

1 Peter: Living for God in a Difficult World

#3: God the Spirit Enlightened Our Minds

1 Peter 1:2

A) What is “the sanctifying work of the Spirit”? (Lev 20:26)

B) How has the Holy Spirit made us different? (Eph 1:17-18)

C) What does being enlightened mean?

To be unenlightened in a biblical sense is to be mentally handicapped in spiritual things. (Eph 4:17-19; 1 Cor 2:12, 14; Eph 2:2; 2 Cor 4:4, 6)

Spirit-liberated reason vs. Devil-darkened reason (Luke 16:8).

God has granted us the most certain knowledge, of the most vital and valuable things.

Applications

- 1) Do not be intimidated or surprised by the foolishness of the world (Rom 1:18-20, 32)
- 2) Do not argue with unbelievers, or feel like you have to defend God or yourself (1 Cor 1:18; 2:1-5; Matt 15:12-14).
- 3) Take advantage of your enlightened mind and learn as much biblical truth as you can

Discussion ?’s

- 1) What was most meaningful to you about the Sunday message?
- 2) What does “sanctified,” *hagios*, to be holy mean in the biblical languages? What does being “sanctified” by the Spirit mean about your identity?
- 3) What are some examples of how Devil-darkened reason corrupts how the people of the world think?
- 4) What are the blessings of “having the eyes of your heart enlightened” (Eph 1:18) by God’s Spirit?
- 5) How does understanding the mental/spiritual handicap that unbelievers have, help us to have compassion on them?
- 6) Have you been intimidated by the expectation to have to answer unbeliever’s intellectual questions about Christianity? How does the Apostle Paul’s example in Corinth help you?