

## 1 Peter 1:13-21

Peter was writing to believers scattered by persecution for the name of Jesus, reminding them of who they were and what God had called them to do. He exhorts them that they are foreigners, called to be different from the world, and reminds them that this world is not their home. He also reminds them of their inheritance, their salvation in Jesus Christ.

Sometimes we have to cut out things that are pulling us away from God. God is calling us to be holy: close with Him, becoming more like Him and being different than the world.

Holiness starts by understanding that God is great and that He is causing all things to work together for our good (Romans 8:28). We must think differently. If we are obedient, there is always a reward. We need to fear God, understanding our lives are in his hands.

## John 21:12

"Come and dine." The Lord is calling us to come and to dine with Him: to get to know Him, becoming more like Him, holy. We come and dine when we come together for worship. We are invited to a holy closeness with Jesus. We must feed on the body and blood of Jesus (John 6:56). This is also a time to fellowship with the saints, even if we disagree on some things. As we get closer to Jesus, barriers between parts of the body of Christ will begin to break down. If we are closer to Jesus, we will become closer to each other.

In "come and dine," we see the source of strength for every Christian. Our help comes from the Lord, not trying to do it yourself. We experience much unnecessary weakness because we neglect coming and dining with Jesus. If you want to experience closeness to Jesus, come and dine with Him by faith!

Sometimes we are not forward with our faith because we are afraid of what people think. But we must care more about their souls than we do about what they think of us.

## John 6:53-58, 2 Corinthians 5:11-21

Instead of living for ourselves, we have to live for Christ. We come and dine to get strength for ourselves and then tell others about the great truth we have found in Jesus. That is our call and commitment as Christians. Our message to the world is "come back to God!" Our purpose is to tell others to come back to Him.