

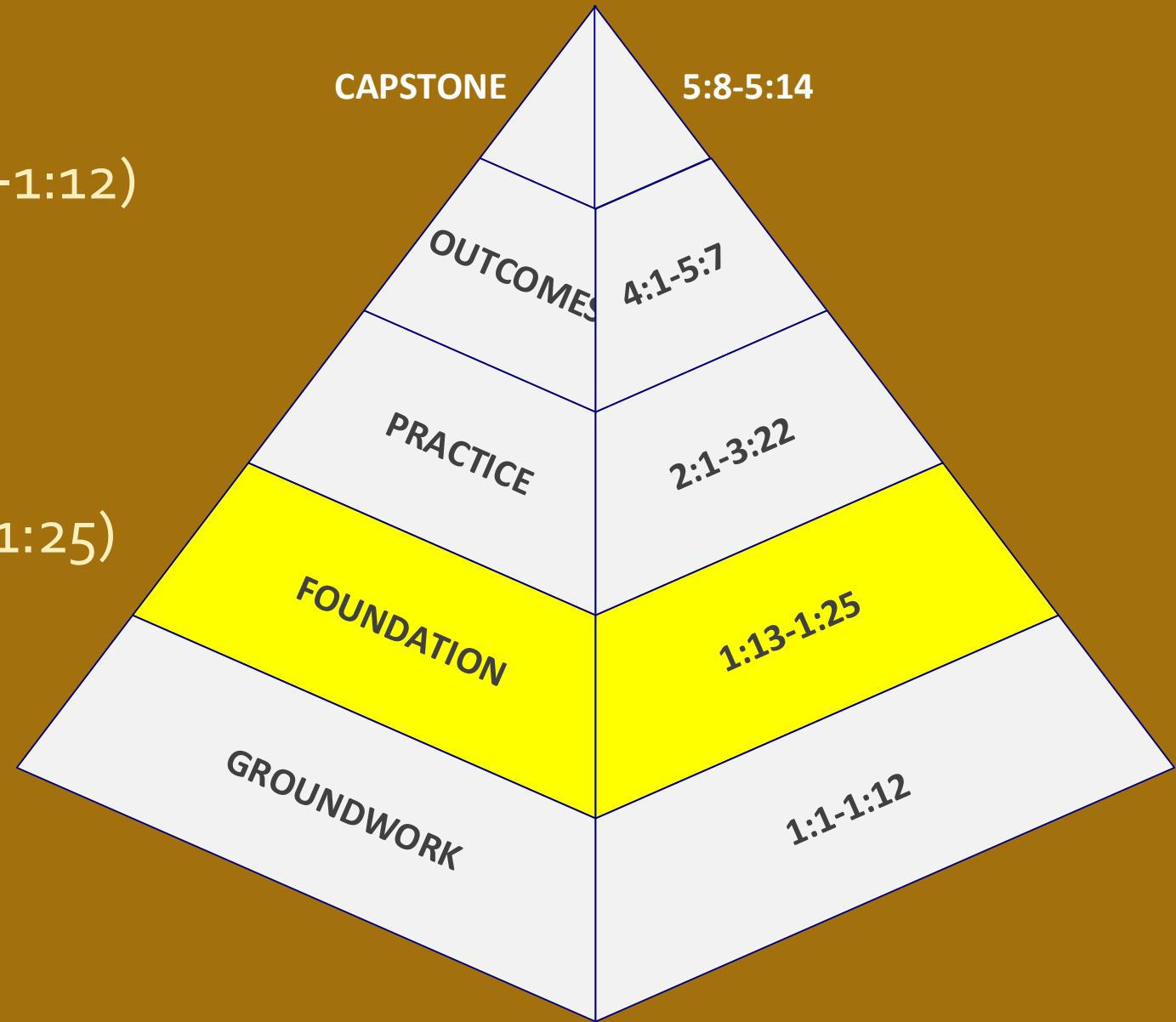


*The Cost of Holiness*

*1 Peter 1:17-1:21*

# Outline

- I. Groundwork for Holiness (1:1-1:12)
  - A. The premise (1:1-1:2)
  - B. The prerequisite (1:3-1:12)
  - C. The promise (1:10-1:12)
- II. Foundation of Holiness (1:13-1:25)
  - A. The call (1:13-1:16)
  - B. The cost (1:17-1:21)
  - C. The culmination (1:22-1:25)



# The Call to Holiness (1:13-1:16)

<sup>13</sup> Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

<sup>14</sup> As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance, <sup>15</sup>

but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior; <sup>16</sup> because it is written, **"YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY."**

# The Cost of Holiness (1:17-1:21)

If you address as Father the One who impartially judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your stay on earth; knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ. For He was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but has appeared in these last times for the sake of you who through Him are believers in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

# Section Outline

- The Perspective of Holiness – v. 17
- The Price of Holiness – vs. 18-19
- The Plan of Holiness – vs. 20-21

# The Perspective of Holiness – v. 17

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# Importance of PERSPECTIVE



# Because we know that God is...

- Our **FATHER**
- And impartially **JUDGES** our **WORK**



We should conduct our lives in “**FEAR**”



# The Impartial Judge



# 1 Corinthians 3:11-15

For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each man's work will become evident; for the day will show it because it is to be revealed with fire, and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work. If any man's work which he has built on it remains, he will receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

## Romans 14:10-12

But you, why do you judge your brother? Or you again, why do you regard your brother with contempt? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "AS I LIVE, SAYS THE LORD, EVERY KNEE SHALL BOW TO ME, AND EVERY TONGUE SHALL GIVE PRAISE TO GOD." So then each one of us will give an account of himself to God.

## 2 Corinthians 5:10

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

# Sublimation Errors

1) Everyone in hell will suffer to the same extent



“And that slave who knew his master's will and did not get ready or act in accord with his will, will receive many lashes, but the one who did not know it, and committed deeds worthy of a flogging, will receive but few. From everyone who has been given much, much will be required; and to whom they entrusted much, of him they will ask all the more.” Luke 12:47-48

See also Matthew 11:20-22, Mark 12:38-40, John 19:11,  
Hebrews 10:29, Revelation 20:12-13

# Sublimation Errors

2) Everyone in heaven will enjoy it to the same extent



For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. 2 Corinthians 5:10

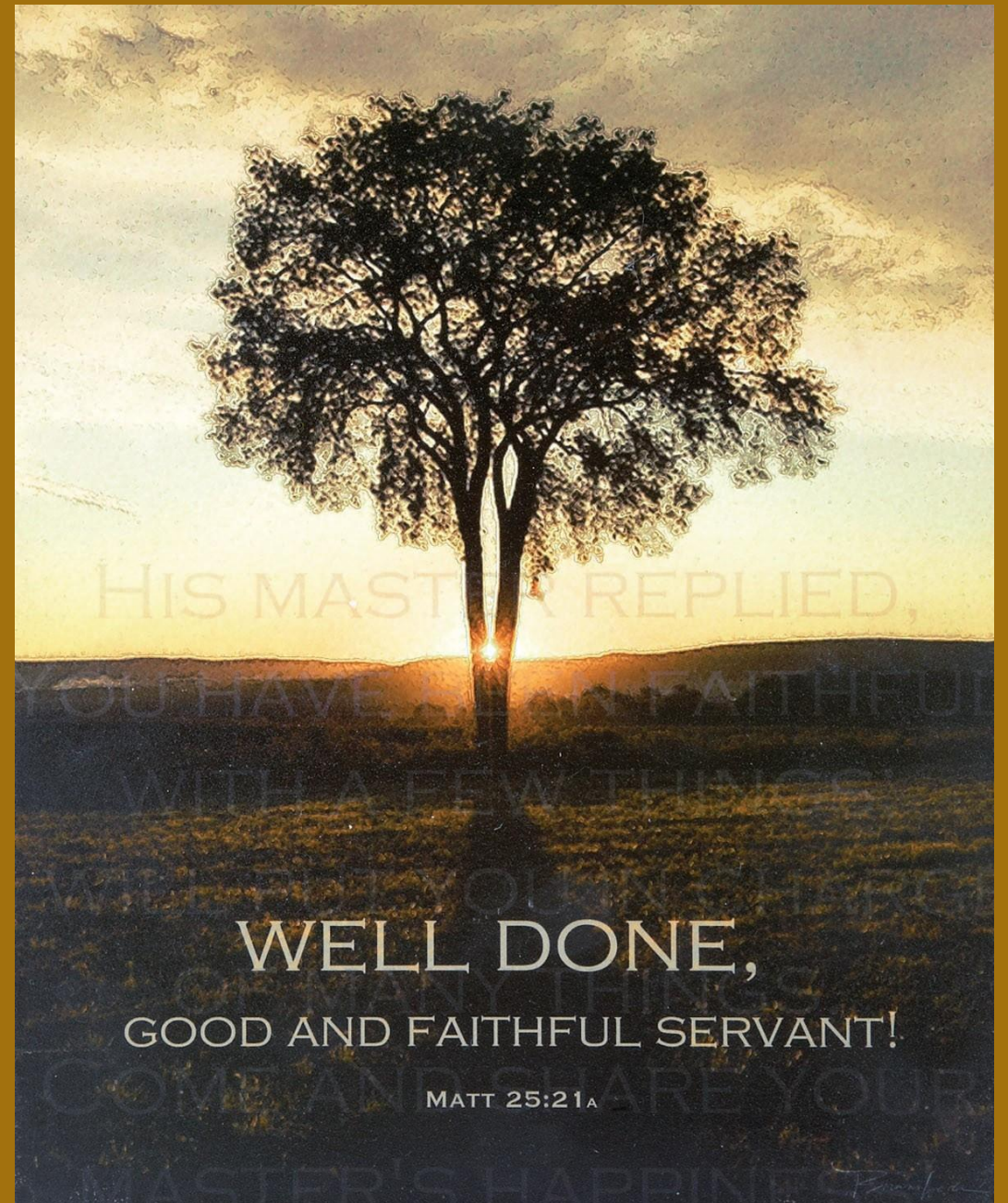
See also 1 Corinthians 3:12, 1 Corinthians 9:24–25,  
2 Timothy 4:7-8, Revelation 22:12

# PERFORMANCE REVIEWS

- Clear expectations
- Explicit goals
- Measurable performance



RATING		
5	Outstanding	Consistently exceeds expectations in position and the individual's contribution and accomplishments
4	Above Expectations	Consistently meets and normally be expected and are often significant accomplishments
3	Meets Expectations	Consistently meets expectations considering the individual can work independently
2	Below Expectations	Consistently meets expectations improved through education and training
1	Unsatisfactory	Consistently does not meet expectations considering improvement needed



**“FEAR” in this sense...**

Is NOT an emotion.

It is an awareness that the things we do will one day be evaluated by an impartial judge (i.e., God).

Our actions have consequences!



# Our Father



# Hebrews 12:5-11

"MY SON, DO NOT REGARD LIGHTLY THE DISCIPLINE OF THE LORD, NOR FAINT WHEN YOU ARE REPROVED BY HIM; FOR THOSE WHOM THE LORD LOVES HE DISCIPLINES, AND HE SCOURGES EVERY SON WHOM HE RECEIVES." It is for discipline that you endure; God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom his father does not discipline? But if you are without discipline, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. Furthermore, we had earthly fathers to discipline us, and we respected them; shall we not much rather be subject to the Father of spirits, and live? For they disciplined us for a short time as seemed best to them, **but He disciplines us for our good, so that we may share His holiness.** All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.

# Judge versus Father

- The Father cares about you and loves you
- The relationship is personal
- You care how your Father feels
- Your actions are motivated by love and not by a fear of retribution

# “FEAR” in this sense...

It is an awareness that the Father will deal with improper action through discipline.

It is an awareness of how the Father “feels” as a result of our actions.

Our actions affect us and the Father!

# Fear motivates us toward holiness by reminding us of:

- Who God is
- The reality of present discipline
- The reality of future judgment
- The possibility of offending our Father

# But, wait! If Holiness...

Is not something we try to attain,

And holiness is “self forgetful,”

And it is something we are and not do,

And it is **His** work, **not** ours,

Then why do we need this motivation?

# The Paradox of Holiness







# Galatians 3:19-25

Why the Law then? It was added because of transgressions... Is the Law then contrary to the promises of God? May it never be! For if a law had been given which was able to impart life, then righteousness would indeed have been based on law. But the Scripture has shut up everyone under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. But before faith came, we were kept in custody under the law, being shut up to the faith which was later to be revealed. Therefore **the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ,** so that we may be justified by faith. **But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.**

# Discipline Must Precede No-minded Action

- Martial Arts (principle of “no mind”)
- Elite Athletics
- Creative Outflow (e.g., writing, art, music)
- And of course: Holiness (aka Godliness)

Discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness; for bodily discipline is only of little profit, but godliness is profitable for all things, since it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.

1 Timothy 4:7-8

# Hebrews 12:10b-11

**He disciplines us for our good, so that we may share His holiness.** All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.

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