

First Southern Baptist Church - November 2, 2022

Practical Principles - Hebrews 13:1-8

Introduction

1. The train of thought?
 - fruit basket
 - pearls on a string
 - concluding exhortations/ principles*
2. Groupings/ themes
 - love (verse 1-brotherly love, verse 2 -love for strangers, verse 3 - love for prisoners/ suffering, verse 4 -love at home)
 - leadership (7,17,24)
3. Contrasting phrases
 - example, don't be covetous, do be content (verse 5)
 - don't practice an immoral lifestyle... do have an honorable marriage

Verse 1 - Brotherly Love

1. Brotherly love - what is it?
 - human affection, fondness
 - what about that old adage I don't have to like you?
2. What it does
 - when it is strong we get into few fights
3. Continue
 - they already had it... that needs to continue

Verse 2 - Hospitality

1. Segue from verse 1 to 2?
 - let the love you have amongst yourselves continue - but don't be forgetful to show love outside - to strangers (2)... and also, remember prisoners (3)
2. Entertain strangers
 - A. Literally the word is "strangers"
 - B. This would be our visitors on Sunday morning
 - is our church an "open" church? "Open" classes?
 - C. The idea is to be hospitable - is this an attitude?
 - D. "Given to hospitality"
 - Rom. 12:13
 - 1 Tim. 3:2 - pastors
3. You may be entertaining angels

Verse 3 - Prisoners and Suffering

1. Prisoners - not just believing prisoners
 - as if you were in prison
2. Suffering - adversity
 - as if you were sick
3. The idea in both is empathy... identify with them
 - the Golden Rule?

-God suffers with us in our trials through the work of Holy Spirit (“comforter” means “come alongside”)

Verse 4 - Marriage

1. Train of thought... from brotherly love to loving prisoners, to love at home, love people but do not love money
2. Marriage is honorable
 - when is it honorable - “in all” respects
 - the idea is that it is of great price, highly esteemed
 - that bed is not defiled -sex is good in that context
3. **But** - contrast these two lifestyles, to holy marriage just mentioned
 - adulterous lifestyle
 - whoremongers - “immoral people”

Verses 5-6 - Conduct without Covetousness

1. Without covetousness
 - love people, do not love money
2. Be content with what you have
 - to say, I have enough
3. So, you have to phrases to explain our attitude toward money
 - don't be covetous
 - do be content
4. Why? - He said - I will never leave you
 - the idea is that we should be content with Him - and He will provide
 - possibly the most quoted verse in the Bible is in the context of money
 - I have no money, but I do have God!
5. He will not
 - never
 - never leave
 - never forsake

Three negatives in this verse - I will not, I will not, I will not
6. Because He will not leave us... we may boldly say - the Lord is my helper (verse 6)
7. Where does the power to be content come from? - Stoicism? Release from desire? (Buddhism)
 - be content in Him

Verse 7 - Rulers (leadership)

1. A theme
 - verse 7 - Remember them
 - verse 17 - Obey them
 - verse 24 - Salute them
2. Who are they? - the ones who have spoken the word to you
3. What are we to do
 - remember
 - follow
 - consider

4. Imitate them - follow their faith
- 5 . Consider the end of their lives... what faith is resulting in, in their lives
 - consider the outcome of their lives, the practical effect of their spiritual lives

Verse 8 - Jesus Christ is the Same

- as He worked in others' lives He will work for you in yours
- he will protect you from "strangers"
- He will provide what you need

Putting the verses together - you get **attitudes**

Love attitude - to strangers, to prisoners, to the fellowship, at home (2-4)

Attitude about material things - 5, 6

Attitude toward leaders - 7,17,24

-leadership with regard to strange doctrines (9)