

This has to do with our union with Christ not our meritorious good works.



24

What changes

when a person becomes a Christian?

- ✓ **Some things will change immediately and fully.** (our position in Christ and our relationship with God, freedom from the curse of the Law, etc.)
- ✓ **Some things may not change at all.** (personality, physical body, circumstances, etc.)
- ✓ **Some things may change gradually and incompletely.** (wisdom, spiritual maturity, moral perfection, character, etc.)

25

Matthew 25

“³⁷ Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry, and feed You, or thirsty, and give You drink? ³⁸ And when did we see You a stranger, and invite You in, or naked, and clothe You? ³⁹ And when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’ ⁴⁰ And the King will answer and say to them, ‘Truly I say to you, **to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me.**”

3. Our worship response before people - Show respect & compassion.

26

Galatians 6

“⁹ And let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we shall reap if we do not grow weary. ¹⁰ So then, while we have opportunity, let us **do good to all men, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith.**”

Social ethics are a major issue in both the OLD & NEW Testaments.

They starts with the dynamics **within the community of faith,** (with implications for relationships outside that community).

27

Summary of “Wow!”

1. Our worship response before God - **Bow in honor and thanksgiving.**
2. Our worship response before Christ - **Stand in “Awe” before the Cross.**
3. Our worship response before people - **Show respect and compassion.**

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