

C. Holy Living is the superior way of Life 12-131. The argument..holy living becomes the believer

The argument is developed by showing our position in life and the example that is ours in Christ. The exhortation is to grow and following that we are shown our position in heaven (spiritual) and are again challenged to live for Him.

It is built around two great truths:

12:1-14

--We are children of God

our accountability...v. 1
 our challenge: to run the race ..v. 1
 our example: Christ v. 2
 --He saw
 --He endured
 --He performed
 --He finished v. 2
 our method
 --"looking to.." 12:2
 --laying aside 12:1
 --profiting by our training 12:5 ff
 --remaining realistic 12:4

The force of this truth should not be lost on us...we are not super-people as the world counts them, but we are children of God and holy living is what marks His children uniformly..in all ages..when they are given to Him.

12:15-24

--We are citizens of the holy realm

a prescribed practice 12:12-15
 --take heart!
 --walk in truth
 --set a good example
 --follow what pleases the Lord
 --and, be careful!
 an illustration 12:15-17
 --keep the redemptive truth central and applicable..
 a place of being 12:18-24
 --negative position 18-21
 --positive placement 22-24

The argument is simple. In the light of what we are living as the sons of God and citizens of the new Jerusalem, holy living is the necessary thing.

2. The warning (12:25-29)

Listen!
 Watch!
 Hold fast!

The warning follows the same pattern as have the previous matters. The challenge is to "hold fast"...to maintain the truths of Christ.