

What's The Next Step After Grace?

1 Peter 1:13

Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded

Preparing- *(literally) gird up the loins of your mind-* a man would tuck his robe in his belt so his legs were free to run.

Sober-minded- To be spiritually alert and focused on the task at hand.

The imperatives of Christian living always begin with 'therefore.' Peter does not begin to exhort Christian pilgrims until he has celebrated the wonders of God's salvation in Jesus Christ.

– Edmund Clowney



verse 1: since God has chosen you,

verse 3: since God has caused you to be born again to a living hope,

verse 4: since God is keeping an inheritance for you imperishable, undefiled, and unfading,

verse 5: since God is protecting you through faith so that you won't lose that inheritance,

verses 6–7: since God is refining your faith by fire so that it will receive praise and glory and honor,

verse 8: since you are swimming with the strokes of love and faith and joy in Christ,

verses 10–13: since prophets and angels are on tiptoe to see all that God's grace is going to do in your life,

set your hope fully

Christianity is, first, God graciously,
freely acting to save his people; and,
second, man hoping fully in that
grace. That's the essence of
Christianity.

– John Piper



Psalm 147:10-11

His delight is not in the strength of the horse, nor his pleasure in the legs of a man, but the Lord takes pleasure in those who fear him, in **those who hope in his steadfast love.**

You really are unleavened" (*indicative*),
therefore "Cleanse out the old leaven
that you may be a new
lump" (*imperative*).
– 1 Corinthians 5:7

Having been set free from sin, you have
become slaves of righteousness
(*indicatives*) . . .(**therefore**) now present
your members as slaves to righteousness
leading to sanctification (*imperative*).
– Romans 6:18-29

Gospel obligations must be based
on gospel declarations.
Imperatives divorced from
indicatives become impossibilities.

– Tullian Tchividjian



Hebrews 6:19

We have this as a sure and steadfast
anchor of the soul, a **hope** that
enters into the inner place behind the
curtain

Hope in God's promises, therefore, is not a wishful longing but a faith-filled confidence for the future. It is simply impossible to trust one of God's promises and not anticipate its coming true. To know God is to trust Him. And to trust God is to trust His promises. And to trust God's promises is to be sure of their fulfillment.

This assurance concerning the future, anchored in God's promises, is what the

Bible calls "hope."

– Scott Hafemann



Therefore, preparing your minds for
action, and being sober-minded

1. Rom 1:28 **“debased”**
2. 2 Cor 3:14 **“hardened”**
3. 2 Cor 4:4 **“blinded”**
4. Eph 4:17 **“futility”**
5. Eph 4:18 **“darkened”**
6. Col 1:21 **“hostile”**
7. Col 2:4 **“deluded”**
8. Col 2:8 **“deceived”**
9. Col 2:18 **“sensuous”**
10. 1 Tim 6:5 **“depraved”**
11. 2 Tim 3:8 **“corrupted”**
12. Titus 1:15 **“defiled”**

2 Corinthians 4:4

In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

2 Corinthians 4:6

For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Colossians 2:8

See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ.

Romans 12:2

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

1 Peter 4:7

The end of all things is at hand;
therefore be self-controlled and
**sober-minded for the sake of
your prayers.**

1 Peter 5:8

Be **sober-minded**; be watchful.
Your **adversary the devil prowls**
around like a roaring lion, seeking
someone to devour.

1 Thessalonians 5:7-8

So then let us not sleep, as others do, but **let us keep awake and be sober**. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night.

There is something about war that sharpens the senses. You hear a twig snap or the rustling of leaves and you are in attack mode. Someone coughs and you are ready to pull the trigger. Even after days of little or no sleep, war keeps us vigilant.

– Ed Welch



Luke 10:27

And he answered, “You shall **love the Lord your God** with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and **with all your mind**, and your neighbor as yourself.”

What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us. The history of mankind will probably show that no people has ever risen above its religion, and man's spiritual history will positively demonstrate that no religion has ever been greater than its idea of God. Worship is pure or base as the worshiper entertains high

or low thoughts of God. For this reason the gravest question before the Church is always God Himself, and the most portentous fact about any man is not what he at a given time may say or do, but what he in his deep heart conceives God to be like.

– A. W. Tozer



Romans 15:4

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the **encouragement of the Scriptures** we might **have hope.**

Luke 24:44-45

Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that **everything written about me** in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he **opened their minds to understand the Scriptures,**

Every Christian who struggles with depression struggles to keep their hope clear. There is nothing wrong with the object of their hope – Jesus Christ is not defective in any way whatsoever. But the view from the struggling Christian's heart of their objective hope could be obscured by disease and pain, the pressures of life, and by Satanic fiery darts shot

against them... All discouragement and depression is related to the obscuring of our hope, and we need to get those clouds out of the way and fight like crazy to see clearly how precious Christ is.

– John Piper

