

## HAPPY DAYS!

I PETER 3:8-12

### Introduction:

- A. To whom was this written? v.1
- B. v10 "He that would love (enjoy) a life and see happy days" text. Twentieth Century N.T.
- C. One of the popular T.V. programs is Happy Days,.
  - 1. Strangely, it is about times or days past.
  - 2. The '50's, after Korea, before Viet Nam.
- D. Happy days are usually in another tense.
  - 1. Past = Eccl 7:10 "say not thou, what is the cause that the former days were better than these? for thou dost not inquire wisely concerning this."
    - a. Better everything.
    - b. Better churches, "Ah, those good ole days!"
  - 2. Future = James 4:13 "Go to now, ye that say, today or tomorrow."
    - a. "Ah, we shall have grand days in the future."
    - b. When we shall accomplish our cunning, we shall be happy.
    - c. Democratic "Happy Days are Here Again" party!

### I. HAPPY DAYS FOR THE CHURCH. V8-9

#### 7 THINGS:

- A. "be ye all of one mind."
  - 1. Be likeminded.
  - 2. Phil. 2:5 "let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus."
  - 3. I Cor. 1:10-
  - 4. Rom. 15:5-6.
- B. "having compassion one of another."
  - 1. compassion = suffering with another.



2. Not for a select few, special friends.
  3. Often times cliques form, neglect the body.
- C. "love as brethren."
1. Have love.
  2. Love as brothers love.
- D. "be pitiful."
1. Extend compassion.
  2. Having fellow - feelings.
- E. "be courteous."
1. courteous = friendly - minded.
  2. "church members, be friendly to our visitors!"
- F. "not rendering evil for evil, railing for railing."
1. evil for evil = repaying in kind.
  2. railing for railing = to drop evil or profane words.
    - a. The very worst kind of slander, defamation, speaking to a man's prejudice.
- G. "but contraiwise blessing"
1. The very opposite.
  2. Offer to be a blessing.
- H. "Knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing."
1. this is what we have been called to do.

## II. HAPPY DAYS FOR YOU! V10-12

### 6 THINGS

- A. "for he that will love life, and see good days"
1. "He that would enjoy life and have happy days."
  2. The Christian, the saved, not a plan of salvation!
- B. "let him refrain his tongue from evil."
1. refrain = to pause, refrain from.
  2. James 1:26-
  3. James 3:6-

- C. "and his lips that they speak no guile."
  - 1. Prov 12:22 "lying lips are an abomination to the Lord."
  - 2. Clean lips are not clean simply because they do not curse.
  
- D. "Let him eschew evil, and do good"
  - 1. eschew = to bend out, to turn away from.
  - 2. It is not enough to simply eschew evil. we are commanded to do good.
  - 3. It is easy to condemn and criticize, but what have you done good?
  
- E. "Let him seek peace, and ensue it."
  - 1. Let him search for peace, really look for it.
  - 2. "going after it with all your heart."
  - 3. Go out of your way for peace.

### III. GOD'S ASSURANCE TO THOSE WHO PRACTICE.

- A. "for the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous"
  - 1. The eyes of the lord are on upright men.
  - 2. righteous = not self-righteous.
  
- B. "and His ears are open unto their prayers"
  - 1. God lays down rules.
  - 2. "If I regard iniquity in my heart."
    - a. Psalm 66:18 "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me pray"
  - 3. If you go to the altar to pray.
    - a. Matt 5:21-24.

### IV. GOD'S WARNING TO THE EVIL DOER.

- A. "but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil."
  
- B. God's whole being is turned from those who would do evil.