



336 Oakwood Avenue
Orange, NJ

Bible Study

Pushing & Pressing Through Ignorance



and



Being Ignored

Tuesday, November 22, 2022
6:30 p.m. Online

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Ministerial Chief of Staff

I. What is Ignorance?

- a. **Ignorance** is the lack of knowledge or understanding.
- b. **Ignorant people are either unaware or uninformed.**
- c. **We are ignorant because we:**
 - i. did not know there was a need to learn something.
 - ii. have chosen not to learn something we need to know.

II. Focal Text # 1

1 Peter 2:15

New International Version

For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people.

- a. The way we live as Christians, conflict with the norms and customs of society. This conflict is expressed in a number of ways that together can cause suffering.
- b. This suffering is not a campaign of persecution against Christians. Rather, this suffering results from the social tensions created by our distinctive lifestyle.
- c. Our way of living sometimes may cause discrimination, slander, ostracism, and reproach from the non-Christians around us (1:6; 2:12, 19-20; 3:9, 13-17; 4:3-4; 5:8-10).

III. What we Learn from this text

- a. This is God's will. Peter isn't giving us his philosophy or a strategy for living as persecuted people. He is plainly telling Christians exactly what God wants them to do.
- b. Why does God want us to pursue goodness in this way? To silence the ignorant talk of foolish people. God plans to use our good choices to shut prejudiced people up.
- c. What does that mean? Those who know believers well enough to see our faith lived out, on a day-to-day basis, recognize that we do good because we are Christians. They will stop believing that Christians are a destructive force in society, or that Christians do evil, or that Christians are dangerous. They will stop being ignorant about what

Christians are really like, because they will know better, by direct experience.

- IV. So how do we **push and press through ignorance** of who you are and how you live?
Any examples?

V. Being Ignored

a. What is the act of being ignored?

- i. To **disregard** something or to deliberately pay it **no attention**.
- ii. Sometimes the word is used to mean "**neglect**," implying that something important is **not being taken care of**.

b. What does it mean to be ignored?

- i. When someone ignores you, that person is essentially saying to you, "**You don't matter. You have no value.**"
- ii. It's demeaning not only to that individual, but also to the God who created them (see Psalm 139). Jesus knows exactly what that feels like.

c. What is the feeling of being ignored?

- i. Research finds that feeling ignored can affect people's **sensory perceptions**, such as feeling that surroundings seem quieter.
- ii. Being ignored creates **feelings** of self-doubt, **feeling** a lack of control, and **feeling** not worthy of attention.

Deming (Adam) Wang Ph.D. (Social Psychology Researcher).

VI. Focal Text # 2

Psalms 27:10

10 Though my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will receive me.

- a. Psalm 27 poem of David is a cry for help in a time of great distress, but it is also a renewed faithfulness to God and

belief in His power and complete trust in the protection that only God can provide.

- b. A father and mother should never abandon a child or ignore them because they have no seemingly good attributes.
- c. Let's look at David's history: 1 Samuel 22:3 1 Samuel 22:4.

VII. What we Learn from this text

- a. When my father and my mother forsake me - If they should do it. The psalmist seems to be saying that it is possible that this might happen.
- b. It does occur, though very rarely; but the psalmist means to say that the love of God is stronger and more certain than even that of a father or mother, since he will never forsake his people. Barnes notes

c. What I found: Ten lessons we can learn from Psalm 27

<https://becomingchristians.com/2018>

- i. We must not be afraid
- ii. God is our light
- iii. God is our salvation
- iv. God is our strength
- v. Our ultimate desire is to be with God
- vi. God is our refuge
- vii. We must continually praise God
- viii. We must actively pray to God**
- ix. God will never forsake us**
- x. Learn to trust in God

VIII. So how do we push and press through being ignored? What are your suggestions?