

Ps. 116. 15 - There are few psalms in the whole collection that are more instructive or animating than this, It is a song of thanksgiving, composed probably by David but whether on some particular occasion, or upon a general review of the many gracious deliverances, God had wrought for him is not clear. He seems, however, when he wrote it, to have had an affecting sense of God's goodness to him, & under a lively impression of it, he utters delightful praise and thanksgiving to God in the following language -

I who are meant here by Saints -

1. The term "his Saints" here it is said may be rendered his merciful ones, or subjects of his mercy.
2. They are the objects of his mercy, not only of his sparing but of his pardoning mercy - They have turned to him by repentance, therefore they are in *et.* (Phil. III. 9. 1 Pet. II. 10)
3. They are the subjects of his mercy - Luke I. 78. 79. 1 Pet. I. 3. 4. Eph. II. 10.
4. They are imitators of his mercy. Eph. V. 1. 1 Pet. II. 7.

2. Tim. I. 10.

But they are "Saints" also in Holy Writ. They are separated from the profane world. Isa. XLII. 14. 16. 17.

17. They are not of the world as to its spirit & heart.

12. The Father's pleasure in them. It is his will that they should be holy.

13. The holiness of their present state. 1 Cor. I. 2. 10. 11.

14. The holiness of their future state. 1 Cor. I. 2. 10. 11.

Luke 8 ch: 10. This Caution is an inference from the preceding Parable of the Sower —

In the parallel passage of St. it is take heed what ye hear (ch: IV. 24) — We shall explain and enforce the caution in both these senses.

I Take heed what ye hear.

This concerns both preachers & hearers.

1 Minister should take heed what they preach. That their doctrine be true — important — suitable — "rightly divide the word" —

2 Hearers should take heed what they hear.

They must not take it for granted what they hear is true &c. — Bring it to the test of the Holy Scriptures — They should read the scriptures —

3 — they must take heed to the doctrine if be scriptural —

II. Take heed how ye hear.

1 Not inattentively & without prayer and do not mistake upon the word — Hearers many receive the word like the seed which fell by the way side.

2. Take heed that you do not rest satisfied with in effectual, ^{& transient} impressions & fall away in time of trial — but have "root in yourself".

3. Guard against the cares of the world &c. the pernicious weeds which choke the word.

But hear —

1. with simplicity of intention
2. with sincerity of heart. (desiring to know the truth)
3. with humility
4. with reverence — in God's house & under his eye
5. with seriousness. 6 with attention. 7 Prayed.
8. with faith. 9. Resolution — ~~have~~ "down of the word"