

1 Peter 4:9

by John Gill

The apostle exhorts the saints to be hospitable to one another, showing love and kindness to those who are unknown to us, especially those who are in need.

Scripture: Genesis 18:1-8, Leviticus 19:34, Matthew 25:35, Luke 10:33-34, Acts 28:7, Romans 12:13, Galatians 6:2, Hebrews 13:2, 1 Peter 4:9, 1 John 3:17

Topics: "Hospitality", "Love for Strangers"

Description

John Gill emphasizes the importance of hospitality in his sermon on 1 Peter 4:9, urging believers to love and care for strangers, particularly those who are displaced for their faith. He explains that hospitality should be shown both by not causing distress to others and by actively providing for their needs, such as food and shelter. Gill highlights biblical examples of hospitality, including Abraham and Lot, and stresses that this practice is not only a natural inclination but also a command from God. He encourages the faithful to embrace hospitality without grudging, viewing it as a vital expression of love and charity among believers, especially those who are strangers to one another.

Transcript

Ver. 9. Use hospitality,.... Or, "be lovers of strangers", as the phrase may be rendered, and as it is in the Syriac version; that is, such as are of a distant country, or come from afar, and are unknown by face, especially good men, that are obliged to remove from their native country for the sake of religion, or by one providence or another; and these are to be loved: and love is to be shown them, both negatively, by not vexing them, and making them uneasy in body or mind; by not oppressing them by violence and injustice, and making any exorbitant demands upon them; or by not perverting judgment with respect to them; and positively, by directing, counselling, and advising them, and if need be, by giving them food, and raiment, and lodging: and it is what men have been led to by the very light of nature, as in the instances of Jethro the Midianite towards Moses, and the inhabitants of Melita with Publius, the chief man of the island, towards the Apostle Paul and his company; and is what God enjoined the Israelites by divers laws, since they had been strangers in the land of Egypt; and various are the exhortations to it in the New Testament; and some, by the practice of it, have entertained angels unawares, as Abraham, and Lot; and even Christ himself, as the two disciples travelling to Emmaus; and is what is highly regarded and commended by Christ, and the contrary is resented by him; and therefore it ought to be used and practised frequently; saints should inure themselves to it, be given to it, pursue and follow hard after it; See Gill on "Ro 12:13",

See Gill on "Heb 13:2". The apostle adds here, one to another; which clause is left out in the Syriac and Ethiopic versions; the reason of which may be, because the authors of these versions might think this not so consistent with the duty exhorted to, since the objects of it are strangers; but it should be observed, that so were these persons the apostle writes to; see 1Pe 1:1, they were scattered about, and lived in different countries, and were strangers to one another, and therefore the clause is pertinent enough; and the sense is, that as they were in foreign countries, and at a distance one from another, whenever by any providence they were brought where each other were, that they would be hospitable to one another: and that

without grudging: food, raiment, and lodging, or what they want, whether direction or advice, thinking it no trouble to give them either; or without murmurings, as it may be rendered, as if they were burdensome, and they were too chargeable to them, and their stay too long; and without complaints of them, finding fault, and picking quarrels with them, and laying charges against them, in order to get rid of them. This is one branch of charity before recommended.

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/john-gill/1-peter-49/>

Grow in Your Walk with Christ

Listen and read messages that will stir your heart for Christ and point you to deeper repentance and devotion.

- 50,000+ Sermons from speakers past and present
- 3,900+ Classic Christian Books freely readable online
- 1,200+ Bible Translations and Commentaries
- Over 450k forum posts — Join our vibrant online Christian forum

www.sermonindex.net

