

# **BEHAVE!**

## **I Peter 3:8-12**

**A behaving church will be blessed by God**

### **I. CONGREGATIONAL ADVICE** (8-9)

#### **A. THE SUMMONS** (8a)

1. "To sum up" > Finally
2. "All of you" > No exceptions
3. "Be" > We must actively take the initiative

#### **B. OUR DUTY** (8b-9a)

- Virtuous conduct

1. Conduct toward believers (8b)
  - a. Harmony
  - b. Sympathy
  - c. Brotherly love
  - d. Kindheartedness
  - e. Humility
2. Conduct toward unbelievers (9a)
  - a. Restraint
  - b. Graciousness
  - c. Mindfulness: Our conduct is our greatest asset in winning the lost!

#### **C. THE INSPIRATION** (9b)

1. Our calling: For the purpose of making an impact on other
2. Our inheritance: Being blessed by God

TRANSITION: Note that Peter now backs up his advice with Scripture

### **II. SCRIPTURAL SUPPORT** (10-12)

- From Psalm 34:12-16a

#### **A. CONSIDER YOUR DESIRES** (10a)

1. What do you want?
2. Do you want to love life?
3. Do you want to see good days?

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**B. FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS (10b-11)**

1. Guard your speech: No evil or deceptive words
2. Focus on good
  - a. Turning away from evil
  - b. Engaging in good
3. Be passionate about peace: Seek and pursue it

**C. REMEMBER GOD'S NATURE (12)**

1. His Sight
  - Toward the righteous > See II Chronicles 16:9a
2. His Hearing
  - Literally: He listens in! > See James 5:4
3. His Face
  - Resisting or opposing evil-doers

**CONCLUSION:****Are you a behaving believer?**

- Is your conduct right before believers and unbelievers?
- Are you enjoying good days by applying biblical principles?

**When we truly behave, we are truly blessed!**