

Soldiers Under Command

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Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous: Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing. For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile: Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it. For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil. And who is he that will harm you, if ye be followers of that which is good? But and if ye suffer for righteousness sake, happy are ye: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled; But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear: Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ. For it is better, if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well doing, than for evil doing. For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit: By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison; Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.

(1 Peter 3:8-20, KJV).

Concentrate on v.15

“But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts” There are two different readings depending on the manuscripts you read in the Greek. The TR has “curioun ton theos” the others have “curion ton christon”. This is not a “problem”, Christ is God, though it points to an emphasis on which member of the Trinity is set apart. Given verse 18 speaks of the example of Christ, it indicates the latter reading to be correct. Thus this is an application of Isaiah 8:13 to Christ. Read Isaiah 9:9-15, original intent points to Christ.

Lordship of Christ - Two areas
what we do

1. be ye all of one mind
2. having compassion one of another
3. love as brethren
4. be pitiful (have pity)
5. be courteous
6. Not rendering evil for evil
7. railing for railing
8. contrariwise blessing
9. refrain his tongue from evil
10. lips that they speak no guile
11. eschew evil
12. do good
13. seek peace (Hebrews 12:14)
14. ensue it (persue and hound)

What we trust for

1. eyes of the Lord are over the righteous
2. his ears are open unto their prayers
3. the face of the Lord is against them that do evil
4. happy are ye
5. be not afraid of their terror,
6. neither be troubled

Sanctifying Christ as our Lord is in opposition to the fears and troubles.

Apologia - Acts 22:1 used of testimony and evangelism

fear - 1 Peter 2:18, 3:2, 3:4