

1Peter 11-04-08b

Let's pick up our study now in 1st Peter chapter 3. We resume in verse 10 with a quote from Psalm 34 verses 12 through 16 He who intends to love life is what the Greek literally says he who intends to love life and To see good days Let him refrain his tongue the word refrain here is from the verb pauso p-a-u-s-o our word Pause is related to this when you have a device and it's got the two little vertical bars and you hit that button. What happens? pause it stops something that is currently going on and Interestingly, that is exactly what the Greek word means it means to To stop a thing that is currently underway Bring a halt to would be a good way. You can't bring a halt to something unless it's already moving.

So Let him Make his tongue cease from evil and his lips from speaking deceit Deceit The word deceit here is the same word that we saw earlier that I pointed out Dolas or Dolan D-o-l-o-s, I think is the vocabulary form It was mentioned in the negative in the description of the Lord Jesus Christ In verse 23 of chapter 2 when he was reviled He did not revile in return when he suffered he did not threaten Committed himself to him who judges righteously, but in verse 22, the key is he committed no sin nor was Dolas found in his mouth and deceit is a Part of the idea, but it certainly doesn't fully comprehend the connotation of this word If you Look at the Other places where this word is used you get a little bit better idea of its full Connotation and if we're going to stop our tongue from something we need to know what that something is It's pretty easy to say. Well, I'm gonna be George Washington. I will not tell a lie.

I'll try to find euphemisms and if somebody asks me a question that has a An honest answer would be inappropriate I'll just find a way to deflect or I'll ask another question or by the way if you ever do have to avoid answering a question By far, this is my personal advice. The best way to answer a an awkward question is with another question If all of the available answers are going to get you into trouble or hurt somebody's feelings or whatever just ask another question That's free no charge But the the uses of DOLAS are really very instructive It is often found in lists of vices There are certain well-known vice lists in the in the Bible. One of them is found in Mark chapter 7 where Jesus is talking about That it's not what is outside that defiles a man It is what comes out you remember the whole thing about the Disciples eating with unwashed hands and so on and Jesus said After he after he told the the parable Nothing that enters a man from outside Defiles him.

It's the what comes out of him. Those are the things that defile a man if anyone has ears to hear let him hear and After he left the crowd and entered into a house the disciples asked him concerning what he had said He said are you thus without understanding also Do you not perceive that whatever enters a man from outside cannot defile him? Because it does not enter his heart, but his stomach and is eliminated then Parenthetically, he says this is where Jesus purified all foods. This is something that wouldn't really become Explicit until Peter sees the vision of the animals let down in the sheet arise Peter kill and eat The Lord I've never done that and and

God says, you know what God is called clean let no man call common and This lifted the dietary restrictions of the law among other things.

It also lifted the false Prejudice that Jews had toward Gentiles, which was the real point But Jesus said it's what proceeds from within out of the heart of a man proceeds evil thoughts adulteries fornications murders thefts covetousness Wickedness, this is poor Naya. This is faithlessness. This is covenant breaking Deceit dolas and It's not just Lying, it's not just telling a falsehood or an untruth.

This is A Perverse Verbal manipulation You will say things to Obtain a particular outcome. This is manipulative speech It so often involves deceit or half truths that that's how it's generally translated It's just deceit, but this is not a lie. We've got perfectly good words for lying dolas has the idea of Of False persuasion This would be a guy telling a girl.

Oh, I love you. I Have never met anybody like you I you are Unique in my experience and your eyes are like limpid pools and this that and the other and he's really only got one intention he wants to unlock any doors and break down any barriers to The physical relationship that he would like to have as soon as possible and he will say anything to Get this girl to acquiesce That's dolas I will say What needs to be said to get my desired outcome and sometimes it people could say? Well, technically I was telling the truth Maybe she is really beautiful. Maybe he hasn't I mean certainly anybody you meet isn't like anybody you've ever met before everybody's unique You can say that I've never met anybody You can say that to the worst most hateful You could be locked up in the drunk tank with somebody and turn around to the greasy guy behind you So I've never met anybody like you before that doesn't mean anything but in in context you can use that sort of truth to manipulate we've got a Another list of vices in Romans chapter 1 You remember what's going on in Romans chapter 1 Those who suppress the truth God gives them over to a debased mind.

Ah Doki Mas, you know Doki Madzo is to Is to judge for the purpose of approval and if you've got an odd Doki Mas mind, you can't You can't judge the relative merits of things you can't figure out what's good anymore your mind can't distinguish And God gives you over to a mind that cannot identify even when good comes It's just like one of our memory verses says, you know The man does not see good when it comes who has abandoned God's truth. Same thing here it's a It says debased but it's it's a valueless mind it's a standardless mind it's a mind it's an indiscriminate mind to do those things which are not fitting not appropriate not good for you being filled with and this is having been filled with this is a This is a perfect If I remember my parsings, right it's a it's a perfect participle From play Rao but filled with this this standardless Indiscriminate mind that can't tell what's good from what's bad or what's healthy from what's unhealthy is filled with unrighteousness Pornia, which is translated sexual immorality in your New King James, but again, it means Untrustworthiness can't be trusted can't be expected to remain faithful Can't keep a promise can't honor a pledge cannot be relied upon you can't count on them wickedness Ponya Ria Covetousness maliciousness full of envy murder strife and dolas manipulative speech Say

whatever it takes to make it happen need some money for a bad habit I'll tell you my sister needs a kidney transplant. I mean, whatever it may be Just it isn't so much that it is a lie that it is a falsehood.

It's the intent behind it. I I Regard you with so little esteem that I will tell you Anything I can think of to get you to do what I want True or false This can be flattery. It can be Shading the truth.

It can be giving a version of events that makes it seem a certain way Leaving out certain details emphasizing others to get someone to react and maybe everything you said was true But it's it doesn't really represent the truth dolas so One of the one of the great illustrative By the way, this is what Jesus said when he saw Nathanael coming in John chapter 1 and he said look Here is an Israelite indeed in whom there is no dolas This guy isn't a manipulator. He's not a Facade type he's not a hypocrite this guy what you see is what you get he is right up front Says what he thinks Means what he says Does what he says and you can understand why Jesus for that quality would select Nathanael to be a disciple Here's somebody I can rely on to not be Faulty in that way This was the word used in perhaps the most illest illustrative Uses in Acts chapter 13 and this is if you remember the story of Elimus the sorcerer There was when Paul arrived in Pathos They found a sorcerer a false prophet a Jew this is Acts 13 6 whose name was bar Jesus son of Jesus Who was with the proconsul Sergius Paulus you think boy what a if you were making up this story you wouldn't use Names that are so distracting. You've got bar Jesus and Sergius Paulus and you've got the Apostle Paul on in the same story But it says Sergius Paulus was a was an intelligent man.

He was a man of He Had his wits about him that soon Soon a toy here actually means is his wits are with him. He's getting he brought his brain along for the ride This man called for Barnabas and Saul he heard that there was these travelers with this message And he was a an intelligent man. He was man after wisdom he said I want to find out what this is all about so he called for Barnabas and Saul and Sought to hear the Word of God.

He said I want you all to tell me this message that you've been preaching but Alimus the sorcerer For so his name is translated. I love that because it's You know what? Meth amphetamines are right and it's it's composed of a lot of things but meta means with well There's hermeneutics, which is the science of Bible interpretation and this this is meth hermeneutics It's meth hermeneutics, it's It's translated Translated the word translated translates meth Hermeneutics, so this is what you interpret it with when you hear alimus That that's the interpretation He withstood them and he literally stood against auntie This is like auntie stasis Stasis to stand against so he's standing up Remember, this is all getting at our word here that we're going to try to keep our tongue from doing He's standing against them. So just with that much information.

What do you figure this alimus fellow has? Seen that Sergius Paulus is an influential man possibly a wealthy man Certainly a notable citizen has a lot of sway. He's smart and He's trying to insinuate himself into this guy's good graces. He's trying to be the the Oracle he's trying to be the

source of news and interpretation for this man trying to worm his way into his good graces and now Barnabas and Saul come along and Sergius Paulus has expressed an interest and they are going to preach the truth of Jesus Christ well right away alimus sees his Sorcery business with Sergius Paulus going down the tube.

So his self-interest asserts itself He's not necessarily Opposed to Christ and anxious to stamp out Christianity in the gospel. He is self-interested He sees himself getting elbowed out of the way. He sees a lost opportunity And so he is going to stand against these newcomers.

Hey, wait a minute. I was here first. This guy's my mark I'm gonna milk him.

I'm gonna use him for my own devices and and you guys are distracting him So he is standing against them seeking to turn Diastrepo the proconsul away from the faith If he gets into this faith, he's gonna I've heard this Christianity is boo on magic and down on soothsayers and and demon-possessed girls a prophesy and I've maybe he's heard a little bit about the reputation of Christianity and it's It puts everything else in the shade So he wants to turn the proconsul away from the faith then Saul who is also called Paul loss filled with the Holy Spirit looked intently at him and Said I would love this is another one of those video clips. I hope we get to see Can you imagine the Apostle Paul? after this guy is Giving his spiel trying to turn the proconsul away from the faith and it says Paul just looked at him And I'm thinking this is one of those apostolic Clint Eastwood moments You know where the bushy eyebrow goes up and storm clouds gather and he's not saying anything yet he's just looking at him and Maybe elements kind of runs out of words and he sees this look in the eye of the Apostle Paul who is filled with the Holy Spirit of God at that moment and Paul says Oh Play race Pantas Dulu. Oh You full of all dull loss you full of all self-interested manipulative speech and All fraud Fraud is a pretty good word in English, but Robbed the org EOS is better in Greek Robbed the org EOS You way Diabolo son of the devil You Satan's spawn You enemy of all righteousness? How many times do you get to hear an Apostle cuss somebody out? I mean, this is strong strong language you fraud You self-interested liar you son of the devil you enemy of everything that's good and right Will you not how say will you not pause your mouth? Will you not leave off? Perverting the straight ways of the Lord When are you going to shut up is what he says and now indeed? The hand of the Lord is upon you and you shall be blind Not seeing the Sun for a space of time This is God's attitude toward dough loss that will not pause a strikes him blind Remember what happened in Romans 1? Those who are full of dough loss Can no longer judge can't tell what's good or bad.

It's it's moral blindness it's situational Ineptitude I can't tell what the we look at some people we say are you crazy? What are you thinking? Well, they can't think anymore that deceit brings with it a curse that self-interested manipulative attitude brings with it a blindness and Paul just says the blindness you have on the inside is going to be manifest on the outside You cannot what is the most fun? What is the greatest light to rule the day by which people measure times and seasons and days and years? It's the Sun if you can't see the Sun. What else can you not see?

the moon the stars Anything to guide your way if you can't even see the Sun This is total blindness Even legally blind largely blind almost totally blind people can sometimes at least know that there's a bright light He says you will not even be able to sense the Sun for a space of time Dough loss it is serious business and we Sometimes have little aces up our sleeve that we like to play especially on people that we know we know where they're Goats tied we know where their dogs chained. We know how to yank that chain and release that goat.

We know how to How to make them go we know where the key is to wind them up and We manipulate by Egging by saying by touching a raw nerve Verbally, we know well if I say this That'll that'll make things happen That I want to happen. Maybe I want to make him angry. Maybe I just want him to do something So I'll tell him well, you know You're probably never gonna get that done, and I know that they'll do it just despite me well, that's manipulation.

That's that's Leveraging something that you know it's dough loss That's not hidden beauty of the heart. That's not a quiet witness. That's not the righteousness of God attracting and drawing People to God and to Christ and to righteousness Being filled with dough loss exercising dough loss Making that a practice and a habit that doesn't pause is The curse that Paul pronounces on Elimus you're full of fraud You're linked with the devil.

You're an enemy of all righteousness This is why Peter brings this passage to mind from the Psalms This is one reason another reason is who's he talking to do you think these people know Psalm 34? I think they've not heard it all their life, but one wonders if they ever really applied it to their Circumstance and their situation the way Peter does here. He says now that I've sketched out these Ideas and passed along these thoughts that that we have studied in these first couple of chapters. He says now think about Psalm 34 If you intend to love your life out here scattered amongst the Gentiles If you want to see good days You think that well, I've got to Elbow some room for myself.

I've got to push these Gentiles aside. We need to maybe form a community It's kind of like, you know, how did the Chinese people get comfortable in some of the West Coast towns? Well, they created Chinatown. We'll we'll make a bubble.

That's that's just us Peter says that's not the way if you want to see good days if you want to love life if that's your intention then The way to do it is not to attack These Gentiles and these people in your periphery with your tongue. That's not the way to win. That's not the way to achieve your goal Pause your manipulative speech Quit trying to tell people what they want to hear quit trying to tell people things that will get them to act in ways that you would like to see them act and Pause your lips from that dolan.

It literally says pause your tongue from Kakas from evil and your lips from speaking guile Dolan What's interesting is turn back to Psalm 34 for the translation from Hebrew of this same passage Psalm 34 something Struck me that I hadn't really remarked upon before Look at verse 12 of

Psalm 34 who is the man who desires life and loves many days that he may see good Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit Depart from evil and do good seek peace and Pursue it The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are open to their cry the face of the Lord is against those Who do evil to cut off? remembrance of them from the earth And this remembrance in the earth idea goes back to the inheritance If there's a remembrance of you in the earth looking at the kingdom promises to Israel, what is it? It's possession and inheritance in the land. You have a you have an establishment. You have your name living on you have Clans named for you.

You have a reputation you are notable. You're like Caleb or Joshua You have a heritage, but this Is This this same idea is found in some of the Other passages of Scripture in the Old Testament that are Related speaking deceit and so on But notice in Psalm 34 it says In verse 11 right above this come you children listen to me I will teach you the fear of the Lord remember all of those respectful obedience passages that We have seen in Peter's letter wives submissive servants submissive Don't be afraid with terror Your fear should be respectful obedience and Here in you could get the idea that the link in Peter's mind of this passage is in verse 11 Come you children listen to me. Let me teach you something that will help you Throughout the rest of your life.

I will teach you the fear of the Lord Once again, we ask ourselves the question if I'm going to keep how am I going to do this? Am I going to keep on catching myself too late after I have used manipulative speech after I've kind of Send a sin of the tongue and I know I didn't mean to do that. How do I fulfill this? Exhortation the key is right here in verse 11 in Psalm 34. This is the fear of the Lord if we practice this Deinvestment this pulling out from entanglement and Complete immersion in the world so that we're not as focused and as Invested in what people think and how circumstances turn out we are going to be less motivated because when we turn away from One thing we've got to turn toward something else notice it says Stop your tongue from speaking evil and your lips from Speaking guile and look at in Peter.

It's verse 11 And in verse 14 in Psalm 34, they both say the same thing Let him turn away from evil and do good. It's not just turn away from evil. It's not I've got to stop my tongue I've got to pause these words Let him turn away.

This is a great word in Greek because it is Ecclenato Klin is the root there We have a couple of words in English that derive from kl in klin. Oh We have incline We have decline. I Am inclined to do the following things.

I lean toward incline and incline is an angle, right I Am inclined in a certain direction Well one word we don't have in English that maybe we should instead of incline is at Klein I'm gonna lean away. I'm going to be disinclined Disinclined from evil and Do good Notice it doesn't say no more do evil It says Disinclined from evil make it less and less a part of the pattern lean further and further away from it what you do When you're disinclining from evil, what are you gonna do to fill that vacuum? Well do something the best cure when people are struggling to stick with a diet or

stick with Losing a bad habit. I'm not gonna smoke anymore.

I'm not gonna drink sugared cokes anymore I'm not gonna you know eat chocolate anymore, whatever it may be whatever you're trying to quit You can just sit there and vibrate and say no chocolate. No chocolate. No chocolate.

No chocolate, or you can get up and do something Invest yourself in something else Helps get your mind off of it. I remember when I was a tiny child before my brothers and sisters even came along I'd Skinned my knee or stubbed my toe and I went in and I just thought you know the entire universe was now revolving around My little bloody toenail down there. Oh, it's it's horrible.

It's horrific. It's scary My toe hurts and I remember my dad saying look you can't be sitting around Wailing about stuff you're gonna be doing this all your life He said look the best way for this to quit hurting is get busy go do something go find something to do get your mind off It don't just sit there staring at your sore toe. It's just gonna hurt worse and You you learn this sooner or later anyway But I was thankful to be taught it when I was very young the quickest way to get something to quit hurting is get busy And so now you know you learn this when you're when you're growing up you bark your shin or bang your thumb or whatever We'll just get busy and when you're concentrating on something else.

You don't notice the pain so much well If we are going to disincline from this evil if we're gonna get our tongue to stop doing this the best thing is do good Find some good and do it Right then right now somebody starts suggesting a bad topic of conversation do something Interrupt stand up say oh, sorry, but I have just got to get a drink or I'll be right back or say oh Apropos of nothing or speaking of that did you hear do something make a change do? There is a passive thing here It's an heiness to active imperative, and it says disinclined from evil and do Errors to active imperative Disinclined and do good Seek peace and pursue it notice there are three positive things to get rid of this one inclination disinclined do seek and pursue Peter says I know I'm telling you some stuff. That's hard to do You're gonna try to bring your tongue under control Hardest thing to do you go to James set on fire by the flames of hell The man that can do this has got his whole body and subjection and you know how many people can say that? But here's how to do it four things lean away Do something good seek peace and pursue it seek and pursue peace find some common ground find something That partakes of agreement find something that partakes of good find something that partakes of harmony incline away from this manipulative Anger inducing Enemy of righteousness stuff But notice to cure this tongue thing you've got to do four positive things You've got to have an attitude Disinclined you've got to have an action do you've got to have a policy of seeking and pursuing peace? it's a It gives you four other things to think about instead of how can I manipulate this conversation? Why because the eyes of the Lord are on? the righteous upon Epi You want God's eyes to be? upon us We don't want to be overlooked by God When God's eyes are upon the righteous and his ears are open to their requests Goes back to what Paul said to what Peter said about the the husbands Treat your wives like that Beautiful expensive China that your prayers be not hindered You want the eyes of the Lord upon

you you want his ears open to hear your requests? but his face is upon the ones practicing Evil and this is a present active participle. It doesn't say against The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous the face of the Lord is upon The ones practicing evil that gives you food for thought His eyes are upon the righteous his ears are open to their prayers their requests But his face is upon the ones practicing evil I'm just telling you what it says.

I would expect auntie, but it's Epi and finally the thought closes in and verse 13 is a bad place to break the verse and I just want to get this in as We close and who is he who will harm you if you become followers of what is good? This is linked. It ought to be a part of verse 12 The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous his ears are open to their prayers The face of the Lord is upon those who do evil and who is he will who will harm you? If you are a follower of what is good the implication here is If the eyes of the Lord are upon you and his ears are open to your Requests and his face is against those who do evil. How can you possibly be harmed if? You are one of those who qualifies for God's eyes and ears being in your direction This is the basis for answering the question.

Who is he who will harm you? It's verse 12 God is on your side. God is Inclined toward you God is watching and listening to you and his face is Against these who might do evil who practice evil. So how are you going to get harmed in this process? How can you possibly lose by dedicating yourself to? Righteousness disinclining yourself from evil seeking peace and pursuing it.

How can you lose? God is now for you who can be against you and that's really the great closing thought of verse 13 Well, this is a good place for us to pause How say and we'll resume next week in chapter 3 verse 14 Father, thank you for the truth of your word. Thank you for your promises and your active interest and concern with us especially when we are Seeking to live in a way that is pleasing in your sight. We pray that God the Holy Spirit will minister these Truths that we have seen in this passage to our hearts and help us to see clearly how we can apply them and implement them be those who incline away from evil and pursue peace and Pursue your plan and purpose in the days that remain to us in this life.

We ask it in Jesus name. Amen