

## ADVANTAGE – BENEFIT; EDGE; LEG-UP; R.O.I.

**Advantage #1:** Practice HOSPITALITY (vs. 1-3)

**Advantage #2:** Honour MARRIAGE (vs 4)

**Advantage #3:** Live FREE Be CONTENT (vs. 5-6)

**Advantage #4:** IMITATE Godly leaders (vs. 7-8)

**Advantage #5:** Don't get carried away by STRANGE

TEACHINGS (vs. 9-10)

**Advantage #6:** Don't get too HIGH and MIGHTY (vs. 11-14)

**Advantage #7:** Make Two DAILY SACRIFICES (vs. 15-16)

1. Praise God with your lips
2. Share with others

**Advantage #8:** OBEY your leaders and make

them HAPPY (vs. 17-18, 24)

- By pulling WITH them. (...*submit to their authority vs.17*)
- Understand the chain of command (...*they keep watch over you as men who must give an account vs. 17*)
- Pray for them (their heart, their conduct, their ministry vs. 18)
- Greet them (Don't lurk in the shadows or be a stranger vs. 24)

<sup>1</sup>Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters. <sup>2</sup>Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it. <sup>3</sup>Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.

<sup>4</sup>Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral. <sup>5</sup>Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."

<sup>6</sup>So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?"

<sup>7</sup>Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith. <sup>8</sup>Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

<sup>9</sup>Do not be carried away by all kinds of strange teachings. It is good for our hearts to be strengthened by grace, not by eating ceremonial foods, which is of no benefit to those who do so. <sup>10</sup>We have an altar from which those who minister at the tabernacle have no right to eat.

<sup>11</sup>The high priest carries the blood of animals into the Most Holy Place as a sin offering, but the bodies are burned outside the camp. <sup>12</sup>And so Jesus also suffered outside the city gate to make the people holy through his own blood. <sup>13</sup>Let us, then, go to him outside the camp, bearing the disgrace he bore. <sup>14</sup>For here we do not have an enduring city, but we are looking for the city that is to come.

<sup>15</sup>Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. <sup>16</sup>And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

<sup>17</sup>Have confidence in your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account. Do this so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you.

<sup>18</sup>Pray for us. We are sure that we have a clear conscience and desire to live honorably in every way. <sup>19</sup>I particularly urge you to pray so that I may be restored to you soon.

<sup>24</sup>Greet all your leaders and all the Lord's people. Those from Italy send you their greetings.