

Pastor Hank's Notes on: 1 Peter



Introduction/Biography/Life of Peter/Peter in The Bible:

Peter first mentioned in The Bible:

John 1:40-42

⁴⁰ One of the two which heard John speak, and followed him, was Andrew, **Simon Peter's** brother.

⁴¹ He first findeth his own brother **Simon**, and saith unto him, We have found the Messias, which is, being interpreted, the Christ.

⁴² And he brought him to Jesus. And when Jesus beheld him, he said, **Thou art Simon the son of Jona: thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, A stone.**

Peter: A Man of many Names! Simon = Peter's original (first) name.

Matthew 16:17

¹⁷ And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, **Simon Barjona**: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

Barjona = Son of Jona. Cephas in the Syriac language = a stone. Peter is the Greek translation of Cephas.

There are **607,434** people in the U.S. with the first name Peter! 87th most popular name!

Simon Peter: Sort of a First and Last Name Combo, used interchangeably:

Mark 3:16

¹⁶ And Simon he surnamed Peter;

John 21:17

¹⁷ He saith unto him the third time, **Simon, son of Jonas**, lovest thou me? **Peter** was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep.

Peter's Bio:

Peter was from Bethsaida, on The Sea of Galilee. Bethsaida = Aramaic: "House of Fishing"

John 1:44

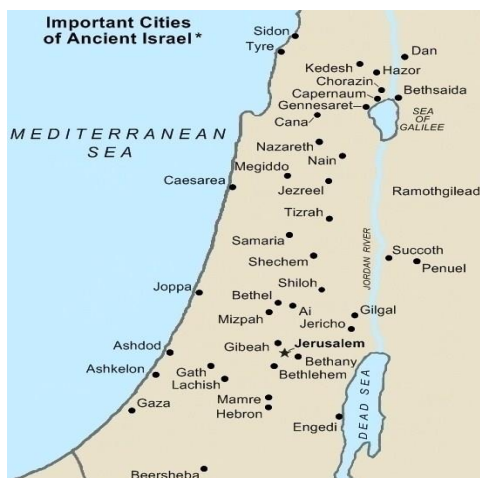
⁴⁴ Now Philip was of Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter.

Peter moved/lived in Capernaum also on The Sea of Galilee.

Mark 1:21,29

²¹ And they went into Capernaum; and straightway on the sabbath day he entered into the synagogue, and taught.

²⁹ And forthwith, when they were come out of the synagogue, they entered into the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John.



Peter was a Fisherman by Trade.

Matthew 4:18-19

¹⁸ And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, **Simon called Peter**, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers.

The Apostle Peter's Calling by Jesus:

¹⁹ And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.

Peter's Family: Brother = Andrew, Father = Jona

Wife = Not mentioned by name, but we know Peter was married and had a Mother-in-law!

Matthew 8:14

¹⁴ And when Jesus was come into Peter's house, he saw his wife's mother laid, and sick of a fever.

Peter in The Bible:

Paul's name is mentioned 153 times in The New Testament, **Peter's** name is mentioned 152 times!

Peter is the Author of The Bible Books 1 & 2 Peter.

Peter is mentioned frequently in The Four Gospels and The Book of Acts.

Peter is also mentioned in The Book of 1 Corinthians, Galatians and 1 & 2 Peter.

No one spoke in the gospels as often as Peter did, and Jesus spoke more to Peter than to any other individual.

Jesus rebuked Peter more than any other disciple.

Peter was the only disciple who dared to rebuke Jesus.

Peter confessed Jesus more boldly and accurately than any other disciple.

Peter denied Jesus more forcefully and publicly than any other disciple.

Jesus praised Peter more than any other disciple.

Jesus addressed Peter as Satan alone among the disciples.

Since Peter is so prominent in the gospel records, it is worthwhile to remind ourselves of some of the important mentions of Peter in the record of Biblical history:

Peter put his nets out at the direction of Jesus to bring in a massive catch of fish (Luke 5:1-11).

Peter stepped out of the boat during a raging storm and walked on the water with Jesus (Matthew 14:24-33).

Peter was the one who said, "*Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life. And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God.*" (John 6:68-69).

Peter saw Jesus transfigured in glory, together with Moses and Elijah (Matthew 17:1-9).

The Lord paid Peter's Taxes! Matthew 17:24-27

Peter was the one who asked Jesus how many times we should forgive a brother that sins against us, quoting the high number of "seven times" (Matthew 18:21-35).

Peter was the one who asked Jesus, after the encounter with the rich young ruler, what the disciples would receive for giving everything up to follow Jesus (Matthew 19:27-30).

Peter was the one who insisted that Jesus would not wash his feet; then he commanded Jesus to wash his whole body! (John 13:16-20).

Peter heard Jesus predict that he would deny Him three times (Matthew 26:30-35), and Peter replied, "*Though I should die with thee, yet will I not deny thee*" (Matthew 26:35), and the rest of the disciples agreed.

Peter was the one who cut off the right ear of Malchus, the servant of the high priest, when the soldiers came to arrest Jesus (John 18:1-11).

Peter denied Jesus three times, cursing and swearing that he did not even know "the man," refusing to even name the name of Jesus (Matthew 26:69-75).

Peter was the one who ran with John the disciple to the tomb on the morning of the resurrection, after hearing the report of the women that the body of Jesus was not in its tomb (John 20:1-10).

Peter was the one who received a personal visit from the resurrected Jesus on the day of the resurrection (Luke 24:34).

Peter received a public restoration of Jesus in front of the other disciples after the resurrection of Jesus (John 21).

Peter Preached five sermons in The New Testament!

Peter was one of Jesus' twelve disciples, and along with James and John, he was one of the inner circle of Jesus' closest friends and followers. Peter is often portrayed in the gospels as someone with an exuberant faith and devotion to Jesus. It was Peter, for example, who was willing to step out of the boat and walk on the water with Jesus.

Peter appears to have been the spokesman for Jesus' twelve disciples; and, while we may think Peter was impulsive and sometimes slow by some of the statements he made, Peter was probably just stating aloud what the other disciples were also thinking.

Peter was the first to openly state that Jesus was the Messiah (Matthew 16:16-19; Mark 8:27-33). It was also Peter who denied Jesus. (Luke 22:31-34, 54-71.) But he was later lovingly restored by Jesus and given a special commission (John 21:15-19). When the Holy Spirit came on the day of Pentecost (Acts chapter 2), it was Peter, again, who was the chief spokesman. Peter, with John at his side, became the leader of the very first Christian church in Jerusalem. Peter was mainly an apostle to the Jews. Yet after a vision, followed by a visit to the home of Cornelius, a Gentile Roman Centurion (Acts 10), Peter understood that the Gospel was for all people: Jew and Gentile. Peter went on his missionary travels with his wife (1 Corinthians 9:5).

1 Peter, The Author: The author was the Apostle Peter, whose name before he became a disciple, was Simon. He was born in Bethsaida and lived in Capernaum where he followed the occupation of fishing. He was brought to Jesus by Andrew, his brother, and became one of the leaders of the Apostles, both before and after Christ's death. His career should be studied as it is found in Acts. He was impetuous, brave and energetic, and after the ascension performed many miracles.

Date Written: Around 60 A.D.

It is implied that Peter was writing from a place he referred to as "Babylon" (1 Peter 5:13).

60th Book of The Bible! Chapters: 5, Verses: 105, Words: 2476

Theme: While Peter undoubtedly has scattered Jewish believers in mind, his Epistles comprehend Gentile believers also (1 Peter 2:10). The present Epistle, written from a church on Gentile ground (1 Peter 5:13), presents all the foundational truths of the Christian faith, with special emphasis on the atonement. The distinctive note of First Peter is preparation for victory over suffering.

Key Words:

Suffer, Suffered, Suffering = 13 times in 11 verses.

Conversation = manner of life, conduct, behavior, 6 times in 6 verses.

Submit, Subject = 7 times in 6 verses.

1 Peter is one of the few places in the New Testament where the word “Christian” is used.

1 Peter 4:16

¹⁶ Yet if any man suffer as a **Christian**, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf.

1 Peter is one of the few places in the New Testament where the words “born again” is used.

Peter calling the Cross a “Tree” in 1 Peter 2:24 and in Acts 5:30 and Acts 10:39.

The Epistle is in three parts: (From Scofield Reference Bible)

The distinctive note of First Peter is preparation for victory over suffering. The last-named word occurs about fifteen times, and is the key-word of the epistle, The Epistle is in three parts:

I. Christian suffering and conduct in light of full salvation, 1.1-2.8.

II. The believer’s life in view of his sevenfold position and the vicarious suffering of Christ, 2.9-4.19.

III. Christian service in the light of the coming of the Chief Shepherd, 5.1-14.”

**** A Question was asked last week: What is The believer’s life in view of his sevenfold position and the vicarious suffering of Christ?**

Suffering for The Believer, in **First Peter**, is set in the light of:

- (1) Assured salvation, **1Peter** 1:2-5;
- (2) The greater glory at Christ’s appearing, **1Peter** 1:7;
- (3) Christ’s sufferings and coming glories, **1Peter** 1:1;
- (4) The believer’s association with Him in both, **1Peter** 2:20; 3:17; 4:12-13;
- (5) The purifying effect of suffering, **1Peter** 1:7; 4:1; 5:10;
- (6) That Christ is now glorified in the believer’s patient suffering, **1Peter** 4:16;
- (7) That suffering is disciplinary, **1Peter** 4:17-19; **1Corinthians** 11:31-32; **Hebrews** 12:5-13.)

This is different than: The Sevenfold Position of the Christian

1. The Believer is a member in Christ’s Body.

1 Corinthians 12:13

¹³ For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

2. The Believer is a branch in THE VINE of Christ.

John 15:5

⁵ I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

3. The Believer is a stone in the building in which Christ is The Chief Corner Stone.

1 Peter 2:4-8

⁴ To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious,

⁵ Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

⁶ Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.

⁷ Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,

⁸ And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.

4. A Believer is a sheep in Christ Flock and Christ is The Chief Shepherd.

John 10:27-29

²⁷ My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:

²⁸ And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

²⁹ My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.

5. The Believer is The Bride of Christ.

Ephesians 5:23-25

²³ For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

²⁴ Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

6. The Believer is a Priest in a Kingdom of Priests and Christ is The Great High Priest.

1 Peter 2:5

⁵ Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 4:14

¹⁴ Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.

7. The Believer is part of the new creation over which Christ is the head and last Adam.

2 Corinthians 5:17

¹⁷ Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

1 Corinthians 15:45

⁴⁵ And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit.

Purpose of writing 1 Peter:

Peter stated his reason for writing, namely, to encourage his readers, who were facing persecution for their faith.

1 Peter 5:10-12

¹⁰ But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.

¹¹ To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

¹² By Silvanus, a faithful brother unto you, as I suppose, I have written briefly, exhorting, and testifying that this is the true grace of God wherein ye stand.

Peter's major purpose in his letter was to encourage the Christians of Asia Minor and instruct them on how to live and behave in a pagan society where they were misunderstood and insulted for their faith. Peter gives the example of Jesus, and his sufferings, as an example to follow. And Peter gives them hope in this Epistle. At the time of Peter's writing, the Christians in Asia Minor were experiencing insults, slanders and harmful rumours against them (1 Peter 2:11-15; 3:13-18; 4:12-19).

1 Peter 1 King James Version (KJV)

A greeting from the Apostle Peter to the intended readers of this letter, verse 1.

Verse 1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia,

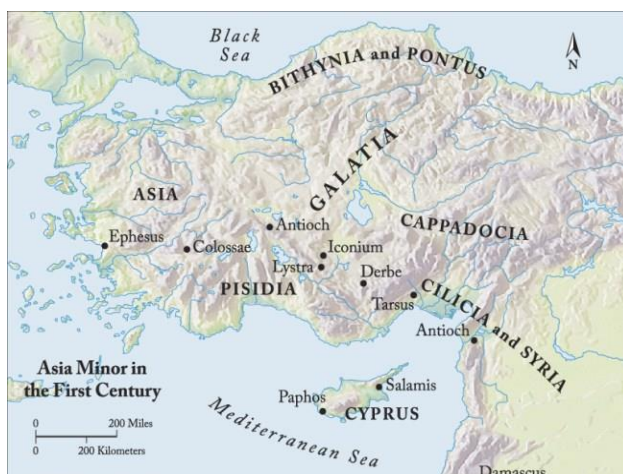
Peter... was the beloved name that Jesus himself had bestowed upon this apostle, and is the Greek form of the Aramaic name meaning "stone" or "pebble." Jesus had first spoken it prophetically (John 1:42), later confirming it, when in his great confession of Christ (Matthew 16:18), this great apostle was proving his perception and dependability.

an apostle of Jesus Christ ... There was no need for Peter to defend his apostleship, for it was never questioned, as was sometimes true with Paul. Note also that he did not write "**THE** apostle," but "**AN** apostle." He was always careful to acknowledge his own equality with all the Twelve and with Paul also. Peter knew no higher title to bestow on himself than that which he held in common with the other eleven.

Jesus Christ ... Peter used this compound title of The Lord nine times in the 105 verses of this letter. Peter also wrote “Christ Jesus” two times as well.

to the strangers... This Epistle is addressed to both Gentile and Jewish Christians residing in the various provinces of Asia Minor (modern day Turkey) here specified.

scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia...



The Trinity and Salvation, verse 2:

Verse 2 **Elect** according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, **through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.**

Notice The Trinity is mentioned here: “God the Father” “the Spirit” and “Jesus”. The Trinity all participate in the Salvation of believers! “Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ”.

Elect... What Elect/Election is in The Bible:

Elect/Election: It simply means, knowledge beforehand. God’s foreknowledge always precedes election; and Peter here teaches that the election is grounded upon it. Again look at verse 2: “**Elect** according to the **foreknowledge** of God the Father”.

elect according to the foreknowledge of God... Because God knows beforehand from eternity who will turn to him in repentance and faith, and who will not.

Did God, before the foundation of the world was laid, unconditionally “**elect**” who would be saved and who would not? Has your ultimate destiny already been set? Have you been “**elected**” to Hell? Answer: NO!

The term predestination means “to mark out beforehand,” and refers to the plan and goal of salvation itself, not to specific individuals. It should be understood in the corporate sense, rather than in the sense that each individual was predestined to either eternal life or eternal condemnation.

God knew beforehand that there would be a body of believers, but does not say that He limited the membership of that body to a specific number. Believers are called through the Preaching of the

Gospel, and those who respond to the Gospel in repentance and faith are justified, sanctified and Saved and are them part of the “elect”!

John 3:16

¹⁶For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

God’s foreknowledge: God knows what our response is to the Gospel.

God didn’t predetermine the salvation of specific individuals, rather, He predetermined that salvation would be found in Jesus Christ (Ephesians 1:4-5), Jesus would die for the sins of the world (1 Peter 1:20), the gospel would be the message which would be used to call men, the rules or type of character expected of those who accept this call, and the relationship they would enter into, i.e. the church (Ephesians 3:10-11). Thus, the Father designed the plan whereby we could be saved.

“It is not plain Scripture doctrine, (if true), but rather inconsistent with the express written word that speaks of God's universal offers of grace; his invitations, promises, threatening’s, being all general. We are bid to choose life, and reprehended for not doing it. But the doctrine of predestination is entirely changed from what it formerly was: now it implies neither faith, peace, nor purity; it is something that will do without them all. Faith is no longer, according to the modern predestination scheme, a Divine evidence of things not seen wrought in the soul by the immediate power of the Holy Ghost; not an evidence at all, but a mere notion: neither is faith made any longer a means of holiness, but something that will do without it. Christ is no more a Savior from sin, but a defense and a countenancer of it. He is no more a fountain of spiritual life in the souls of believers, but leaves his elect inwardly dry, and outwardly unfruitful; and is made little more than a refuge from the image of the heavenly, even from righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.” – John Wesley

Some thoughts on Election, How a Reformed Calvinist thinks:

John Smith is deliberately foreordained to commit sin

Is hated by God before he is born

Is predestined to go to hell before he is born

Cannot repent because God deliberately refuses to give him the gift of repentance

Cannot believe because God deliberately refuses to give him the gift of faith

Was not, is not and never will be loved by God in the slightest degree

Was deliberately excluded from the group of people Jesus died for on the cross so that salvation was intentionally and for ever put completely out of his reach:

No need for Soul Winning or Evangelism because God knows who’s saved already...

Then, how is it John Smith’s fault that he will end up burning forever in the Lake of Fire?

Little Johnny’s Reformed parents Teaching The Bible to him:

Little Johnny, God has predestined the minority of people to be saved and go to heaven forever, and He has predestined the majority of people to be eternally damned and burn in the fires of hell. We have no idea, little Johnny, if God has predestined you to be forever damned or forever saved. We love you, little Johnny, but we accept the fact that God might not love you, and that He may have plans to send you to hell for your future sins. If you do find yourself one day burning in hell because He hasn't elected to save you, just remember that we will always love you, even if God hates you. Take comfort knowing that we are not like God.

We will be in heaven forever only because we were unconditionally chosen for salvation before we were born. That would be the only reason that we won't be in hell with you if you find yourself there. It won't be because of anything we did. So also take comfort in knowing that. It may not seem fair, but who are we to judge God? So again, if you find yourself in hell, remember that we will always love you as we forever worship the God who loved us but who hated you, the God who sent His Son to die for us but not for you. Please, we ask, don't let it bother you---if you find yourself in hell---that we love the God who hated you and showed you no mercy. We must accept the fact that God is sovereign, and He does what He pleases.

James 4:8

⁸ Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

James says we're to "draw nigh to God". If it is true that no person has the ability to come to Christ, then why would Jesus say in John 5:40, "Ye will not come to me." why didn't He simply say, "You cannot come to me."?

D. L. Moody addressed a large group of sceptics. He said, "I want to talk about the word believe, the word receive, and the word take." When Mr. Moody had finished his sermon, he asked, "Now who will come and take Christ as Saviour?" One man stood and said, "I can't." Mr. Moody wept and said, "Don't say, 'I can't.' Say, 'I won't!'"

through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ...

All who are elected, then, are elected to be brought into a state of obedience and purification from sin, through the power of God's **Spirit**, and the efficacy of Christ's blood, called the **sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ**, because it cleanses the conscience from the guilt and defilement of sin. Hebrews 9:18-23. "Spirit" accomplished election when He separated the elect, and set them aside to a special calling **sanctification of the Spirit**.

Sanctification means: "Sanctify," "holy," and "saint" are translated from the same Greek words. They mean to be set apart for special service. In relation to the Christian, sanctification or holiness refers to being set apart to God from sin. There are three distinctly different aspects of this sanctification: past, present, and future. Every Christian can say, "I have been sanctified; I am being sanctified; I will yet be sanctified." **Sanctification** involves the work of The Trinity.

Through sanctification of the Spirit - through the renewing and purifying influences of his Spirit on their souls, unto obedience - to engage and enable them to yield themselves up to all holy obedience, the foundation of all which is the sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ - the atoning blood of **Jesus Christ** which was typified by the sprinkling of the blood of sacrifices under the law, in allusion to which it is called the **sprinkling of the blood**.

Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied... Peter brought a greeting that had become common among the Christians, combining elements from Greek culture (**Grace**) and Jewish culture (**Peace-Shalom**).

Thanks to the Father for His work of salvation, verses 3-5:

Verse 3 **Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ... When Peter considered the salvation of God (verse 2), his immediate response was to simply praise Him!

according to his abundant mercy ... Every hope of eternal life, of forgiveness of sins, of every conceivable measure of salvation - all hope springs ultimately from the unmerited favor and mercy of an almighty God. God doesn't give a little mercy, God gives "**abundant mercy**"!

hath begotten us again.. The meaning is, that as God is the Author of our life in a natural sense, so he is the Author of our second life by regeneration. Jesus said, John 3:3 that "except a man be born again," or "begotten again.

a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,...

We are born again to a **lively hope** because we have eternal life in a Savior who has conquered death Himself **by the resurrection**.

"A lively hope": Is also called "The living hope". "Hope" means confident optimism during our lives and:

1. Comes from God (Psalm 43:5)
2. Is a gift of grace (2 Thess. 2:16)
3. Is defined by Scripture (Romans 15:4)
4. Is a reasonable reality (1 Peter 3:5)
5. Is secured by the resurrection of Jesus Christ (John 11:25-26; 14:19; 1 Cor. 15:17)
6. Is confirmed in the Christian by the Holy Spirit (Romans 15:13)
7. Defends the Christian against Satan's attack (1 Thess. 5:8)
8. Is confirmed through trials (Romans 5:3-4)
9. Products joy (Psalm 146:5) and
10. Is fulfilled in Christ's return (Titus 2:13).

The Resurrection of the Lord Jesus is the foundation of our hope. It was a confirmation of what he declared as truth when he lived; it was a proof of the doctrine of the immortality of the soul; it was a promise that all who are elected to him will be raised up as well!

Pastor Hank's Notes on: 1 Peter

Chapter One Outline: A greeting from the Apostle Peter to the intended readers of this letter, verse 1. The Trinity and Salvation, verse 2. Thanks to the Father for His work of salvation, verses 3-5. The purpose of trials for those who are saved, verses 6-9. Salvation which even the prophets of old, and the angels, had sought to understand more perfectly, verses 10-12. The conduct of those who are saved, verses 13-17. The motivation for godly living, verse 18-21. The necessity for love among the saved, verses 22-25.

A picture of the blessedness in store for us “strangers”; Eternal Life in Heaven, verse 4:

Verse 4 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,

To an inheritance... Called an inheritance because it belongs to the children of God. Eternal life cannot be a gift to any but the children of God.

Inheritance means: To possess; to enjoy; to take as a possession, by gift or divine appropriation; as, to inherit everlasting life; to inherit the promises of God.

Paul also called eternal life an **inheritance** in:

Ephesians 1:18

¹⁸ The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his **inheritance** in the saints,

Our inheritance from God is: Salvation, Eternal Life, Our New Bodies, A Mansion, and joyful existence with God! And is:

Incorruptible... it is free from corruption in itself; nor can it be corrupted by others, by moth, or rust, pollution or other things, as gold, silver, and garments may, which are a part of earthly inheritances; nor can it be enjoyed by corrupt persons. Wherefore, in order to inherit it, corruption must put on incorruption, in every sense.

1 Corinthians 15:50

⁵⁰ Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth **corruption inherit incorruption.**

Undefiled... it is in its own nature pure and holy, and free from any defilement of sin; nor are there any of those impurities in it; nor will it be possessed by any but undefiled persons.

that fadeth not away... as does the world, and the glory of it, and all its inheritances and possessions in it; here is no continuing city, but there is one to come; in this inheritance are riches, everlasting mansions, an house eternal in the heavens, glories in it that will never **wither and die**, and pleasures which will never end, and which will be enjoyed without decrease or fading:

reserved in heaven... The inheritance is in security, beyond risk, out of the reach of Satan. Heaven is where God lives!

for you... for all the saints; for all who are the elect, according to the foreknowledge of God, and who are begotten again to a lively hope; for these this inheritance is prepared, laid up, and secured in the hands of Christ, because of His resurrection. (Verses 1-3)

Verse 5 Who **are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation** ready to be revealed in the last time.

Kept means: Preserved, who are being guarded. inheritance is "kept" safely for the "heirs," so must they be "guarded" in their persons so as to be sure of reaching it.

The promise of our **inheritance** is certain because we **are kept by the power of God**. This enables us to endure **through faith** until the coming of Jesus. Nothing can steal the believer's heavenly inheritance! Our Salvation is kept by the power of God and God Himself is our sole guarding power !

Romans 1:16

¹⁶For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: **for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth**; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

The Power of God is:

Omnipotence = All powerful

Job 9:4

⁴He is wise in heart, and mighty in strength: who hath hardened himself against him, and hath prospered?

Omniscience = All knowing

Psalms 147:5

⁵Great is our Lord, and of great power: his understanding is infinite.

Omnipresence = All present

Proverbs 15:3

³The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.

Unto salvation ... Not preserved for a little period, and then suffered to fall away, but so kept as to be saved. We may remark here that Peter, as well as Paul, believed in the doctrine of the eternal security or the perseverance of the saints. If Peter did not, how could he have addressed these Christians in this manner, and said that they were "kept by the power of God unto salvation?"

The inheritance is reserved; the heirs are kept for it.

The purpose of trials for those who are saved, verses 6-9:

Verse 6 Wherein ye **greatly rejoice**, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through **manifold temptations**:

greatly rejoice... means literally to "jump much", "leap for joy", skip and jump with happy excitement and so to be exceedingly joyful, overjoyed or exuberantly happy.

The temptations coming upon the Christians to whom Peter wrote were more than were normally expected. Here is a reference to the weight of persecutions, sufferings and temptations being felt by Christians.

Manifold temptations... Peter teaches several important principles about persecutions, sufferings and temptations in this verse:

1. Persecutions, sufferings and temptation does not last (For a season)
2. Persecutions, sufferings and temptation serves a purpose (If need be)
3. Persecutions, sufferings and temptation brings turmoil (Heaviness)
4. Persecutions, sufferings and temptation comes in various forms (Temptations)
5. Persecutions, sufferings and temptation should not diminish the Christian's joy (Greatly rejoice)

Verse 7 That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of **gold** that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

That the trial of your faith ... This is the principal end which God allows or cause suffering, to try the faith of his people; so the faith of Abraham, Job, David, and others, have been tried.

Gold...

1. Faith is much more precious than gold.
2. Gold perishes, our Faith doesn't have to.
3. Gold, tried in the fire, just becomes more and more pure. Some of the fiery trials that come on us are to purify us and make us better Christians.
4. Faith is tested to show that it is sincere faith or true faith.
5. Faith is tested to show the strength of faith.

James said it this way: James 1:1-4

1 James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting.

2 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;

3 Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.

4 But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ... Our Faith will be praised for its steadiness and faithfulness though all our sufferings, persecutions and tribulations. Our good works, the fruits of faith, will be remembered by **Jesus Christ** with praise! The Lord will say to that Faithful servant: "Well done, good and faithful servant"

Verse 8 **Whom having not seen, ye love;** in whom, **though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory:**

Whom having not seen, ye love... This Epistle was addressed to those who were "strangers scattered abroad," and it is evident that they had not personally seen the Lord Jesus. Yet they had heard of his character, his preaching, his sacrifice for sin, and his resurrection and ascension, and they had learned to love him!

Millions, maybe Billions have been led to love the Saviour, who have never seen him. They have seen - not with the physical eye, but with the eye of **faith!**

Jesus died for us, to redeem our souls. He rose, and brought life and immortality to light. He ever lives to intercede for us in heaven. He is preparing mansions of rest for us in Heaven, and he will come and take us to himself, that we may be with him forever. **Such a Saviour ought to be loved!**

though now ye see him not, yet believing... Jesus says that those who believe, who have not seen, are greatly blessed:

John 20:29

²⁹ Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.

Something to think about: 1 Corinthians 2:9

⁹ But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory... How can such unspeakable joy and rejoicing exist in the hearts of those whose hearts are burdened with manifold trials and temptations and sufferings? The answer to this is thundered in the next verse.

Verse ⁹ **Receiving the end of your faith**, even the **salvation of your souls**.

The **end of your faith** is the return of Jesus and the ultimate **salvation of your souls**. Suffering and trials are inevitable as long as we are on this side of **the end of your faith**.

Salvation-Eternal life begins NOW (the moment you became Born Again), for those who love God! The Christian has past sins forgiven, and is God's child. **Receiving the end of your faith:** this is still future, as we wait for our whole being to be set free and our sin filled bodies being changed.

Philippians 3:20-21

²⁰ For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ:

²¹ Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

Salvation which even the prophets of old, and the angels, had sought to understand more perfectly, verses 10-12:

Verse ¹⁰ Of which **salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently**, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you:

Peter looks at the **greatness of salvation** in verses 10-12 from the viewpoint of:

1. Old Testament Prophets (verses 10-11).
2. The Holy Spirit (verses 11-12).
3. The New Testament apostles (verse 12).
4. The Angels (verse 12).

the prophets have enquired... Who are the “prophets” here? Answer: The writers of the Old Testament, whose hundreds of prophecies of Christ's coming into the world make up the burden of the Old Testament. Peter was a diligent student of the prophetic books, and constantly quotes them, both in his epistles and in his Sermons recorded in Acts. Peter here, grounds his doctrine on the Old Testament prophecy. On Pentecost, He then quoted Joel and David, (Acts 2:16-21; Acts 2:25-31.) Later, after citing Moses, he said:

Acts 3:24

²⁴ Yea, and all the prophets from Samuel and those that follow after, as many as have spoken, have likewise foretold of these days.

Verse 11 **Searching** what, or **what manner of time** the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow.

and searched diligently, Searching... What did the prophets search? The Holy Scriptures which they had written! The Old Testament prophets studied their own writings in order to know more about the promised **salvation**.

what manner of time... The "**time**" of the events which they foretold, the exact answers to their questionings, was not revealed to them, only that it was not scheduled for their own generation, but for future generations.

Jesus said in: Matthew 13:17

¹⁷ For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them.

Verse 12 Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us **they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel** unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; **which things the angels desire to look into**.

The prophets understood that **they did minister** to people beyond them as well as to people in their own day. These things the prophets wrote were reported as fact by the apostles (**the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel**).

which things the angels desire to look into... Peter in this affirms that even the angels of heaven are deeply concerned and interested in this salvation; and why not? For their own number who had sinned, there was no day of grace, no offer of pardon, no opportunity to seek a remedy. The same verse of the word of God which relates their sin also relates their being cast out of heaven! No wonder they were interested in this new thing wherein God would forgive sinful and rebellious people!

Pastor Hank's Notes on: 1 Peter

Chapter One Outline: A greeting from the Apostle Peter to the intended readers of this letter, verse 1. The Trinity and Salvation, verse 2. Thanks to the Father for His work of salvation, verses 3-5. The purpose of trials for those who are saved, verses 6-9. Salvation which even the prophets of old, and the angels, had sought to understand more perfectly, verses 10-12. **The conduct of those who are saved, verses 13-17.** The motivation for godly living, verse 18-21. The necessity for love among the saved, verses 22-25.

The conduct of those who are saved, verses 13-17:

Verse 13 **Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;**

Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind... Meant tying up one's loose outward garments as a prerequisite to being able to work free and unobstructed. It had the rough meaning of "Roll up your sleeves, and go to work." Sure enough, the mind cannot roll up any sleeves; but the mind can be disciplined and prepared for the future by diligent prayer, study and examination.

To **gird up the loins of your mind** is to get rid of loose and sloppy thinking; to bring the rational and reflective powers of your mind under control. It means to control what you think about, those things you decide to set your mind upon.

be sober... Spiritual sober-mindedness includes the ideas of steadfastness, self-control, clarity of mind, and moral decisiveness. The sober Christian is correctly in charge of his priorities and not intoxicated with the various charms of the world.

We're to be Sober:

1 Thessalonians 5:6

⁶Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be **sober**.

Pastors are to Sober:

1 Timothy 3:2

²A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, **sober**, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;

Young people are to be Sober:

Titus 2:4-6

⁴That they may teach the young women to be **sober**, to love their husbands, to love their children,

⁵To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.

⁶Young men likewise exhort to be **sober** minded.

the grace that is to be brought unto you... Peter has told us a lot about God's grace. He greeted us with grace (1 Peter 1:2). He told us of the grace that came to us in Jesus, was **prophesied** by the prophets of old (1 Peter 1:10). Now he goes further, writing of **the grace that is to be brought**

unto you when Jesus comes back (Second Coming). The only way we will be able to stand before Jesus on that day is because of the *unmerited favor* (Grace) He gives and will give to us.

Grace isn't just for the past, when we first gave our lives to Jesus. It isn't only for the present, where we live each moment standing in His grace (Romans 5:2). It is also for the future, when grace will be brought to us. God has only just begun to show us the riches of **His** grace.

The revelation of Jesus Christ... is the Second Coming when Jesus returns to earth to set up His kingdom.

Verse 14 **As obedient children**, not fashioning yourselves according to **the former lusts in your ignorance**:

As obedient children... That is, conduct yourselves as the children of God, by obeying his commands; by submitting to His will; and by manifesting unwavering confidence in him as your Father at all times.

the former lusts in your ignorance... Fulfilling God's call to holiness requires that we, as **obedient children**, break off with the lifestyle of the world, which is characterized by **lusts** and **ignorance** which we had while we were ignorant of God.

Verse 15 But as he which hath called you is holy, so **be ye holy in all manner of conversation**;

in all manner of conversation... “**Conversation**” is one of Peter’s themes. Conversation= manner of life, conduct, behavior, 6 times in 6 verses in 1 Peter.

Verse 16 **Because it is written**, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

Because it is written... “**be ye holy**” ... Is written three times in our Bibles. Leviticus 11:44, Leviticus 19:2 and Leviticus 20:7.

Leviticus 11:44

⁴⁴ For I am the LORD your God: ye shall therefore sanctify yourselves, and ye shall be holy; for I am holy: neither shall ye defile yourselves with any manner of creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

If we are saved, then God is our Father. He is Holy and He wants His children to be Holy.

To be holy means to be set apart or separate from sin and evil. God is Holy—completely separate from everything that is evil (1 John 1:5). God calls us to be holy, just as He is.

Holiness essentially defines the Christian’s new nature and conduct in contrast with his pre-salvation lifestyle (**the former lusts in your ignorance**). The reason for practicing a holy manner of living is that Christians are associated with the Holy God and must treat Him and His Word with respect and reverence. We therefore glorify Him best by being like Him.

Holiness apart from God this is impossible. We must have the Holy Spirit indwelling us and filling us with His Holiness. We can only live a holy life through the power of the Holy Spirit; thus, the first step to living a holy life is to accept Jesus as Savior.

Ephesians 1:13

¹³ In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,

Verse 17 **And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work**, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear:

And if ye call on the Father... If we as Christians **call on** a Holy God (presumably for help), we must understand that we call on a God who shows no partiality (**who without respect of persons**) and will so judge our conduct. This makes a working, sober, holy walk all the more important.

judgeth according to every man's work... This teaching is not peculiar to Peter; Paul wrote:

Romans 2:6

⁶ Who will render to every man according to his deeds:

God doesn't treat The Apostle Peter or The Apostle Paul with more respect than other believers. He treats us all the same. God is our judge! Shouldn't Judges be fair?

The motivation for godly living, verse 18-21:

Verse 18 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not **redeemed** with corruptible things, as **silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition** from your fathers;

Redeemed... Redemption means to free someone from bondage. It often involves the paying of a ransom, a price that makes redemption possible. We were slaves to sin and hell, but at Calvary, Jesus died for our sins and Redeemed us!

Titus 2:14

¹⁴ Who gave himself for us, that he might **redeem** us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

1 Corinthians 7:23

²³ Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men.

The benefits of redemption include eternal life (Revelation 5:9-10), forgiveness of sins (Ephesians 1:7), righteousness (Romans 5:17), freedom from the law's curse (Galatians 3:13), adoption into God's family (Galatians 4:5), deliverance from sin's bondage (Titus 2:14; 1 Peter 1:14-18), peace with God (Colossians 1:18-20), and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19-20). To be redeemed, then, is to be forgiven, holy, justified, free, adopted, and reconciled.

silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition... Silver, gold and traditions cannot redeem us, only the:

Verse 19 But with the **precious** blood of Christ, **as of a lamb without blemish and without spot**:

We were "not **redeemed** with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers" (verse 18). We were **Redeemed** with the precious blood of Christ!

Only the blood of the Lamb of God can do away with sin. The blood of man is not without sin and could not do away with sin. Jesus Christ was God manifest in the flesh. The blood of a Child comes from his Father. God the Holy Spirit, hovered over Mary, and she conceived of God. God was the Father of Jesus Christ. It was the blood of sinless God that paid the price for sin.

as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.. Peter here spoke in reference to the completely sinless character, life and being of Jesus. If He were not **without blemish and without spot**, He would not have been qualified to be our Redeemer.

John 1:29

²⁹ The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

The **precious** blood of Jesus was shed one time and it perfected FOR EVER them that are sanctified.

Hebrews 10:10-12

¹⁰ By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ **once** for all.

¹¹ And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins:

¹² But this man, **after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever**, sat down on the right hand of God;

The blood of animals had to be shed over and over, but the blood of Jesus was shed only one time. The Roman Catholic institution teaches that Roman Catholic priests continue to sacrifice the Lord Jesus Christ over and over again during the "mass." They teach that the priest turns the wine into the actual blood of Jesus Christ and the bread into his actual body. They call this false teaching, "transubstantiation".

John Mac Arthur would say that the "blood" is just a figure of speech for death. No, No, No! In the Book of Exodus, they painted real lamb's blood on their door posts. The Lamb of God was slain. Jesus's Body including Blood was special and made by The Father:

Hebrews 10:5

⁵ Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, **but a body hast thou prepared me:**

Some Things The Precious Blood of Jesus does:

1. My debt is paid, once and for all. (Hebrew 9:28)
2. I am justified. (Romans 5:9)
3. I am forgiven. (Ephesians 1:7)
4. I am spared from God's wrath. (Romans 5:9)
5. I am being spiritually healed. (I Peter 2:24)
6. I am spiritually alive. (John 6:53)
7. My judgment has been satisfied and I am at peace with God. (Isaiah 53:5)
8. The bloodstream of His people Israel will be purged. (Joel 3:21)
9. I am cleansed. (I John 1:7)
10. I have the power to overcome the enemy. (Revelation 12:11)

11. I am no longer under the curse of the law. (Galatians 3:13)
12. I have been reclaimed from the enemy. : (Ephesians 1:7)
13. I am no longer a stranger to the covenant of promise. (Ephesians 2:12-13)
14. I have been moved from the enemy's kingdom into the kingdom of God. (Colossians 2:15)
15. I have gained the unmerited favor of God. (Ephesians 1:7)
16. I have been declared righteous. (2 Corinthians 5:21)
17. I have been justified (just as though I had never sinned). (Romans 3:24-25)
18. I am able to come close to God. (Ephesians 2:13)
19. I can participate in the sweet Communion of remembrance of His sacrifice (Luke 22:20)
20. Jesus testifies on my behalf that I am clean. (Revelation 1:5)
21. I am free (Galatians 5:1) (Hebrews 10:22)
22. I have been separated from the world and declared holy (wholly) to God. (Galatians 2:20)
23. I can proclaim victory. (Revelation 12:11).
24. I can enter boldly into the holiest of holies...and live. (Hebrews 10:19-22)
20. My **redemption** will never perish. (1 Peter 1:18-19)

Verse 20 Who verily was **foreordained before the foundation of the world**, but was manifest in these last times for you,

The work of Jesus was not a plan developed late in the course of human-redemption. It **was foreordained before the foundation of the world**, though it was made evident **in these last times**. God The Father knew that The Lord Jesus was going to come into this world and suffer, to die and to take our sins in His own body on the Cross.

Verse 21 **Who by him do believe in God**, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God.

The entire plan of redemption is for those who **believe in God**, their belief is **through Him**.

Who by him do believe in God ... By His means, or on His account,—*do trust in God*. Christians, who before their conversion were ignorant of the true God, learnt his Being and Providence, through grace, from the great fact of Christ's resurrection, by the power of God the Father. (1 Peter chap one). We come to The Father by Jesus His Son.

The necessity for love among the saved, verses 22-25:

Verse 22 Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another **with a pure heart fervently**:

Holy living is incomplete if it is not accompanied by **love**. To be a Christian means to have a **unfeigned** (sincere) **love of the brethren**, and we are told by Peter to exercise that love **with a pure heart fervently**.

Fervently means: having or showing great warmth or intensity of spirit, feeling, enthusiasm.

Do you/we love the brethren **with a unfeigned pure heart fervently?**

Verse 23 **Being born again**, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

Mutual brotherly love among Christians has its foundation and reason in **Being born again** by which they become sons and daughters together in the family of God. We are called to fervently love one another, because we are all part of God's family. It is inconsistent to claim to be born again and yet refuse to love the members of the family into which you have been born into.

The Apostle John writes very clearly and directly on this:

1 John 5:1

1 Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ **is born of God**: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him.

1 John 4:20

²⁰ If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?

Verse 24 For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away:

Life is like the grass mentioned here. It is here and all of a sudden it is gone. The flesh of man will return to the earth from which it came. It is the spirit of man that lives on.

Verse 25 But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.

The Word of God is eternal. Jesus is the Word of God. The Word of God is also the Bible. The spoken and the written Word of God are the most powerful forces on the earth. The Word is Eternal. The gospel of Jesus Christ is the focal point of the Bible. This Word of God that is preached is the power unto salvation.

Psalm 12:6-7

⁶ The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.

⁷ Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.

John 1:1-4

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

² The same was in the beginning with God.

³ All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

⁴ In him was life; and the life was the light of men.

Pastor Hank's Notes on: 1 Peter

Chapter 2 Outline: Spiritual growth and how to respond to the word of God, verses 1-3, Coming to Jesus, verses 4-5, The glory of the Chief Cornerstone, verses 6-8, The privileged place of God's people, verses 9-10, How those who have come to Jesus are to live, verses 11-20, The example of Jesus (Suffering), verses 21-25.

1 Peter 2

Spiritual growth and how to respond to the word of God, verses 1-3:

Verse 1 Wherefore **laying aside** all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings,

Since Peter is writing to those who were born again, and therefore they ought to love one another, he encourages them to the **lay aside/put away** such bad acts/sins/bad character traits which is contrary to brotherly love (chapter 1:22); he persuades and advises **to lay them aside**:

Malice: Means to desire to cause pain, injury, or distress to another: intent to commit an unlawful act or cause harm without legal justification or excuse.

Colossians 3:8

⁸ But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, **malice**, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.

Guile ... is deceitfulness, especially lying and false speech; thus it is usually spoken of as being on the lips, or found in the mouth.

Hypocrisies... Hypocrisy was the leaven of the Pharisees, according to Christ himself, the same being a way of life for the religious leaders of that day. It is pretending to be what one knows he is not.

Envies... the feeling of wanting to have what someone else has, painful or resentful awareness of an advantage enjoyed by another joined with a desire to possess the same advantage.

Evil speakings... All evil speakings are prohibited to Christians, whether against brethren, officers of the state, or any other persons.

Verse 2 As **newborn** babes, desire the sincere **milk of the word**, that ye may grow thereby:

A healthy **newborn** baby has an instinctive yearning for its mother's milk. All **newborn** Christians should have a constant and intense longing for the **milk of the word** – the word of God.

There are seven stages of Spiritual Growth for a Christian, they are:

1. Babes/ Newborn Babes, here 1 Peter 2:1, and:

1 Corinthians 3:1

1 And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto **babes** in Christ.

2. Little Children

1 John 2:1

1 My **little children**, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

3. Children

Galatians 3:26

²⁶For ye are all the **children** of God by faith in Christ Jesus.

4. Young Men

5. Fathers

1 John 2:13

¹³I write unto you, **fathers**, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I write unto you, **young men**, because ye have overcome the wicked one. I write unto you, little children, because ye have known the Father.

6. Elders

1 Peter 5:1

1The **elders** which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:

1 Peter 5:5

⁵Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the **elder**. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.

7. Aged/Very Aged

Job 15:10

¹⁰With us are both the grayheaded and **very aged** men, much elder than thy father.

Philemon 9

⁹Yet for love's sake I rather beseech thee, being such an one as Paul the **aged**, and now also a prisoner of Jesus Christ.

Verse ³ If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

⁴To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious,

⁵Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

⁶Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.

⁷Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,

⁸ And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.

⁹ But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light;

¹⁰ Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.

¹¹ Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;

¹² Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation.

¹³ Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme;

¹⁴ Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well.

¹⁵ For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men:

¹⁶ As free, and not using your liberty for a cloke of maliciousness, but as the servants of God.

¹⁷ Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king.

¹⁸ Servants, be subject to your masters with all fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also to the froward.

¹⁹ For this is thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully.

²⁰ For what glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God.

²¹ For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:

²² Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth:

²³ Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously:

²⁴ Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

²⁵ For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.

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We're to lay those aside.

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A healthy **newborn** baby has an instinctive yearning for its mother's milk. All **newborn** Christians should have a constant and intense longing for the **milk of the word** – the word of God.



Peter here stresses not the contrasting diet of infants and adults, but the appetite which all Christians should have in order to **grow**. All Christians should have a constant and intense **desire** for the word of God so...

that ye may grow thereby... The Word of God is necessary for the growth of the Christian. We should all desire the pure **milk of the word**.

“The milk of the word - That word of God which nourishes the soul as milk does the body, and which is sincere, pure from all guile, so that none are deceived who cleave to it. That you may grow thereby - In faith, love, holiness, unto the full stature of Christ.” – John Wesley

Borned Again Newborn babes persons are not at their full growth potential immediately upon becoming Borned Again. We're instantly Saved, but our Spiritual Growth take times to mature.

There are seven stages of Spiritual Growth for a Christian, they are:

1. Babes/ Newborn Babes, here 1 Peter 2:1, and:

1 Corinthians 3:1

1 And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto **babes** in Christ.

2. Little Children

1 John 2:1

1 My **little children**, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

3. Children

Galatians 3:26

²⁶ For ye are all the **children** of God by faith in Christ Jesus.

4. Young Men

5. Fathers

1 John 2:13

¹³ I write unto you, **fathers**, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I write unto you, **young men**, because ye have overcome the wicked one. I write unto you, little children, because ye have known the Father.

6. Elders

1 Peter 5:1

1 The **elders** which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:

1 Peter 5:5

⁵ Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the **elder**. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.

7. Aged/Very Aged

Job 15:10 ¹⁰ With us are both the grayheaded and **very aged** men, much elder than thy father.

Philemon 9

⁹ Yet for love's sake I rather beseech thee, being such an one as Paul the **aged**, and now also a prisoner of Jesus Christ.

Verse ³ If so be ye have **tasted** that **the Lord is gracious**.

Here Peter references:

Psalm 34:8

⁸ O **taste** and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.

The Psalm is also quoted again in 1 Peter 3:10.

Peter's readers had already tasted God's goodness in their new birth. Greater drinking and tasting of His Word would bring greater satisfaction as well as increased spiritual growth.

Hebrews 6:4-5 also mentioned "tasting" as a metaphor of understanding. This means they experienced the goodness of God's Word, and saw its goodness at work in them.

Hebrews 6:4-5

⁴ For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have **tasted** of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost,

⁵ And have **tasted** the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come,

Peter may have thought of this when Jesus said in:

John 6:35

³⁵ And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

The Lord is gracious ... Peter is talking about The Lord Jesus Christ, as appears by the next verse.

Coming to Jesus, verses 4-5:

Verse ⁴ To whom **coming**, as unto **a living stone, disallowed indeed of men**, but chosen of God, and precious,

In the Christian's constant seeking after the milk of the word, he will be **coming** again and again to the Lord. Peter described Jesus as "**a living stone.**" Christ is **a living stone** in two ways. He is alive from the dead to die no more and he is a source of life to his followers.

This is a reference to:

Isaiah 28:16

¹⁶ Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste.

Disallowed indeed of men... That is, rejected by the Jewish builders, high priests, Scribes, and Pharisees, and the body and bulk of that nation; who rejected him as the Messiah, and stone of Israel, refused him as a foundation stone, and left him out of the building; and laid another foundation, even their own works of righteousness, on which sandy foundation they built themselves

This is a plain reference to the prophecy, **Psalm 118:22**: “The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner.”

Jesus Christ the Messiah was the true and only foundation of this spiritual temple; but He did not fit the designs and purposes of the "builders" in Jerusalem who found him totally unsuitable for any use at all in the building they had in mind; therefore, they rejected him. But:

Verse 5 Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, **an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.**

Jesus is the Cornerstone, and we are the building blocks. God is building a spiritual house, putting all believers in place, integrating each one with others, and each one with the life of Christ.

Ephesians 2:20-22

²⁰ And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, **Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;**

²¹ In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord:

²² In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

an holy priesthood... The New Testament Believer is his own Priest before God. He does not need any mediator except his great High Priest, Jesus. There can no longer be an elite priesthood with claims of special access to God, or special privileges in worship or in fellowship with God.

Old Testament Priests and New Testament Believer-Priests share a number of characteristics:

1. Priesthood is an elect privilege (Exodus 28:1; John 15:16).
2. Priests are cleansed of sins (Leviticus 8:6-36; Titus 2:14).
3. Priests are clothed for service (1 Peter 5:5; Exodus 28:42; Lev 8:7; Psalm 132:9, 16).
4. Priests are anointed for service (Leviticus 8:12, 30; 1 John 2:20, 27).
5. Priests are prepared for service (Leviticus 8:33; 9:4; 23; Galatians 1:16; 1 Timothy 3:6).
6. Priests are ordained to obedience (1 Peter 2:4; Leviticus 10:1).
7. Priests are to honor the Word of God (1 Peter 2:2; Mal. 2:7).
8. Priests are to walk with God (Malachi 2:6; Galatians 5:16, 25).
9. Priests are to help sinners (Malachi 2:6; Galatians 6:1).
10. Priests are messengers of God (Malachi 2:7; Matthew 28:19-20).

to offer up spiritual sacrifices... There are **sacrifices** which God's Priests, which is the Church, must now offer according to the will of God. And what are these?

1. Praise

Hebrews 13:15

¹⁵ By him therefore let us offer the **sacrifice** of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

2. To do Good.

Hebrews 13:16

¹⁶ But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such **sacrifices** God is well pleased.

3. Your Bodies.**Romans 12:1**

1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living **sacrifice**, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

4. Your Faith.**Philippians 2:17**

¹⁷ Yea, and if I be offered upon the **sacrifice** and service of your faith, I joy, and rejoice with you all.

5. To Love God.**Mark 12:33**

³³ And to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love his neighbour as himself, is more than all whole burnt offerings and **sacrifices**.

6. Our Giving.**Philippians 4:18**

¹⁸ But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a **sacrifice** acceptable, wellpleasing to God.

7. Our Lives.**2 Timothy 4:6**

⁶ For I am now ready to be **offered**, and the time of my departure is at hand.

acceptable to God by Jesus Christ... We can only serve as priests as we do it through Jesus Christ. In ourselves, we have no priestly authority, but only in Jesus.

The glory of the Chief Cornerstone, verses 6-8:

Verse ⁶ Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, **Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious:** and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.

Behold I lay in Sion ... Sion is the poetic name for Jerusalem; and The laying of this precious cornerstone in Sion for a foundation signifies that the Christian Church was to begin in Jerusalem.

This is the same as the foundation stone; and it is called here the chief corner stone because it is laid in the foundation, at an angle of the building where its two sides form the ground work of a side and end wall. **Elect, precious...** Chosen and honorable.

And he that believeth on him shall not be confounded... Shall not be ashamed

Verse ⁷ Unto you therefore which believe he is **precious:** but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,

Jesus is the cornerstone that keeps the Church together. There is nothing more **precious** than knowing you are saved. To know beyond a shadow of doubt that you will spend eternity with Him, is precious indeed.

Designed to show that, in Jesus, both Jews and Gentiles were to be united; and this is probably the reason why it was called a stone of stumbling, and rock of offense; for nothing stumbled, nothing offended the Jews so much as the calling of the Gentiles into the Church of God, and admitting them to the same privileges which had been before peculiar to the Jews.

Verse 8 And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which **stumble** at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.

Those who reject **the Chief Cornerstone** and refuse to build on Him instead **stumble** over Him. Instead of being their salvation, Jesus becomes to them **a rock of offense**.

Concluding Thoughts:

Jesus Christ is the cornerstone of Psalm 118, the stumbling stone of Isaiah 8, the foundation stone of Isaiah 28, the supernatural stone of Daniel 2, and the rock that miraculously gave Israel water in the wilderness (1 Corinthians 10:4). Is Jesus your Chief Cornerstone?

CHRIST; THE CORNERSTONE

In Christ, the Law of Moses ended; and the gospel began.

In Christ, the Old Testament ended; and the New Testament began.

In Christ, all history split into B.C. and A.D.

In Christ, the wicked find their doom, and the saints find their salvation.

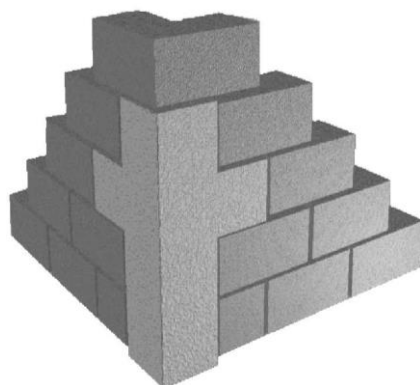
In Christ, the old Israel perished, and the Church began.

In Christ, the infinite past and the infinite future met.

In Christ, uniting God and man.

In Christ, Jesus Christ is the cornerstone of salvation. Through Him we are justified, sanctified; through Him we receive the inheritance of eternal life.

Jesus The Chief Cornerstone



Pastor Hank's Notes on: 1 Peter

Chapter 2 Outline continuing: The privileged place of God's people, verses 9-10, How those who have come to Jesus are to live, verses 11-20, The example of Jesus (Suffering), verses 21-25.

1 Peter 2

The privileged place of God's people, verses 9-10:

Verse 9 But ye are **a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light;**

New Testament Borned Again Believers are:

1. a chosen generation... That's our election, 1 Peter chapter 1.

2. a royal priesthood... Priesthood of Believers – Every believer has the privilege and responsibility of direct access to God. In the Old Testament the family of Aaron was designated as a priesthood to God. In the New Testament that priesthood becomes the birthright of every Christian. Like their Old Testament counterparts, believer-priests have the privilege of access to God.

What Does it Mean to Be a Priest?

Being a priest involves both opportunity and responsibility. In the Old Testament, a priest held a special place in the worship of God. Priests were responsible for certain aspects of worship, such as the sacrifice of animals. They served as mediators between the people and God.

The High Priest, the head priest, was the only one, however, allowed to enter the **Holiest of all** (Holy of Holies) in the Jewish temple. This especially sacred place was separated from the rest of the temple and from the other priests and worshippers by a great curtain or veil.

With the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, all of this changed. No longer was the sacrifice of animals appropriate, because Christ, the Lamb of God, had given himself as a sacrifice for sin. This was a once-and-for-all act.

At the crucifixion of Jesus, the great veil in the temple “rent in twain from the top to the bottom” (Matthew 27:51), indicating that Jesus, the great High Priest, now mediated between God and humankind. No longer were priests of the Old Testament needed. **Indeed, all who believe in Jesus become priests with direct access to God.** Human mediators are no longer needed. We can go directly to God in prayer, confession, praise and worship. What an opportunity!

But being a priest also carries responsibility. In the Old Testament, a priest in a sense represented God to the people. Today, the believer priest has responsibility to share his or her knowledge of God-Jesus-The Gospel with other persons, both in word and in deed.

The believer priest has responsibility to bear witness to God's love as shown in Jesus Christ and to demonstrate God's love by ministering to persons in his name. This responsibility is carried out in various ways by The Believer-The Church, such as in evangelism, missions, ministry and social action to benefit others.

Where Did the Concept of the Priesthood of Believers Come From?

Martin Luther, a leader in the Protestant Reformation, is often linked with the concept of the priesthood of believers. Luther challenged the Roman Catholic Church's emphasis on the special role played by the Roman Catholic priests.

Luther insisted that every believer was a priest, with direct access to God. He did not call for the elimination of the role of pastors but indicated that all persons, not just pastors, had a priestly function. Even before Luther burst on the European church scene, various Christian groups had stressed the priesthood of believers.

The Priesthood of The Believer

The priesthood of each believer is tied closely to another concept, that of soul competency. Each person has a God-given competence to know and follow God's will. A decision to follow Christ as Lord and Savior is an individual decision; no one can make it for another. Being a believer priest is a gift from God, not a human achievement; it comes with salvation.

Each believer priest is responsible for his or her own actions. Individual believers can go directly to God without the aid of any intermediary. Individuals can and should read the Bible without religious officials banning or dictating to them what to read.

Believer priests are all equal to one another in Christ (Galatians 3:26-28). There is only one High Priest, that is Jesus Christ (Hebrews 7:23-8:13).

Therefore, a church does not have only one priest. Potentially it has many who communicate the love and forgiveness of God and demonstrate concern and compassion of one believer for another.

The Priesthood of Believers

The New Testament also speaks of the priesthood of believers. Believer priests are part of the body of Christ. They form a community of believers. Although each believer priest is individually responsible to God, all believer priests are related to one another as brothers and sisters in Christ.

This communal aspect of believer priesthood highlights the fact that being a Christian involves fellowship with other believers. This fellowship functions to encourage and assist the believer in Christian growth and ministry. How sad and difficult it would be to live the Christian life **in isolation from other believers**.

The fellowship of believer priests also aids in interpreting the Bible and understanding God's will. Although each believer priest can and ought to read and interpret the Bible for herself or himself, the competent and wise believer will seek insight and understanding from other believer priests. By searching the teachings of believer priests in the past and by seeking out the wisdom of those in the present, persons are aided in their understanding of the Bible and of God's will. They do this by prayer, Bible study, meditation, discussion and decision.

The church rests on the concept of the priesthood of believers. A church is made up of persons who have exercised their God-given competency by believing in Jesus as Savior and Lord and by voluntarily associating with a particular fellowship of believers.

We are a continued...

3. an holy nation...The things that once exclusively belonged to Israel - their election (**chosen**), **priesthood**, and calling are now no longer the property of Israel alone. These are now the property of every Christian, and we have them in a greater and spiritual sense.

Deuteronomy 7:6-8

⁶For thou art an holy people unto the Lord thy God: the Lord thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth.

⁷The Lord did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people:

⁸But because the Lord loved you, and because he would keep the oath which he had sworn unto your fathers, hath the Lord brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you out of the house of bondmen, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

Just like Israel was freed from Pharaoh of Egypt, Christians are freed from The Devil!

4. a peculiar people... In this verse, Peter is not saying that Christians are odd or unusual people, even though the modern world often looks at us that way. What this passage is communicating is that Christians or believers are people who belong to God, they are His own possession. Another way of saying it is that believers are “God’s own special people.” In the King James Version the word *peculiar* was often used to refer to something belonging to someone, as in someone’s property, “God’s Property”.

Deuteronomy 14:2

²For thou art an holy people unto the LORD thy God, and the LORD hath chosen thee to be a **peculiar** people unto himself, above all the nations that are upon the earth.

that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light... The purpose for these high privileges is not so we can grow proud, but so that we can **shew forth praises of Him** who has done such great things for **us**!

Each believer priest has a responsibility to be committed to Christ and to share Christ through word and deed. As Peter states here: to “that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light;”

Since it is true that believers have a new life standard (**chosen generation**), a new access to God (**royal priesthood**), a new government (**holy nation**), and a new owner (**His own peculiar people**), it will affect the way the believer lives his/her life. That effect is described in the following verses.

Verse 10 Which in time past **were not a people**, but are now the people of God: which had not **obtained mercy**, but now have obtained mercy.

This is a quotation from Hosea 1:9, Hosea 1:10; Hosea 2:23, where the calling of the Gentiles, by the preaching of the Gospel, is foretold.

Hosea 2:23

²³ And I will sow her unto me in the earth; and I will have mercy upon her that had not obtained mercy; and I will say to them which **were not my people**, Thou art my people; and they shall say, Thou art my God.

The love of God and of his overflowing mercy to all people, even to those who had fallen into shame and wickedness, are as wide as heaven and earth. The same outflowing love and mercy for the Gentile converts which marks much of the Pauline writings is also in evidence here. The "no people" are now the people of God; and the people without mercy have now received it through Christ. How wonderful indeed is such wonderful love!

Mercy: In this sense, there is perhaps no word in our language precisely synonymous with *mercy*. That which comes nearest to it is grace. It implies benevolence, tenderness, mildness, pity or compassion, and clemency, but exercised only towards offenders. *mercy* is a distinguishing attribute of the Supreme Being. – Webster's 1828 Dictionary

How those who have come to Jesus are to live, verses 11-20:

Verse 11 Dearly beloved, I beseech you **as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;**

Old Testament Cross Reference: Psalm 39:12

¹² Hear my prayer, O Lord, and give ear unto my cry; hold not thy peace at my tears: for I am a **stranger** with thee, and a **sojourner**, as all my fathers were.

"**Strangers**" is speaking of people who are not native to the land.

The word "**pilgrim**" means, "one who journeys."

We are not native to the world and we're just **strangers** that journeys through the world.

We can only **abstain from fleshly lusts** (sins) as we live **as strangers and pilgrims**, as we who recognize that this world is not their home, and that they have a home and a citizenship in heaven.

What are some of the **fleshly lusts** we're to **abstain** from?

Galatians 5:19-21

¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,

²⁰ Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, **variance**, **emulations**, wrath, strife, **seditions**, heresies,

²¹ Envyings, murders, drunkenness, **revellings**, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

Variance: Difference that produces dispute or controversy; disagreement; dissension; discord.

Emulations: Contention; strife; competition; rivalry accompanied with a desire of depressing another.

Seditions: Conduct or speech inciting people to rebel against the authority of a state or monarch. Synonyms: rabble-rousing, incitement to rebel, subversion, troublemaking, provocation; rebellion, insurrection, mutiny, insurgence, civil disorder.

Revellings: Is excessive and rowdy overindulgence and lustful indulgence.

“Strangers and pilgrims”: In verses 11-20, Peter called his readers to a righteous life in a hostile world. Christians are strangers in a secular society because their citizenship is in heaven. There are 3 perspectives from which Christians can look in the next few verses:

1. Strangers (verses 11-12)
2. Submitting Citizens (verses 13-17)
3. Servants (verses 18-20)

abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul... Peter understands that these **fleshly lusts . . . war against the soul and spirit**. To be a Christian means to fight against the lusts of the flesh, and the battle continues as long as we live in this flesh.

The warfare a Christian is between the soul/spirit and the flesh. The metaphor of warfare is an apt one for the Christian life. That life is a constant struggle against many enemies, both within and without. The social order itself is basically hostile to Christianity, and the inward desires of the flesh and of the mind also constantly tend to erode spirituality.

It is easy to see how the pursuit of fleshly lusts can destroy our physical body. Just ask the alcoholic dying of liver disease, or ask the sexually immoral person with AIDS or one of the 350,000 people on this earth who contracted a sexually transmitted disease in the last 24 hours. But Peter reminds us that fleshly lusts also **war against the soul**. Some escape disease in the physical body when they sin, but the disease and death of the inner man is a penalty that no one given over to the flesh escapes.

The Bible’s Answer to win the war against fleshly lusts: Galatians 5:16-17

¹⁶ This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

¹⁷ For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

Verse ¹² **Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation.**

Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers... The winning of acceptance in a hostile environment as **Strangers and pilgrims not native to the world** is here described as the motivation for righteous behavior in the midst of the alien Gentile population.

that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers... In Peter’s day, Christians were accused as evildoers. Some of the accusations were:

1. They were accused of cannibalism ..., this took its rise from a perversion of the words of Jesus, "This is my body ... this is my blood, etc." They were accused of killing and eating a child at their feasts.
2. They were accused of immorality and incest. The Agape, or love feast, was misrepresented as a sensual orgy.
3. They were accused of turning slaves against their masters.
4. They were accused of "hatred of mankind."

5. They were accused of disloyalty to Caesar, due to their refusal to worship the emperor.

they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation...

From Pastor Hank's Sermon 1/17/16 Good Works!

Christians ought to be Honest, Caring and Loving People towards the World, and Our Good Works are to be seen by them!

And God's people ought to busy and doing Good Works for Him!

As Christians, let 2016 be a Good Year for Good Works for Jehovah God, Amen!

Now in our **Good Works** there are for four major components:

1. Our Good Works are to be seen by a Lost and Dying World.

Jesus said in Matthew 5:16

¹⁶Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Good Works Physical, Charity:

James 1:27 says:

²⁷Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

Good Works Spiritual, Pray for each other!

James 5:16 says:

¹⁶Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

"Prayer is a very precious medicine, one that helps and never fails." – Martin Luther

2. Our Good Works are to be seen by God.

Bible reading, Faithful Church Attendance

2 Timothy 2:15

¹⁵Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Hebrews 10:25 says:

²⁵Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

3. We're to do Good Works in The Church!

Hebrews 10:24

²⁴And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:

Paul writing to the Church in Colosse in: Colossians 3:16

¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Wisdom, Teaching, Singing and Good Works starts in Church!

4. We're to do Good Works for Ourselves.

Because if you do Good Works for Others, Others will benefit and God is then pleased and God then gets the Glory!

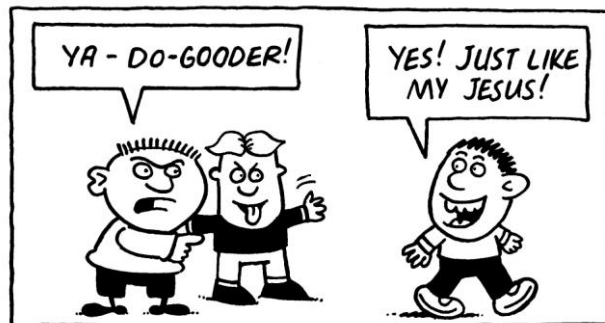
And you know what happens to us?

We feel better, God Blesses us, we have that Peace that passes all understanding.

Ephesians 2:10

¹⁰For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Amen, Amen and Amen!



Pastor Hank's Notes on: 1 Peter

Chapter 2 Outline continuing: How those who have come to Jesus are to live, verses 11-20, The example of Jesus (Suffering), verses 21-25. **1 Peter 2:**

How those who have come to Jesus are to live, verses 11-20: The Submitting Citizen.

Verse 13 **Submit** yourselves to every **ordinance of man for the Lord's sake**: whether it be to the king, as supreme;

Submit...As Christians we should be good citizens, submitting to government. This was very different from those zealous Jews in Peter's day who recognized no king but God and paid taxes to no one except God.

Peter wrote this in the days of the Roman Empire, which was not a democracy and no special friend to Christians. Yet he still recognized the legitimate authority of the Roman government.

This command is not absolute, as the next phrase indicates.

For the Lord's sake ... Jesus is still Lord; and under certain circumstances, Peter himself affirmed that "We must obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29). **For the Lord's sake...** This is why we obey the government. Since governments have a rightful authority from God, we are bound to obey them - unless, of course, they order us to do something in contradiction to God's law.

An **Ordinance of Man** are: **Rules and Laws** created by Man for the Control of Man.

Man makes a Ordinance that says that if you're driving your car 95 mph in a 30mph, you are speeding and you can get a Summons or Arrested. I believe that God approves that Ordinance.

What about the **Ordinance** of Abortion? What about the Law of Homosexual Marriage? What about the State Liquor and Tobacco Laws where the Gov't reaps a great amount of Revenue?

Do you think that God has ordained and approved these Laws?

The ungodly Nero was emperor when Paul wrote Romans 13, and Paul had been in jail several times for breaking the law of the land. Do you think that God approved when His Apostle was put in jail for Preaching The Gospel?

The Christians must answer No! God has never given man the Authority to overrule His Law, and every Christian has an obligation to God and to stand for His truth no matter how much the Gov't may persecute him.

Now, God allows evil Rules to Reign. Hitler, Stalin, Mao, Castro, Kim Jung Il, God even allows The Devil to be a Ruler.

Ephesians 2:2

²Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

Submit means: To yield, resign or surrender to the power, will or authority of another.

Some Things we're to Submit to:

1. God

James 4:7

⁷ **Submit** yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

2. Older People.

1 Peter 5:5

⁵ Likewise, ye younger, **submit** yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.

3. Church Leadership.

Hebrews 13:17

¹⁷ Obey them that have the rule over you, and **submit** yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

4. Marriage

Ephesians 5:22

²² **Wives, submit** yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.

Later, Peter tells us men in **1 Peter 3:7**:

⁷ Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, **giving honour unto the wife**, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.

Paul says in **1 Corinthians 7:3**:

³ Let the husband render unto the wife due **benevolence**: and likewise also the wife unto the husband.

The word “**benevolence**” means, “goodwill, kindness.” “Goodwill” means, “a disposition to kindness and compassion.” Hence, the husband is to be a nice guy! He’s not to be a tyrant jerk. God **COMMANDS** the husband to be kind and compassionate. This is the wife’s “DUE” treatment. A husband is not supposed to bring his job frustrations home with him to take out on the wife. The husband is to deal with the wife “according to knowledge” the Bible says (1 Peter 3:7). This means use your head guys, you’re in charge! You get more bears with honey.

5. The Government/King... **1 Peter 2:13**

6. Mutual Submission.

Ephesians 5:21

²¹ Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.

^{Verse 14} **Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well.**

Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him... Actually in Rome at the time of Peter's writing, the emperor was the only actual ruler, the many governors of the provinces being no more than deputies whose authority and tenure were subject absolutely to the whim of the current Caesar. Among such governors mentioned in the New Testament were Pilate, Felix, and Festus.

for the punishment of evildoers.. The breakers of the laws of God and men, on whom punishment is to be inflicted, by the civil officials, for the breaking of them. Punishments include: scourgings, imprisonment, and death itself, according as the crimes are.

and for the praise of them that do well... Those who behave according to the laws of God and nations, and are obedient to officials, and subject to every ordinance; these have praise of men, of officials, and are rewarded by them; by protecting their persons, defending their properties, and preserving them in the peaceable enjoyment of their estates, possessions their protection, security, and comfort.

Verse 15 For so is the will of God, that with **well doing** ye **may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men:**

Peter knew that our **conduct** is a way to defend the gospel. He knew that those who never read the Bible will read our lives, so it is by **well doing (doing good-our good conduct)** that we **put to silence the ignorance of foolish men.**

Verse 16 As free, and not using your **liberty** for a cloke of maliciousness, but as the servants of God.

We are warned against taking the **liberty** we have in Jesus as an excuse for sin. Instead we use our **liberty** in Jesus to show the kind of love and respect that Peter calls for.

Verse 17 Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king.

Honour all men... by showing them proper respect. Every person is entitled to honor because of one attribute or another.

Paul tells us in **Galatians 6:10**

¹⁰ As we have therefore opportunity, **let us do good unto all men**, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

Love the brotherhood... We are to **love** our Brothers and Sisters in Christ, who are born of God, are members of Christ, and of the same body, and have the same spirit, belong to the same family, and are of the household of faith, let them be of any nation, or in whatsoever circumstances of life.

Fear God... We are not only to love God as the Father, but to have reverent fear of Him, as well.

Honour the king... Honour is to be shown for the office of the king. All who are in office are not to our liking, but we are commanded of God to honor the office.



Pastor Hank's Notes on: 1 Peter

Chapter 2 Outline continuing: How those who have come to Jesus are to live, verses 11-20, The example of Jesus (Suffering), verses 21-25. **1 Peter 2:**

There are 3 perspectives from which Christians can look in chapter 2, we're:

1. Strangers in a Foreign Land (verses 11-12)
2. Submitting Citizens to the Gov't. (verses 13-17)
3. Servants (verses 18-20)

Verse 18 Servants, be subject to your masters with all fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also to the **froward**.

Servants: *Greek*, "household servants": not the *Greek* for "slaves." Peter instructs Household servants to be in subjection to their masters with all fear, not only to the good and gentle, but also to the harsh. The master, in this case, would be the employer.

Peter's instructions here are in full harmony with Paul's instructions to the Ephesians and the Colossians (Ephesians 5:6; Colossians 3:22).

Colossians 3:22-23

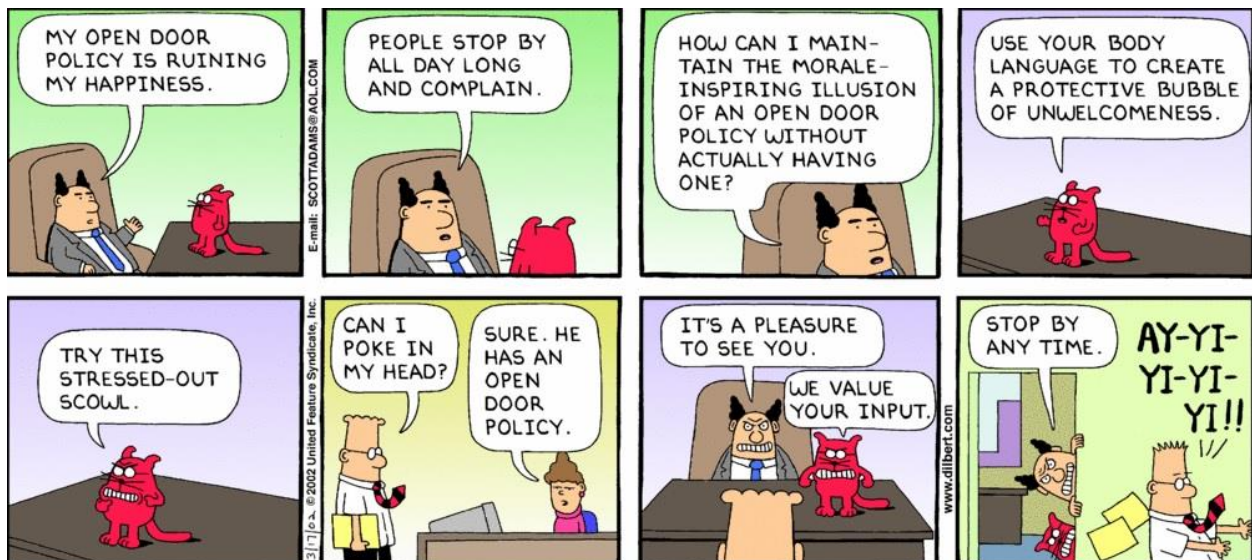
²² Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh; not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God;

²³ And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;

Froward means: Crooked, perverse: harsh, unmerciful. Even such wicked masters were to be honored and faithfully served by the Christians who were servants.

As Christians every job we do, even a lowly one, must be done the best we can as unto the Lord!

Modern Day Bad Boss:



Verse 19 For this is thankworthy, if a man for **conscience** toward God endure grief, **suffering wrongfully**.

God is pleased if for **conscience** sake we endure grief and **suffering wrongfully**. To endure hardship of any kind, in the name of the Lord, is to be praised.

Verse 20 For what glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and **suffer** for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God.

One of Peter's Key words: Suffer, Suffered, Suffering = Used 13 times in 11 verses.

Forbes OCT 28, 2014: **How A Bad Boss Can Make You Sick, by Amy Rees Anderson**

Life is short but apparently it can become a lot shorter if you spend your days dealing with a bad boss. In a recent study performed by Keas.com they found that 77% of employees experienced physical symptoms of stress from bad bosses and workers who had inconsiderate or uncommunicative managers were 60% more likely to suffer heart trauma. An Inc. study cited that workers who have poor relationships with their bosses are 30% more likely to suffer coronary heart disease. That's right people, your bad boss could quite literally be making you sick!

It is estimated that three out of every four employees reports that their boss is the worst and most stressful part of their job and 65% of employees said they would take a new boss over a pay raise (Inc.). Could the statistics scream any louder that we have far too many bad bosses out there?

And one has to ask the question, "Do these bosses set out to be bad, and are they even aware that they are bad?" I would guess that most bosses don't set out to be bad. I would also guess that most of them may be completely unaware of just how bad they are. You see the difficulty is that most of us judge ourselves by our intentions, while others judge us based on our behavior. So the fact is that most bosses may feel they have perfectly good intentions and therefore they justify or disregard their own bad behavior and as a result employees are left to suffer the effects of dealing with a bad boss.

We Judge Ourselves by our Intentions. Others Judge us based on our Behavior.

So what makes a boss a bad boss? Here are a few thoughts on how to tell if your manager falls into the "bad" category of bosses:

- They don't communicate a clear vision for the future
- They selectively communicate with only a few people, leaving all others to feel devalued and left out
- They lack enthusiasm and passion for the work the company is doing
- They fail to inspire their employees
- They accept mediocrity rather than motivating excellence
- They pick and choose who they will value rather than valuing the team as a whole
- They fail to communicate clear expectations
- They reward based on brownnosing rather than performance and impact

- They withhold compliments, even when a compliment has been earned
- They attack people rather than attacking performance
- They make decisions off rumors rather than taking time to gather appropriate facts
- They don't follow through on their commitments to employees
- They fail to communicate...period
- They fail to recognize and give credit to employees for efforts and accomplishments
- They place blame on others rather than owning mistakes themselves
- They are insecure with themselves which often leads to behaving mean, paranoid, and vindictive, amongst other damaging behaviors
- They avoid difficult situations rather than handling them head on
- They lack the courage to do the right thing

If reading that list caused you to feel heart pain, you may very well be risking your health! So what can you do about it? The obvious answer is to quit and go work for a good boss, but not everyone is in a position where they can afford to walk out on their job until they find a new one. So what do you do in the meantime? Here are four ideas that might help:

1. Try to focus on their good qualities. Everyone has at least one, so find it and be appreciative of it.
2. Set an example of how a great leader behaves in the hopes that your bad boss will take note and learn from you. The most powerful teaching mechanism is to lead by example, even if this case where you are leading from behind. Remember that your bad boss may be the bi-product of their own bad boss and you may be the first to set the example of how a great leader should behave.
3. Don't ever let your bad boss become an excuse for you to behave badly. Despite your bad boss, the right thing for you to do is to continue to be the very best you can be at your job. Your reputation and integrity will follow you for years to come so never do anything that would mar that. Chances are that other employers will hear of your bad boss' reputation and the fact that you still put your best effort into the job will speak volumes about what an amazing employee you will be when they hire you.
4. Try to learn the "what not to do's" from your bad boss until you can work for a good one. Chances are that one day you will be a boss too and any lessons you learn now will help you to behave better when the mantel of leadership is placed on your shoulders.

"It is your reaction to adversity, not the adversity itself, that determines how your life story will develop." – Dieter F. Uchtdorf.

Remember that you can't control other people, you can only control your reaction to them, so always do your best to react in a way that you can look back on and feel proud. Your heart will thank you later.

Interesting Article, **but what should a Christian do if they have a bad Boss?**

PRAY for Him/Her! Ding, Ding Ding!

Father God, I pray today for my supervisor [name] and for all those who you have been given authority over me at [Company Name]. I pray that you would bless each of them and that you would meet the needs that they have according to your riches and glory in Christ Jesus. I pray specifically also for my supervisor [name] today that you would be in the midst of all [his, her] interactions today.

I pray that you would grant [supervisor name] success in the work that you have called them to do as a supervisor and that you would help [him, her] make good decisions that will help our department grow in the right direction and build good and healthy relationships among all employees.

May [he, she] be open to new ideas that our department employees may bring to the table to help make our work more effective and may through that openness may our department have more unity. Lead [him, her] by your spirit today.

I pray that you will help me to be an encourager of [him/her] and that there will be a mutual respect that we have for one another whether we agree to disagree with everything or not.

I pray that you will help me to submit to [his, her] authority and to be open to constructive criticism from [him/her].

Lord if there is anything going on in [his/her] life that may be causing any stress or tension that would affect [his, her] ability to be fair today or to communicate in a way that would please you, I pray that you would move in whatever the situation may be.

I pray for [his, her] health and relationships with all employees and with [his/her] boss as well as husbands, wives, children and all family members. I pray for finances, and most importantly, that [he, she] know you and fulfill the purpose and calling that you have ordained for [his, her] life.

Let my light shine today so that [he/she] will see Christ in me and if [he/she] does not know you may my character and conduct draw them to know you because you said in your word that “if you be lifted up that you would draw all men unto you” so if my life lifts you up then you will draw [him/her] unto to you by your spirit.

I pray with great expectation. In Jesus Name I pray. Amen

The example of Jesus (Suffering), verses 21-25:

Verse 21 For even **hereunto were ye called**: because **Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps**:

This and the following four verses are some of the noblest Scripture in all the Bible. In these five verses, there are no less than six references to Christ as the Suffering Servant, as depicted in Isaiah 53.

Isaiah 53:4

⁴ Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

Hereunto were ye called... We were called to a state of suffering when we were called to be Christians; for the world cannot endure the yoke of Christ, and they that will live godly in Christ will suffer persecution (2 Timothy 3:12); they will meet with it in one form or other.

Christ also suffered for us... Jesus didn't suffer because He was bad, He suffered because we were bad!

Leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps... Jesus left us the example of His meekness and gentleness; for when he was reviled, he reviled not again and He suffered. As Christians we cannot expect to fare better than our master. We will suffer! **Follow:** follow closely.

Verse 22 **Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth:**

Who did no sin... Romans 3:23 says "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God"

Remember, Jesus is God and committed no Sins. He was Sinless!

The Sinlessness of Jesus is clearly taught in the Bible:

2 Corinthians 5:21

²¹ For he hath made him to be sin for us, **who knew no sin**; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Hebrews 4:15

¹⁵ For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, **yet without sin**.

1 John 3:5

⁵ And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; **and in him is no sin**.

Hebrews 9:14

¹⁴ How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself **without spot** to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

1 Peter 1:19

¹⁹ But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb **without blemish and without spot**:

Hebrews 7:26

²⁶ For such an high priest became us, **who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners**, and made higher than the heavens;

John 8:46

⁴⁶ **Which of you convinceth me of sin?** And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me?

Jesus was Sinless yet Human, Luke 9:22 Jesus is "The Son of Man".

One problem arises from a study of the Sinlessness of Jesus. Some have asked, "If Jesus never sinned, was he truly human?" Wayne Grudem writes:

"The key to understanding the duality of Christ's human nature and His Sinlessness is understanding that sin, as part of the human condition, is **not** the normal condition. God did not create us as sinners, but as a result of the fall, sin has marred our lives. Christ's Sinlessness is made clear in Scripture, from His 40 days in the desert, where Satan tempted Christ but failed to entice him in to sin, to the time of the beginning of His ministry where " And the child grew, and waxed

strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him " (Luke 2:40)." *Systematic Theology*, Chapter 26

Neither was guile found in his mouth... Cross Reference:

Isaiah 53:9

⁹ And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, **neither was any deceit in his mouth.**

Verse ²³ **Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously:**

Peter continues to speak partly under the influence of Isaiah's description:

Isaiah 53:7

⁷ He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again - He did not use harsh and scornful words in return for those which he received His suffering from: **He was reviled.** He was accused of being a rebellious man; spoken of as a deceiver; charged with being in league with Beelzebub, the "prince of the devils" and condemned as a blasphemer against God.

When he suffered, he threatened not... That is, when he suffered injustice from others, in his trial and in his death, he did not threaten punishment. He did not call down the wrath of heaven.

but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously... This means to hand oneself over to someone to keep. Christ was "delivered" to Pilate (John 9:11); Pilate "handed Him over" to the Jews (John 19:16); Christ "handed over" Himself to God.

Isaiah 53:8

⁸ He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken.

Verse ²⁴ **Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.**

Jesus bore our sins as sin-bearing substitute, and provided for our healing (**by whose stripes ye were healed**).

By whose stripes ye were healed ... What kind of Holy medicine is this, in which the Great Physician pays the price and the sufferer receives the healing! Jesus, of course, was chastised literally; his precious body was marked with the stripes that redeemed us.

Verse 24 here is great Bible Doctrine of the **Substitutionary Atonement** and is the heart of the gospel. The Substitutionary Atonement, sufficient for the sins of the whole world, was made for all. The substitutionary atonement refers to Jesus Christ dying as a substitute for sinners. The Scriptures teach that all men are sinners (Romans 3:23). The penalty for our sinfulness is death (Romans 6:23). Jesus Christ died in our place when He was crucified on the cross. We deserved to be the ones placed on that cross to die because we are the ones who live sinful lives. But Christ took the punishment on Himself in our place—He substituted Himself for us and took what we rightly deserved.

1 John 2:2 ² And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

Isaiah 53:5

⁵ But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

Verse ²⁵ For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.

Isaiah 53:6

⁶ All we like sheep have gone **astray**; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

If not for the work of Jesus we would still be going **astray**.

“Jesus who bears the office of a Shepherd, and fully performs it by feeding his sheep, providing a good fold and pasture for them; by gathering the lambs in his arms, and gently leading those that are with young; by healing their diseases, and preserving them from beasts of prey; hence he is called the good, the great, and chief Shepherd: and he is the "Bishop" or "Overseer" of the souls of his people, though not to the exclusion of their bodies: he has took the oversight of them willingly, and looks well to his flock, inspects into their cases, and often visits them, and never forsakes them; nor will he leave them till they receive the end of their faith, the salvation of their souls; which he has undertook and effected by his obedience, sufferings and death.” – John Gill

John 10:14

¹⁴ I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.

It should be noted that Peter does not try to take on himself the role of Shepherd. To him there was only One Shepherd and Bishop capable of this, and that was Jesus Christ Himself. He alone is the true Shepherd Who cares for the sheep. He alone could say, ‘My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me, and I give to them eternal life, and they will never perish and no one shall pluck them from My hand (John 10:27-28).

Jesus as the Shepherd is also found in 1 Peter 5:4; Hebrews 13:20; Revelation 7:17 and:

Psalms 23

1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

² He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

³ He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

⁴ Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

⁵ Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Pastor Hank's Notes on: 1 Peter

Chapter 3 Outline: Peter in this chapter continues to give instructions to classes or groups of people: (1) to wives; Verses 1-6), (2) to husbands; Verse 7; (3) to the community of Christians as a whole; Verses 8-12 and then with the looming terror of the Neronian persecution in mind, he spoke of the blessedness of suffering for righteousness sake Verses 13-22.

Instructions to Wives, verses 1-6:

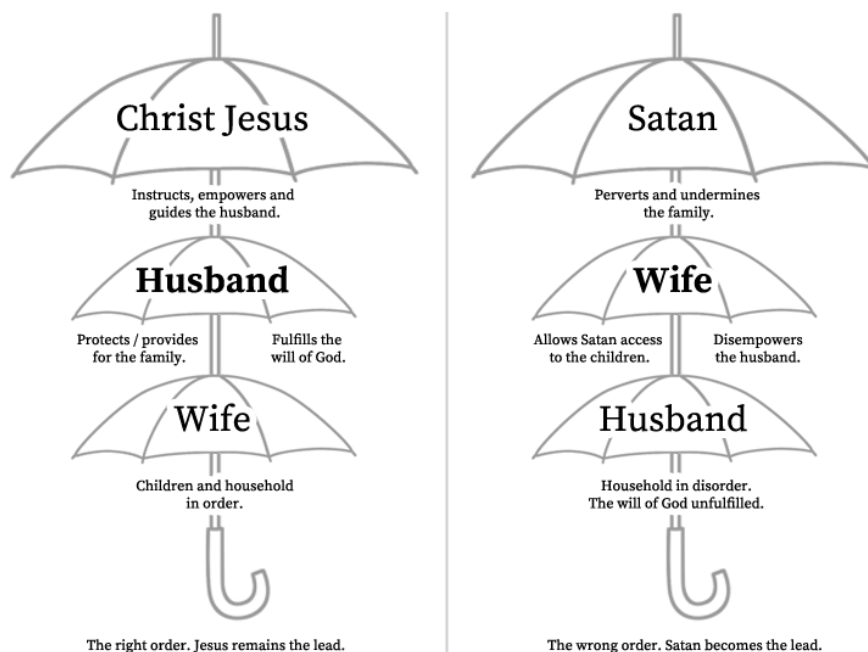
Verse 1 Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives;

Likewise... In chapter 2, Peter taught that living successfully as a Christian in a hostile world would require **submitting** properly in two places; the Government (2:13-17), and the Workplace (2:18-25). At the start of this chapter, he added two more places: the Family (verses 10:7) and the Family of God (verses 8-9).

As Christ gave us His perfect example of willing and complete submission (1Peter 2:21,-23, 1Peter 2:24- 25), Peter says in the same way wives are to submit to their own husbands

ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands... Peter carefully observed that wives are called to submit to their **own husbands** and not to all men in a general sense. Male headship is God's commanded principle for the home and the church, **not for society in general**.

Submission involves at least four things. **First**, it begins with an attitude of obedience oneself to God (1Peter 2:21). The focus of our life must be on Jesus Christ-our example. **Second**, submission requires respectful behavior (1Peter 3:1-2). **Third**, submission involves the development of a godly character (1Peter 3:3-5). **Fourth**, submission includes doing what is right (1Peter 3:6). Submission is important for oneness in marriage



In Ephesians 5, husbands are to provide loving leadership by submitting-following the example of Christ and wives are to willingly follow that leadership in the home. Listen. Husbands and wives are equal before God but they are not identical. A wife is to accept her place in the family under the leadership of her husband whom God has placed as head in the home.

if any obey not the word... This refers to an **unbelieving husband**, but it is a stronger idea than merely "do not believe." It has the idea of someone in active disobedience to God's word. Even these husbands can be won through the godly conduct (conversation) of loving wives.

They also may without the word be won - In some other way than by preaching. This I does not mean that they would be converted independently of the influence of truth - for truth is always the instrument of conversion, James 1:18; John 17:17; but that it was to be by another influence than preaching== by their conduct-conversation.

Women, do not nag your husband to become a Christian, which will run him off. Show him the love that is in you that was placed there when you became a Christian. He will almost certainly come to Christ, if he can see Christ in you. Just because the wife is a Christian, and perhaps her husband is not, does not give her the right to rule over him. Show him that you respect his authority in the home.

By the conversation of the wives... By the conduct or behavior of their wives.



"Sorry to keep you both waiting out here.
Where's your wife?"

Verse 2 While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear.

While they behold your chaste conversation... Wives should show cheerful subjection, strong affection, and unbreakable attachment to their husbands, with strict regard to the honour of the marriage state, and to the preserving of the bed undefiled (Hebrews 13:4).

coupled with fear... with reverence of their husbands, giving them due honour, and showing all proper respect; or with the fear of God, which being before their eyes, and upon their hearts, engages them to such an agreeable conversation-conduct.

Verse 3 Whose adorning let it not be that outward **adorning** of **plaiting** the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel;

Does this mean that it is a sin for a Christian woman to wear a gold jewel, or to braid her hair (**plaiting**), or to put on clothes? No!

This **adorning** is overdressing. The Woman of God is to dress **modestly**.

1 Timothy 2:9

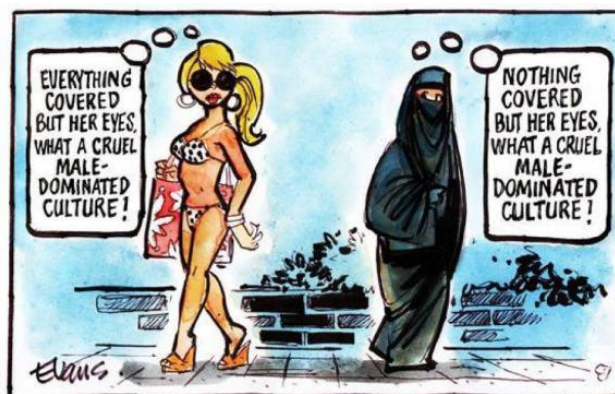
⁹ In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in **modest apparel**, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array;



Isaiah 3:24

²⁴ And it shall come to pass, that instead of sweet smell there shall be stink; and instead of a girdle a rent; and instead of well set hair baldness; and instead of a stomacher a girding of sackcloth; and burning instead of beauty.

The beauty of woman should not be an outward beauty, but the beauty of Christ within her. All of these things spoken of above draw attention to the flesh of the woman. True beauty comes from within.



Interesting...

Verse 4 But let it be the **hidden man** of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.

Hidden... Peter warns us in verse 3 about being outwardly. The inner man, which the Christian instinctively *hides* from public view.

hidden man... means mankind, not someone of the male gender. Peter is speaking to both men and women in chapter 3.

Cross reference: The "hidden man" is the same as Paul's "inner man".

Ephesians 3:16

¹⁶That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the **inner man**;

This "hidden man of the heart" is none other than the new creature created in the heart by the Holy Ghost in regeneration. The "purity of a meek and quiet spirit, which before God is perfection complete," is a duplicated and powerful statement of Christian perfection, the second work of grace. Hence the Holy Ghost says that the constituents of her beauty, *i.e.*, regeneration and entire sanctification, constituting "the beauty of holiness," throw into eclipse all the phantasmagoria of jewelry, finery, artistic fashions and diabolical styles, which would only bankrupt and disgust her husband, leaving him unsaved, ruin her health, inflate her vanity and send her own soul to hell. - William Godbey

Verse 5 For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, **who trusted in God**, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands:

Who trusted in God... The women who trust not in God are fond of **that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel**; those women who trust in God follow God, The Bible and their Husbands.

We see the example of the role of women in the home in regard to their husbands. Certain Old Testament saints (particular Sarah, verse 6, are models of inner beauty, character, modesty, and submissiveness to their husbands

Verse 6 Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement.

Notice lord is not capitalized in the verse above. Sara's Lord is God. This, again, is speaking of the authority the husband has over the wife in the family. Women, we took their names. They did not take our names. Sara obeyed Abraham, because he was her husband.

Verse 7 Likewise, **ye husbands**, dwell with them according to knowledge, **giving honour unto the wife**, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.

In Christianity, obligations are never a one-way street, but reciprocal by nature. If workers have obligations, so do their Bosses; if children have duties toward their parents, so do parents have duties toward their children; if wives have duties to fulfill, so do their husbands.

ye husbands, dwell with them... A godly husband lives with his wife. He doesn't merely share a house, but he truly lives with her.

giving honour unto the wife... ***Note: It was an important advance made in society when the Christian religion gave such a direction as this, for everywhere among the pagan, and under all false systems of religion, woman has been regarded as worthy of little honor or respect. She has been considered as a slave, or as a mere instrument to gratify the passions of man. It is one of the fundamental doctrines of Christianity, however, that woman is to be treated with respect; and one of the first and most marked effects of religion on society is to elevate the wife to a condition in which she will be worthy of esteem.



"You're supposed to say 'I do,'
not 'I'll try.'"

10 Worst Countries for Women, From: www.wonderslist.com/10-worst-countries-for-women

The image of the 21st century woman is confident, prosperous, glowing with health and beauty. But for many of the 3.3 billion female occupants of our planet, the perks of the cyber age never arrived. As International Women's Day is celebrated every year, they continue to feel the age-old lash of violence, repression, isolation, enforced ignorance and discrimination. Many countries, there in the world victim of violence against women. Here is a list of ten worst countries for live as a women.

10. Iraq



The US-led invasion to "liberate" Iraq from the hanged Saddam Hussain, imprisoned women in an inferno of sectarian violence that targets women and girls. The literacy rate, once the highest in the Arab world, is now among the lowest.

9. Pakistan



In some tribal areas, women are gang raped as punishment for men's crimes. But honor killing is more widespread, and a renewed wave of religious extremism is targeting female politicians, human rights workers and lawyers. Women are victims of violence and abuse, and the country still lacks a law against domestic violence. Last year the country saw around 1000 honor killings of women and girls, a practice that has been exported to the West. 90 percent of women experience domestic violence in their lifetimes; women earn 82 percent less than men.

8. India



Women account for 39 percent of all adult HIV infections in India. Domestic violence in India is endemic and widespread predominantly against women. Around 70% of women in India are victims of domestic violence, according to Renuka Chowdhury junior minister for women and child development. National Crime Records Bureau reveal that a crime against a women is committed every three minutes, a women is raped every 29 minutes, a dowry death occurs every 77 minutes and one case of cruelty committed by either the husband or relative of the victim occurs every nine minutes. 50 million girls were killed in the past century in the practice of female infanticide or foeticide; around 100 million women and girls are estimated to be victim of human trafficking; 44.5 percent of girls are married before the age of 18.

7. Somalia



In the Somalia capital, Mogadishu, a vicious civil war has put women, who were the traditional ministry of the family, under attack. 95 percent of girls face genital mutilation mostly between the ages of 4 and 11; only 7.5 percent of parliament seats are held by women; only 9 percent of women give birth in a health facility.

6. Mali



In Mali, one of the world's poorest countries, few women escape torture of genital mutilation. Many of them are forced into early marriages, and one in ten dies in pregnancy or childbirth. There are no laws against female genital mutilation in Mali, and a large number of women have been subjected to it.

5. Guatemala



The impoverished female under-class of Guatemala faces domestic violence, rape and the second highest rate of HIV/AIDS after Sub-Saharan Africa.

4. Sudan



While Sudanese women have made strides under reformed laws, the plight of those in Darfur, in western Sudan, has worsened. Abduction, rape or forced displacement has destroyed more than one million women's lives since year 2003.

3. Democratic Republic of Congo



In the eastern DRC, a war that claimed more than 3 million lives has ignited again, with women on the front-line. Many others were victims of direct attacks and violence perpetrated by the warring parties or by rogue armed militias. Women in the Congo face especially harsh realities; around 1,100 are raped every day. Since 1996, more than 200,000 rapes have been reported in the country. 57 percent of pregnant women are anemic; women cannot sign legal documents without their husbands' authorization.

2. Afghanistan



The average Afghan girl will live to only 45 – one year less than an Afghan male. After three decades of war and repression, an overwhelming number of women remain illiterate in Afghanistan. Afghan girls are also discouraged, sometimes fatally, from seeking an education and Afghan rape victims can be forced, by law, to marry their attacker. More than half of all brides are under 16, and one woman dies in childbirth every half an hour. A large majority, up to 85 percent, of women in Afghanistan give birth with no medical attention. It is the country with the highest maternal mortality rate in the world.

1. Chad



Women in Chad have very few rights. Arranged marriages are still common and often times the girls are around 11 and 12 years old. Sudanese Women living in refugee camps in eastern Chad are facing rape and other forms of violence. Outside the camps, they face a range of abuses from harassment and threats to physical attacks, committed by members of opposition armed groups, bandits and members of the Chadian security forces.

As unto the weaker vessel ... Modern women resent such a view as this; but the unanimous opinion of all mankind for centuries confirms it as a fact. Plato said, "Lighter tasks are to be given to women than to men because of the weakness of their sex". As long as golf courses have one set of rules for men and another for women, every country club on earth bears continual witness to it. In those lands where women do not enjoy the chivalrous preference and honor which Christianity has brought to them, their status is invariably one of progressive reduction and oppression. In

turning away from Christianity and staking all of their hopes upon a newly won legal status, the great mass of womankind will eventually find that they have been woefully short-changed and cheated.

While she is fully equal in Christ and not inferior spiritually because she is a woman, she is physically weaker, and in need of protection, provision and strength from her husband.

being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered... This is an illustration of the fact that one cannot be right with God when his relations with another human being are wrong. Wrong Marital relationships equals **hindered prayer!**

Matthew 18:19

¹⁹ Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven.

Remember Men:

Ephesians 5:25

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

Ephesians 5:28

²⁸ So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.

Ephesians 5:33

³³ Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.

Colossians 3:19

¹⁹ Husbands, love your wives, and be not bitter against them.



20 Ways to Love Your Wife Better, By Nicole Cottrell



I know you husbands and even soon-to-be-husbands love your wives, but there are always ways in which we can show even greater love to our spouse.

Here are 20 ways to love your wife better...

1. Pray for her day each morning. My husband does this almost every day and it makes me feel so loved.
2. Get to know her friends. Friendships are so important to women and we feel loved knowing that our husbands like, enjoy, and appreciate the female friends in our life.
3. Brag about her...in public. My husband brags on me, almost to an embarrassing degree, but at the same time I love it.
4. Constantly prioritize your marriage. My husband communicates to me regularly that our marriage is his number one ministry. He then shows me by his actions.
5. Always be willing to be the first to apologize and seek forgiveness. This is one way in which a man can lead in humility, but simultaneously show love.
6. Make her feel secure. Not all women, but most women, crave security. Find out what makes your wife feel secure and follow through.
7. Try to discuss any big changes or important decisions with your wife. She will feel respected and be grateful.
8. Relieve her occasionally. If she is a stay home mom, take the kids some random afternoon. If she makes dinner, take over that duty for a week. If she usually runs errands on Saturday volunteer to take her list.
9. Be a good listener. Most women like to talk. It's how we process our emotions. Listening will bless her tremendously.
10. Don't always try to fix her problem. Sometimes, just as #9 says, listening is enough.
11. Don't ever stop giving her flowers.
12. Regularly check in with her and ask how you are doing as a husband. When she answers, listen humbly and respond appropriately.
13. Tell her she is beautiful. A lot.
14. Tell her you love her every. single. day. without. fail.
15. Surprise her with something that she would never do for herself—a spa day, a fancy night out, a weekend getaway, a day to shop.
16. Begin every important or potentially difficult discussion with prayer. It displays leadership and helps ensure that your conversation will not turn into an unwanted argument.
17. Don't forget about foreplay. For some women doing the dishes, taking out the trash, or bathing the kids qualifies as foreplay.
18. Encourage her dreams. Dream with her and help her achieve those dreams.
19. Ask her what her sexual needs are. She really does have them.
20. Give her a list of reasons as to why you are so glad you married her.

Pastor Hank's Notes on: 1 Peter

Chapter 3 Outline: Peter in this chapter continues to give instructions to classes or groups of people: (1) to wives; Verses 1-6), (2) to husbands; Verse 7; (3) to the community of Christians as a whole; Verses 8-12 and then with the looming terror of the Neronian persecution in mind, he spoke of the blessedness of suffering for righteousness sake Verses 13-22.

Instructions to Christians, verses 8-12:

Verse 8 Finally, **be ye all of one mind**, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous:

Unity, both in the family (verses 1-7) and in the Church (here, verse 8-9).

be ye all of one mind... Most of us are willing to have one mind, as long as that one mind **is my mind!** But the one mind is to be the mind of **Christ (1 Corinthians 2:16)**. Our common mind is to be Jesus' mind.

1 Corinthians 2:16

¹⁶For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? **but we have the mind of Christ.**

This speaks to the **unity** of God's people. We are one; but we are not all the same. While we should all **be of one mind**, we can't expect everyone to be like us. God has built both unity and diversity among His people. We could say that Christians should be like a good choir. Each one sings with his own voice and some sing different parts, but everyone sings to the same music and in harmony with one another to the same God.

"Be ye all of one mind": Be harmonious, from two Greek words, meaning "to think the same," "to be like-minded". The idea is to maintain inward unity of heart. All Christians are to be examples and spreaders of peace and unity, not disruption and disharmony.

Romans 12:16

¹⁶**Be of the same mind one toward another.** Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.

Romans 15:5

⁵Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be **likeminded** one toward another according to Christ Jesus:

1 Corinthians 1:10

¹⁰Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the **same thing**, and that there be **no divisions** among you; **but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind** and in the **same judgment**.

Philippians 2:2

²Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be **likeminded**, having the **same** love, being of **one** accord, **of one mind**.

Peter then adds/describes the kind of warmth that should be among the people of God in verse 8:

Having compassion... Being sympathetic; feeling for each other; bearing each other's burdens.

Love as brethren... Be lovers of the brethren.

Pitiful... Tender-hearted; let your hearts long over the distressed and afflicted.

Be Courteous... Be friendly-minded; acquire and cultivate a friendly disposition.

Remember what Jesus said in:

John 13:35

³⁵ By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

Jesus did not command us to *like* our brothers and sisters in Christ. But we are commanded to love them; and once we start loving them, then we will start liking them.

Verse 9 Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing.

The greatest challenge to our love for others comes when we are wronged. At those times we are called to not return **evil for evil**, but to give a **blessing** instead.

Let God dish out the punishment:

Romans 12:17-19

¹⁷ Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men.

¹⁸ If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

¹⁹ Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

“Ye are called to inherit a blessing - Therefore their railing cannot hurt you; and, by blessing them, you imitate God, who blesses you.” – John Wesley

Verse 10 **For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile:**

Here Peter quotes: Psalm 34:12-16

¹² What man is he that desireth life, and loveth many days, that he may see good?

¹³ Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile.

¹⁴ Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.

¹⁵ The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry.

¹⁶ The face of the LORD is against them that do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.

For he that will love life, and see good days... Peter here gives straightforward advice on how to experience that rich joy and fullness of life, even in the midst of a hostile environment.

Things we can do to “love life, and see good days”...

1. A loving attitude toward everyone (verse 8).
2. A non-vindictive response toward revilers (verse 9).
3. A pure and honest speech (verse 10).

4. A disdain for sin and pursuit of peace (verse 11).
5. A right motive, i.e., to work the righteousness that please the Omniscient Lord (verse 12).

Psalm 37:4

⁴Delight thyself also in the LORD: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile... Our lives are fed and framed by the words that come out of our mouths. Words invoke the spirit realm into action. Words either advance God's kingdom or Satan's kingdom. Words can bring life or death into any circumstance, problem or challenge in life. Our mouths are the key to the quality and depth of our lives and hold the key to our spiritual growth and development as Christians. The words that flow out of our mouth are an indication of the true condition of our heart.



James 3:5

⁵Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth!

Christians have allowed their mouths to be full of fear, anxiety, distrust, deceit, pride, jealousy, ignorance, bitterness, unforgiveness, envy, strife, selfishness, unthankfulness, condemnation, hatred, gossip, grumbling and complaining. Not only does this destroy your life, but it destroys your witness for Christ. Our mouths should be sanctified and come out from the world and reflect the heart of God and the purity and love of Christ.

It has been said that the “tongue” is one of the most exercised muscles of our body. It has been estimated that in a typical week, the average person will speak enough words to fill a 500 page book! However, for the Christian, the use of the tongue must be a matter of careful forethought and discipline.

Does your mouth declare God's splendor all day long? Or is it full of complaints, grumbings, dissatisfaction, anger and fear?

Psalm 71:8

⁸Let my mouth be filled with thy praise and with thy honour all the day.

Verse 11 Let him **eschew** evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and **ensue** it.

The word **eschew** means avoid. The Christian should be searching for peace. Jesus is King of Peace. To be filled with Jesus is to be filled with peace. **Ensue it means** to pursue it; let him seek after peace.

Job 1:1

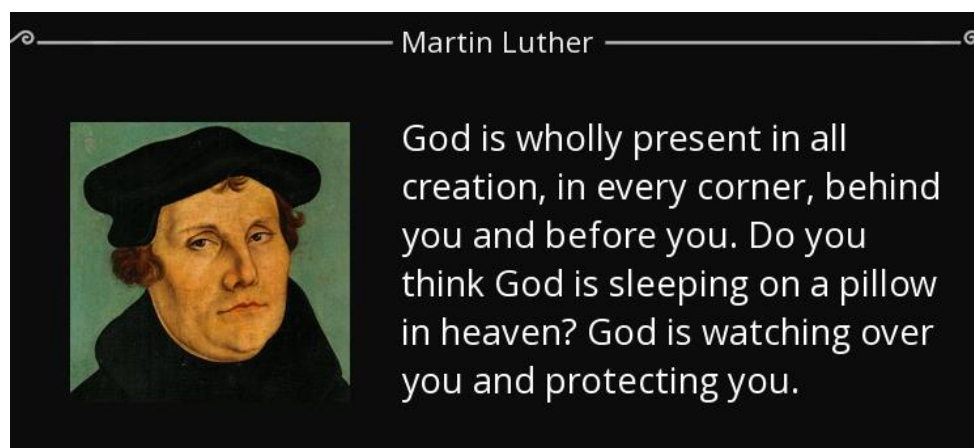
1 There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil.

Fill in your name! Job 1:1(Paraphrase)

1 There was a _____ in the land of **Long Island**, whose name was _____; and that _____ was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil.

Verse 12 For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.

The eyes of the Lord are over the righteous... That is, He is continually under God's notice and his care; God continually watches for him and watches over him, and he is under his constant protection.



And his ears are open unto their prayers... The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and is ears to their prayers. The righteous man attracts the ears of God, wherever he prays, there is the ear of God, into which the prayer, as soon as formed, enters into.

But the face of the Lord is against them that do evil... Not only are wicked men denied the care of God, but their unrighteousness has actually incurred the displeasure of God. The Lord is angry with the wicked every day.

But the face of the Lord is against them that do evil... an expression denoting disapproval, and a determination to punish them.

Leviticus 17:10

¹⁰ And whatsoever man there be of the house of Israel, or of the strangers that sojourn among you, that eateth any manner of blood; **I will even set my face against that soul** that eateth blood, and will cut him off from among his people.

Suffering, verses 13-22:

Verse 13 And who is he that will harm you, if ye be followers of that which is good?

Though Peter says that Christians should always answer evil with good, he also lived in the real world and he knew that people often repaid good with a response of evil.

Jesus said in: Luke 21:16-19

¹⁶ And ye shall be betrayed both by parents, and brethren, and kinsfolks, and friends; and some of you shall they cause to be put to death.

¹⁷ And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake.

¹⁸ But there shall not an hair of your head perish.

¹⁹ In your patience possess ye your souls.

Verse 14 But and if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, **happy are ye:** and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled;

Happy or “blessed” is the idea here, it’s an honor and a privilege to suffer for doing right!

Jesus said in: Matthew 5:10

¹⁰ Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

and be not afraid of their terror... Christians must not fear the things that men generally fear.

Neither be troubled... At times the fear of man had been Peter’s deadliest snare and bitterest trouble. It is not strange that he should bear this witness to the inconsistency of such fear with the life of gladness and goodness. Remember the woman who harassed-troubled Peter and Peter denied The Lord?

Remember what Jesus said in: **John 14:1**

1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

When Jesus makes this statement, He gives away a big clue which quite often we overlook. You see we think He’s implying you have no reason to fear, which is true, however the clue teaches us that we have control of the fear. He says “LET NOT your heart be troubled...” Meaning that we either LET our hearts be troubled or LET NOT our hearts be troubled. The ‘letting’ rests on us. We turn it on or off. We let it in our keep it out! **Proverbs 4:23** says “Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life”. We are the ones gate-keeping our hearts! So what if our heart is troubled? What does that mean? It usually means we are fearful. Fearful of the future. Fearful of the outcome. Maybe you have every NATURAL reason to be fearful...but that’s ok...because you serve a SUPERNATURAL God! He hasn’t given you a spirit of fear! Fear is a ‘scare-gun’; it makes a lot of noise but has no real impact...unless you let it! Today choose to let not your heart be troubled. Trust, hope and believe in the promises God has for you.

happy are ye... The word “Happy” occurs 28 times in 25 verses.

How to be Happy:

1. **Happy** is the man whom God correcteth. Job 5:7
2. **Happy** is the man that hath his quiver full of **them**. Psalm 127:5 Whose the them? _____
3. For thou shalt eat the labour of thine hands: **happy** shalt thou *be*, and *it shall be* well with thee. Psalm 128:2 Work makes one happy!
4. **Happy** is *that* people, whose God *is* the LORD. Psalm 144:15
5. **Happy** is the man *that* findeth wisdom, and the man *that* getteth understanding. Proverbs 3:13
6. He that hath mercy on the poor, **happy** is he. Proverbs 14:21
7. Whoso trusteth in the LORD, **happy** is he. Proverbs 16:20
8. He that keepeth the law, **happy** is he. Proverbs 29:18
9. If ye know these things, **happy** are ye if ye do them. John 13:17
10. Behold, we count them **happy** which endure. James 5:11
11. If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, **happy** are ye. 1 Peter 4:14



With Jesus Linus You can live a long Happy Life!

Pastor Hank's Notes on: 1 Peter

Chapter 3 Outline: Peter in this chapter continues to give instructions to classes or groups of people: (1) to wives; Verses 1-6), (2) to husbands; Verse 7; (3) to the community of Christians as a whole; Verses 8-12 and then with the looming terror of the Neronian persecution in mind, he spoke of the blessedness of suffering for righteousness sake Verses 13-22.

The blessedness of Suffering, verses 13-22, continued:

Verse 15 But **sanctify the Lord God** in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

What is meant by our **sanctifying the Lord God**? It cannot mean to make him holy, for he is perfectly holy.

1. It is closely akin to "hallowing" the name of the Father in heaven, as in the Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9

⁹ After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

2. To give thanks to, or glorify him; that is, in a time of persecution; or as some of the martyrs gave thanks to God when they heard the sentence of condemnation.

Acts 5:41

⁴¹ And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name.

Remember, that when sufferings are approaching we ought to strengthen our hearts against all fears of suffering, by putting our trust in God.

3. To act toward Him as holy. We are to desire that others should esteem Him as we do.

1 Peter 1:16

¹⁶ Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

But sanctify the Lord God **in your hearts...** Exalt him in your hearts, and give him the honour of all his glorious perfections, power, wisdom, goodness, faithfulness, etc., by believing them, and depending upon his promises for defense and assistance against all the evils your enemies may threaten you with.

Be Ready, Why? to every man that asketh you... People will ask you questions about God, Jesus, Salvation, The Church, Social Issues and The Bible...

The Best Offense is a Good Defense! Be Ready!

The word "answer" is the Greek word "APOLOGY." Be ready always to give an apology! Today when we think of the word "apology" we think of saying "I'm sorry" to someone. This does not mean that the Believer is to go around apologizing to everyone for being a Christian. The Greek word "apology" means to give a defense, a reply (literally "to speak back"). If you look up the word "apology" in a good English dictionary you will find that one of the meanings is "a defense." To give a defense means to give a verbal defense, to make a speech in defense. As a believer in

Christ, you are to defend your hope in Him, to give justification for your rightful belief based upon the Person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Some of the early church fathers were known as **Apologists** (from the same Greek word). These men defended the Christian faith against the charges of its enemies. They wrote letters or books which defended the faith. One of the well-known apologists was Justin Martyr.

Part of our Good Defense is to:

1. Be Ready, right here in 1 Peter 3:15 and **be ready** always to give an answer...

Titus 3:1

1 Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, **to be ready to every good work**,

Answering opportunities are sadly wasted when we haven't done our homework. Cult members are often well trained and well indoctrinated in their false doctrine. Sometimes they put believers to shame in their ability to handle (mishandle) the Scripture, quote the Bible and discuss Biblical topics.

2. A Christian must Study!

2 Timothy 2:15

¹⁵ **Study** to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Peter knew how important it was to give a defense to everyone who asks you. He had to do this in the situations described in Acts 2:14-39, Acts 3:11-26, Acts 4:8-12, and Acts 5:29-32. In each point of testing Peter relied on the power of the Holy Spirit and was able to give a defense.

a reason of the hope that is in you... Salvation with its anticipation of eternal glory. Don't we really want to tell/defend others our belief in Salvation, Heaven & Jesus **-the hope that is in you!**

with meekness and fear... meekness=modesty, fear=reverence, it's your heart & attitude. We should not be arrogant when we are answering others. When we minister to someone, it must be done in love.

Verse 16 Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation **in Christ**.

Having a good conscience... The inner testimony of God in your own soul and outwardly testimony in the world.

whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers... Christians were spoken against because of the manner of their lives; but they are told to make their lives so beautiful that they will shame the evil critics.

in Christ... The Christian's Identity is in Christ!

1. We're the Children of God in Christ!

Galatians 3:26

²⁶ For ye are all the children of God by faith **in Christ** Jesus.

2. In Christ Jesus you were given Grace before the world was created.

2 Timothy 1:9

⁹ Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us **in Christ** Jesus before the world began,

3. Nothing can separate us from God's Love in Christ!

Romans 8:38-39

³⁸ For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,

³⁹ Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is **in Christ** Jesus our Lord.

4. In Christ Jesus you have become new.

2 Corinthians 5:17

¹⁷ Therefore if any man be **in Christ**, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

5. Diversity & Unity = The Church in Christ!

Romans 12:5

⁵ So we, being many, are one body **in Christ**, and every one members one of another.



6. How the World looks at those in Christ.

1 Corinthians 4:10

¹⁰ We are fools for Christ's sake, but ye are wise **in Christ**; we are weak, but ye are strong; ye are honourable, but we are despised.

7. We will be Resurrected in Christ!

1 Corinthians 15:22

²² For as in Adam all die, even so **in Christ** shall all be made alive.

Verse 17 For it is better, **if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well doing**, than for evil doing.

that ye suffer for well doing... For believing in Christ, professing him and his Gospel, giving a free and open reason for so doing, and for exercising a good conscience, and living godly in Christ Jesus!

if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well doing... If God wills, you will suffer even for doing good!

The Apostle Paul, God's Will and Suffering:

Paul's Calling: Acts 9:15-16

¹⁵ But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:

¹⁶ For I will shew him how great things he must **suffer** for my name's sake. **(God's Will)**

Paul's Testimony on Suffering:

2 Corinthians 11:19-28

¹⁹ For ye suffer fools gladly, seeing ye yourselves are wise.

²⁰ For ye suffer, if a man bring you into bondage, if a man devour you, if a man take of you, if a man exalt himself, if a man smite you on the face.

²¹ I speak as concerning reproach, as though we had been weak. Howbeit whereinsoever any is bold, (I speak foolishly,) I am bold also.

²² Are they Hebrews? so am I. Are they Israelites? so am I. Are they the seed of Abraham? so am I.

²³ Are they ministers of Christ? (I speak as a fool) I am more; in labours more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft.

²⁴ Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one.

²⁵ Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep;

²⁶ In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren;

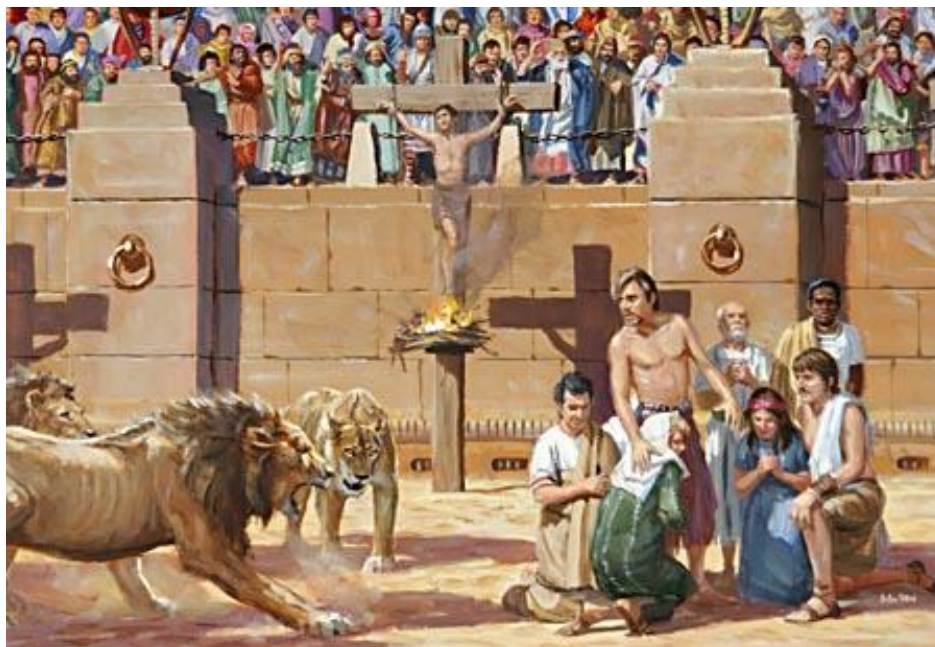
²⁷ In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness.

²⁸ Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches.

that ye suffer for well doing than for evil doing... Jesus suffered for doing good, not evil. Christians should be followers of Christ. If He suffered, we will suffer. Paul counted it a privilege to suffer for Christ. If we suffer for evil we have done, we have no reward, and we deserve the punishment. If we suffer for Christ, great is our reward in heaven.

2 Timothy 3:12

¹² Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.



Romans 8:17

¹⁷ And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

Verse 18 **For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:**

For Christ also hath once suffered for sins... The great **Atonement** of Christ is meant by this. **Atonement** theologically speaks of God's acting in human history to re-establish the original relationship between God and man by dealing with sin. To atone means to make amends--to repair a wrong done. Biblically, it means to remove guilt of man. The Old Testament atonements offered by the high priest were temporary and a foreshadow of the real and final atonement made by Jesus. Jesus atoned for the sins of the world (1 John 2:2). This atonement is received by faith (Romans 5:1, Ephesians 2:8-9).

1 John 2:2

² And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the **sins of the whole world.**

Man is a sinner (Romans 5:8) and cannot atone for himself. Therefore, it was the love of the Father that sent Jesus (1 John 4:10) to die in our place (**1 Peter 3:18**) for our sins (1 Peter 2:24). Because of the atonement, our fellowship with God is restored (Rom. 5:10).

the just for the unjust... Jesus death on The Cross satisfied God's just penalty for sin and opened the way to God for all who repentantly believe.

John 1:29

²⁹The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin **of the world**.

Remember 1 Peter 2:24:

²⁴Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit... Jesus did die in His body but was raised from the dead by the Holy Spirit. Here, the Bible tells us that the Holy Spirit raised Jesus from the dead (See also Romans 8:11). It also tells us that the Father raised Jesus from the dead (Romans 6:4), and it says that Jesus raised Himself from the dead (John 2:18-22). The resurrection was the work of the Triune God. Show this to a Jehovah Witness!

Verse ¹⁹ By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison;

****** This verse is debated with different meanings/interpretations by Scholars. I'll give you what I believe is the simple/basic interpretation:

Jesus preached to the spirits in prison by The Holy Spirit after His death and before His Resurrection.

unto the spirits... Souls of men departed, which are frequently called spirits; Ecclesiastes 12:7 Acts 7:59, Hebrews 12:23 and to the angels/devils from the fall.

2 Peter 2:4

⁴For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;

in prison... In hell.

The Apostle's Creed:

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
 Maker of heaven and earth:
 And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,
 Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
 Born of the Virgin Mary,
 Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 Was crucified, dead, and buried:
He descended into hell;
 The third day he rose again from the dead;
 He ascended into heaven,
 And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
 From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
 I believe in the Holy Ghost;
 The holy Catholic Church;
 The Communion of Saints;
 The Forgiveness of sins;
 The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting.
 Amen.

Verse 20 Which sometime were **disobedient**, when once the longsuffering of **God waited** in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.

Peter uses an Old Testament Illustration here. **Days of Noah ...** Why is Noah introduced in this context? It was because of the figure of our salvation in the event related here; and what Peter designs to show by this is that the same spirit that preached through Noah is exactly the same Spirit now preaching through the apostles, a fact Peter had already categorically stated in 1 Peter 1:11. Another very obvious purpose of Peter is to encourage the saints under threat of impending persecution by calling attention to the fact of "few" being saved through the great debacle of the flood, with the inherent warning that it may also be "few" who will be saved through the looming terror.

Disobedient... They disbelieved the preaching of Noah, and disobeyed his calls to repentance.

God Waited... Waiting; and continued to wait for their repenting through a hundred and twenty years of Noah's Righteous Preaching, when rejected, the flood came.

Eight souls... Noah and his wife, his three sons and their wives. Genesis 7:7

Were saved... Through believing and obeying God, preparing an ark and entering into it.

By water... by the instrumentality of water. The water which destroyed the wicked bore up the ark and floated it in safety.

Peter drew a picture with his words here. Even as Noah's Salvation from the judgment of God was His trust and Faith in God to get into the Ark, the water of the flood washed away sin and wickedness and brought a new world with a fresh start before God. The symbolic water baptism of today does the same thing, providing a passage from the old to the new.

Verse 21 The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:

The like figure... This signifies simply a type, or example, or representation; and here, where it implies either the likeness or correspondence of one type with another in signifying the same thing: so that here may be two types, the deliverance of Noah and his household in the flood (water), and New Testament Baptism (water). Baptism now delivers us from the consequences of the world (James 1:21; James 2:24; 2 Corinthians 6:17-18; Colossians 3:8-9; Hebrews 10:22). Baptism is the evidence that a person has made a break with his or her past life and is taking a stand with the Savior, just like Noah and his family broke from the world and went into the Ark.

By the resurrection of Jesus Christ ... Peter kept coming back again and again to the fountain source of all blessing. The resurrection of Christ is everything in the Christian religion.

Verse 22 Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him.

Who is gone into heaven... Having given the fullest proof of his resurrection from the dead, and of his having accomplished the end for which he came into the world.

On the right hand of God... In the place of the highest dignity, honor, and influence.

Angels and authorities and powers... That is, all creatures and beings, both in the heavens and in the earth, are put under subjection to Jesus Christ. He has all power in the heavens and in the earth. He alone can save; and he alone can destroy.

The reason why the apostle here adverts to the fact that the Lord Jesus is raised up to the right hand of God, and is so honored in heaven, seems to have been to encourage those to whom he wrote to persevere in the service of God, though they were persecuted. The Lord Jesus was in like manner persecuted. He was reviled, and rejected, and put to death. Yet he ultimately triumphed. He was raised from the dead, and was exalted to the highest place of honor in the universe.



Pastor Hank's Notes on: 1 Peter

Chapter 4 Outline: Our duties as sufferers for righteousness sake, verses 1-6. Our duties while we wait for The Coming of Christ, verses 7-19.

1 Peter 4

Verse 1 Forasmuch then as Christ hath **suffered** for us in the flesh, **arm yourselves likewise with the same mind**: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin;

The commitment God calls us to have is nothing greater than the commitment Jesus had in enduring suffering for our salvation. In the last days we need to have a commitment to God that will endure through **sufferings**.

Matthew 16:24

²⁴ Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

Jesus died on the Cross, would you?

arm yourselves likewise with the same mind... Means to keep your thoughts stayed upon Him and to strengthen and fortify ("**arm**") yourselves against all temptations, and sin.

Verse 2 That he **no longer** should **live the rest of his time** in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God.

Peter gave us two time references that are helpful in having the right attitude in our following of Jesus Christ.

First, **no longer** should we live in sin, and we should answer every temptation and sinful impulse with the reply, "**no longer**."

Second, we should carefully consider how to the **live the rest of his time**. God has appointed us some many future days on this earth; and we must answer to Him how we lived the rest of one's time.

Verse 3 For the time past of our life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles, **when we walked in lasciviousness, lusts, excess of wine, revellings, banquetings, and abominable idolatries**:

Peter realized we have all spent enough time living like the world. Now we are called to live like Christians. It is a profound and foolish waste of time for Christians to live like the world, and we must simply stop being double-minded and start living as Christians.

we walked in:

in lasciviousness, lusts; which belong to the head of uncleanness, and take in all kinds of it; as fornication, adultery, incest, sodomy, and all unnatural lusts:

excess of wine, revellings, banquetings... Luxurious drunkenness attended with rioting, revellings, and obscene songs ... **Rock n Roll Party!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

and abominable idolatries... Gentiles in the verse above, is speaking of worldly people who have not received Jesus as Savior. Everyone was like this, before they received Jesus as their Savior. The will of the world {Gentiles} is to please the flesh and its lust for sin. All of the sins above are caused by lust of the flesh. Christians are to separate themselves away from this type of life style. We are to be a peculiar people, as far as the world is concerned.

Verse 4 Wherein **they think it strange** that ye **run not with them** to the same **excess of riot**, speaking evil of you:

They think it strange... The former friends are surprised, offended and resentful because of the Christian's lack of interest in ungodly pleasures.

Run... When the world looks at our godly living, they **think it strange** that we do not follow **them** in their **excess of riot** (wastefulness). If life lived after the flesh is anything, it is a *waste*.

Are you running from God? Many people today certainly are trying, but you can't run from an omnipresent God. Why do people run from God anyway? Why attempt the impossible? **John 3:20** gives us the answer in simplest of terms... "*For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved.*" Sin is the culprit. The reason why most people run from God is because of their love for sin.

The question is: Are you running with God or running with them?

Verse 5 Who shall give account to him that is ready to judge **the quick and the dead**.

the quick and the dead... that is, those who shall be alive when he comes, and those in their graves. This is a common phrase to denote all who shall be brought before God for judgment.

2 Timothy 4:1

1 I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, **who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom**;

All the unsaved, (currently alive or dead) those guilty of walking in wickedness, verse 3, will be summoned before the Great White Throne to face the judge, Jesus Christ (John 5:22; Revelation 20:11-15).

Verse 6 For for this cause was **the gospel preached also to them that are dead**, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh, but live **according to God** in the spirit.

the gospel preached also to them that are dead... The plain meaning is that the gospel was preached to people when living, who are now dead; just as it would be perfectly correct to say that it was preached to saints in glory, or to souls that are in hell/prison. Remember 1Pe 3:19: "By which also he went and preached unto the spirits **in prison**"

Deceased Christians are not deprived of the benefits of the gospel. "According to men" they are judged in the flesh (suffered bodily death); yet "**according to God**" (from God's point of view), the spiritual life which they received ... endures forever.

Luke 4:18

¹⁸ The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,

Pastor Hank's Notes on: 1 Peter

Supplemental Teaching:

Where was Jesus for the three days between His death and resurrection?

Let's look at a few Bible verses:

Peter says: 1 Peter 3:18-19 (Our Study)

¹⁸ For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:

¹⁹ By which also **he went and preached unto the spirits in prison;**

Let's back track and let's do a Timeline:

1. The Crucifixion.

Luke 23:39-43

³⁹ And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us.

⁴⁰ But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation?

⁴¹ And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss.

⁴² And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom.

⁴³ And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, **Today shalt thou be with me in paradise.** Jesus is going to visit Paradise.

Jesus said that after His death they were going to **Paradise**.

Before The Cross there were two places one went when they died: Believers=Paradise/Abraham's Bosom or Hell/Prison. Both places were in the lower parts of the Earth, separated by **a great gulf fixed**.

Luke 16:26

²⁶ And beside all this, between us and you there is a **great gulf fixed**: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence.

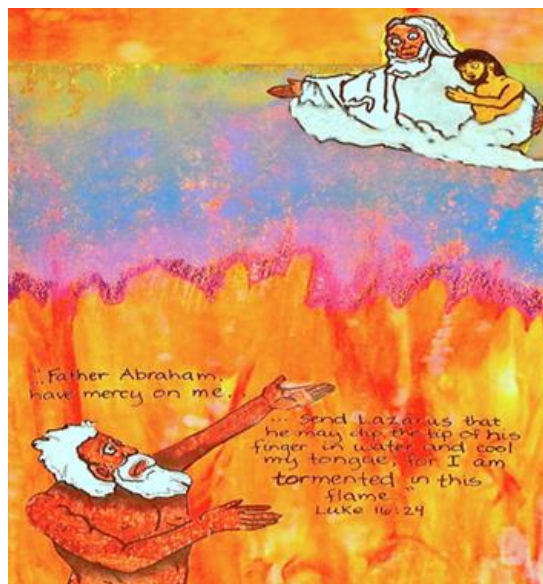
The Bible case in point can be found in Luke chapter 16:

Luke 16:22-24

²² And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into **Abraham's bosom**: the rich man also died, and was buried;

²³ **And in hell** he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

²⁴ And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.



2. At some time between The Lord's Death and Resurrection, Jesus visited Paradise where He delivered a message to **"the spirits in prison"** (1 Peter 3:19).

Jesus was not preaching the gospel to **"the spirits in prison"** so they could be Saved but was instead proclaiming the **truth** to them.

Peter does not tell us what Jesus preached to **"the spirits in prison"**. It was probably a declaration of victory over Satan, his Fallen Angels and the lost.

Who were **"the spirits in prison"**?

1. All humanity who died before the time of the Cross.
2. Fallen Angels that were so bad (the fall) that God sent them directly to Prison/Hell.

Jude 6

⁶ And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, **he hath reserved in everlasting chains** under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.

Jesus went down!

Ephesians 4:8-10

⁸ Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.

⁹ (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first **into the lower parts of the earth?**

¹⁰ He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.)

It was a short visit: Acts 2:31

³¹ He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, **that his soul was not left in hell**, neither his flesh did see corruption.

3. Then Jesus went up to Heaven with ALL BELIEVERS.

The Apostle Paul commenting on this wrote in:

Ephesians 4:8

⁸ Wherefore he saith, **When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive**, and gave gifts unto men.

Which is a fulfilment of Bible Prophecy found in:

Psalms 68:18

¹⁸ Thou hast ascended on high, **thou hast led captivity captive**: thou hast received gifts for men; yea, for the rebellious also, that the LORD God might dwell among them.

Who are the “**captivity captive**”?

Answer: All of the Old Testament Saints from Paradise/ Abraham's Bosom. The OT Saints were living in Paradise/ Abraham's Bosom until after The Cross then which Jesus goes to Paradise/ Abraham's Bosom “When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men”

Additional Notes:

Jesus proclaimed His victory over the fallen angels and those who are kept in prison.

Psalms 16:10-11

¹⁰ **For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell**; neither wilt thou suffer thine **Holy One** to see corruption.

¹¹ Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.

2. Jesus Himself said that He was going down.

Matthew 12:40

⁴⁰ For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; **so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.**

Just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the whale's belly. Also in Ephesians 4:9, we are told that Jesus “descended first into the lower parts of the earth?” When Jonah was in the whale, he died. Think about it. Could a man survive 3 days of being soaked in hydrochloric acid (strong enough to eat through steel) in the belly of a Whale? Of course, God can do anything. However, in lieu of Ephesians 4:9, it is obvious to me that Jonah did die, and then descended into Paradise/Abraham's Bosom. After 3 days and nights, God brought Jonah back to life.

The Apostle Paul commenting on this:

Ephesians 4:8-10

⁸ Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.

⁹ (Now that he ascended, what is it but **that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth?**

¹⁰ He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.)

4. Finally, Jesus went back to the Cave, arose from the grave=The Resurrection, and spent 40 days on Earth with His Disciples, the 500 witnesses etc... and then went to Heaven to sit on His Throne on the right hand next to The Father.

Early Church History: The Apostle's Creed:

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
 Maker of heaven and earth:
 And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,
 Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
 Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 Was crucified, dead, and buried:

He descended into hell;

The third day he rose again from the dead;
 He ascended into heaven,
 And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
 From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
 I believe in the Holy Ghost;
 The holy Catholic Church; The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins;
 The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting. Amen.

****Also, let's look at:**

1 Peter 4:6

⁶For for this cause was the gospel preached also to them that are dead, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh, but live according to God in the spirit.

The plain meaning is that the gospel was preached to people when living, who are now dead.

Peter deals here with the historic past. He is not saying that the gospel is being preached to the dead. The preaching took place when these “dead ones” were still alive. This is the only time when preaching is effective — when we are alive physically on earth.

The dead Christians of verse six had the gospel preached to them while alive on earth. They became Christians while on earth and are now dead. They heard the gospel while **alive** and have now passed into eternity before the completion of Peter's Epistle. This statement encourages Christians that they have something for which to live beyond this present life.

1 Peter 4:6 Summarizes the whole process of preaching the gospel, their salvation and living holy lives on earth after they become spiritually alive

“judged according to men in the flesh”... Peter writes that these Christians were put to death/suffering by persecutors – **“men in the flesh”**

Acts 2:23

²³ Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:

Pastor Hank's Notes on: 1 Peter

Chapter 4 Outline: Our duties as sufferers for righteousness sake, verses 1-6. Our duties while we wait for The Coming of Christ, verses 7-19.

The Coming of Christ, verses 7-19:

In the last days, Christians should live with an attitude of serious Prayer, verse 7:

Verse 7 **But the end of all things is at hand:** be ye therefore sober, and **watch unto prayer.**

Having emphasized triumphant suffering through death, Peter here begins to emphasize triumphant suffering through the Second Coming of Christ.

But the end of all things is at hand... Peter is calling believers to live obediently and expectantly in the light of Christ's return.

watch unto prayer... Every generation since the time of the crucifixion of Jesus, has felt that the coming of the Lord was near. It is even more apparent today that we are living near the coming of Jesus. Peter's instruction, in face of this, is to get serious about God and **Pray!**

In the last days, Christians should live with an attitude of love, verses 8-9:

Verse 8 And above all things **have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins.**

have fervent charity among yourselves... If these are the last days, then it is important for us to love those we are going to spend eternity with. In light of eternity, we must have **fervent charity** for one another.

for charity shall cover the multitude of sins... Love will overlook a Brother or Sister's sins.

Peter here quotes: Proverbs 10:12

¹² Hatred stirreth up strifes: but love covereth all sins.

Verse 9 **Use hospitality one to another without grudging.**

Use hospitality one to another... Love is practical, not just emotional. In Peter's day, love included opening one's home and caring for other needy Christians, such as traveling Preachers. It also included opening one's home for Church Services. The Bible also teaches that Christians should be hospitable to strangers (Exodus 22:21; Deut. 14:28-29; Heb. 13:12).

Luke 9:1-5

1 Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases.

2 And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick.

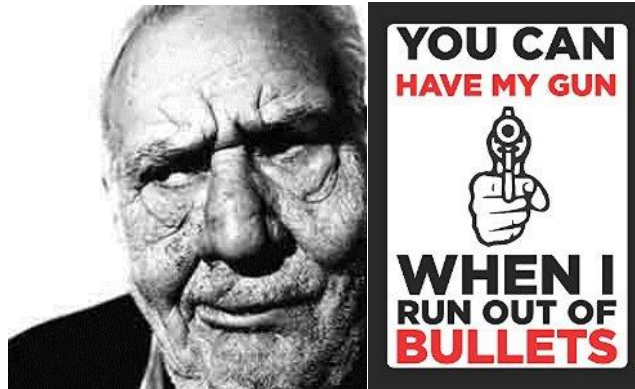
3 And he said unto them, Take nothing for your journey, neither staves, nor scrip, neither bread, neither money; neither have two coats apiece.

4 And whatsoever house ye enter into, there abide, and thence depart.

⁵ And whosoever will not receive you, when ye go out of that city, shake off the very dust from your feet for a testimony against them.

Use hospitality one to another without grudging...

Welcome to my home...



In the last days, Love will show itself as we give to the Church family what God has given us as gifts, verse 10:

Verse 10 **As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.**

As every man hath received the gift... A spiritual gift is a graciously given to every believer by which the Holy Spirit ministers to the body of Christ. A spiritual gift cannot be earned, pursued or worked up. It is merely “received” through the grace of God.

1 Corinthians 12:7

⁷ But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.

even so minister the same one to another... Spiritual gifts were used, not for the exaltation of the person with the gift, but in loving concern for the benefit of others in the Church.

as good stewards... A steward is responsible for another’s resources. A Christian does not own his gifts, but God has given him gifts to manage for the church and His glory.

of the manifold grace of God... We are keepers of the grace of God toward man on this earth.

Gifts: The categories of spirituals gifts are given in:

Romans 12:3-8

³ For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

⁴ For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office:

⁵ So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

⁶ Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith;

⁷Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching;

⁸Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness.

1 Corinthians 12:4-10

⁴Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.

⁵And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord.

⁶And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all.

⁷But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.

⁸For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;

⁹To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;

¹⁰To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues:

Ephesians 4:11-12

¹¹And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

¹²For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:



Pastor Hank's Notes on: 1 Peter

Chapter 4 Outline: Our duties as sufferers for righteousness sake, verses 1-6. Our duties while we wait for The Coming of Christ, verses 7-19.

Our duties while we wait for The Coming of Christ, verses 7-19 continued:

Verse 11 If any man speak, **let him speak as the oracles of God**; if any man **minister**, let him do it as of **the ability which God giveth**: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

the oracles of God... synonym for the Scriptures.

Acts 7:38

³⁸This is he, that was in the church in the wilderness with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sina, and with our fathers: who received the lively **oracles** to give unto us:

Romans 3:2

²Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them were committed the **oracles of God**.

Hebrews 5:12

¹²For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the **oracles** of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.

let him speak as the oracles of God... In all these references, it is clear that these "**oracles of God**"; that is, the Holy Scriptures constitute the very words of the living God. They were given to Believers by God and are preserved for us now in our Bibles. They obviously should be believed, studied, obeyed, **and spoken** by all who consider themselves to be Christians.

the ability which God giveth... Peter is saying that there are two types of gifts "**which God giveth**": speaking gifts and ministering gifts.

that God in all things may be glorified... the final end of all a Christian's acts.

through Jesus Christ... The mediator through whom all our blessings come down to us, and also through whom all our praises ascend to God. Through Christ alone can God be glorified in us and our sayings and doings.

Our Sufferings: It's not a Strange thing, expect it!

Verse 12 Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, **as though some strange thing happened unto you**:

It's natural for the world to hate you; do not think there is anything strange or unusual happening to you. All of the apostles had already discovered the truth of the Saviour's warning:

John 15:18-20

¹⁸If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you.

¹⁹If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.

²⁰ Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also.

We know there are trials that face us all. It is not how many trials we have or even how bad the trials are that counts, **it is how we handle the trials**. If you look through the Bible at all of the prophets and men and women of God, you will find they all faced trials. It is not unusual for trying times to come. It rains on the just and on the unjust. It is important how we handle that problem.

as though some strange thing happened unto you... A Christian must not think that his persecution is something that happened accidentally. God allowed it and designed it for the believer's testing and teaching.

Our Sufferings: Rejoice in them!

Verse ¹³ But rejoice, inasmuch **as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed**, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings... The Christian who is persecuted for his faith is a partner in the same kind of suffering Jesus endured. How is the Christian's suffering a sharing in the sufferings of Christ? First, their sufferings are caused by the same thing. Christ died for testifying under oath that he is the Son of God, and the Christians of Peter's day who were confessing the same eternal truth were suffering as Christ suffered. This is the identity of the Church as Christians, suffering as Jesus suffered.

that, when his glory shall be revealed... Those who have suffered more in Jesus will rejoice more at His coming in glory.

Romans 8:18

¹⁸ For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

The difference between suffering as a Christian and suffering as an evildoer, verse 14-16:

Verse ¹⁴ **If ye be reproached for the name of Christ**, happy are ye; **for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you**: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified.

If ye be reproached... To censure, to shame, to charge with a fault, to treat with scorn or contempt. This happens to Christians all the time, why? **"for the name of Christ"** but don't worry,

for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you... The Holy Spirit. It was one of the glorious fruits of the indwelling Spirit in Christian hearts that produced spiritual strength enabling the Christian to go on wearing the name, go on being a Christian, go on loving and believing Christ, in spite of being reviled and persecuted for it.

Suffering for **the name of Christ** is a blessing, because it shows that we really are following Jesus, and that we suffer because we are identified with Him.

Verse ¹⁵ But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, **or as a busybody in other men's matters**.

If you must be called to suffer, see that it be not for a crime.

There are four sins mentioned in this one verse:

- **Murder**
The act of unlawfully killing a human being with premeditated malice (disposition to injure others without cause, from mere personal gratification or from a spirit of revenge).
- **Theft**
The unlawful taking of another person's goods or belongings without their consent or knowledge with the intention of keeping them for yourself. To deprive the owner of his property against his will.
- **Evildoer**
One who commits sin, crime or any moral wrong.
- **Busybody**
A meddling person or one who officiously (excessively forward as in "pushy") concerns himself with the affairs of others.

or as a busybody in other men's matters... "The inspector of another; meddling with other people's concerns, and forgetting their own; such persons are hated of all men." – Adam Clarke



Mrs. Busybody

How does a busybody suffer? From a guilty conscience knowing that he or she is causing the destruction of another person.

Proverbs 6:16-19: These six things doth **the LORD hate**: yea, seven are **an abomination unto him**: A proud look, a lying tongue (gossip), and **hands that shed innocent blood** (murder), **An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations** (evildoer), **feet that be swift in running to mischief** (theft), **A false witness that speaketh lies**, and **he that soweth discord among brethren** (busy body).

The greatest weapon a busybody has is not his/her nose, even though we call a person like that "nosy", it is not her ears, it is his/her tongue. A busybody will spread the information around via the tongue. He/She doesn't just want the information for themselves. They want it so she can tell other people. A busybody is a sower of discord.

There are some people who genuinely care about you and what is happening in your life. These will be close and trusted friends and family members. These will be your prayer warriors. But these people don't usually want, or need, to know all the details about a situation in order to pray for you. These people are sincere and there is no question about their motives. They love you, they care about you, they want to help you. Thank God for them. They are rare. These are the people who will sense your hurt and ask if they can help, if they can pray for you, and they will. They won't be offended if you don't tell them everything.

Busybodies are people who are overly concerned about your affairs. They need to know every little detail no matter how intimate they are. As a matter of fact, the more personal and private the details the better they like it.

Busybodies usually appear very sympathetic to your problems. They may even cry with you as you unburden your heart. They will always agree with you. After all, if they didn't you would not share your problems with them. They will encourage you to tell them everything. How can they help you if they don't know all the facts?

1 Timothy 5:13

¹³ And withal they learn to be idle, wandering about from house to house; and not only idle, **but tattlers also and busybodies, speaking things which they ought not.**



From the Urban Dictionary (Worldly Satirical Humor)

Busybody

"The kind of person you just want to punch in the mouth for being so da ___ annoying. They have no life and way too much time on their hands. They frequently use their excessive amount of time to annoy and monitor others, taddletale for small meaningless crap, butt into everybody's business except their own, and spy on people as if they think they are a cop or an important person or something. You know busy bodies when you see them: they evesdrop, will report you for "child abuse" when you discipline your kids in the mall by giving them a small smack on the hand, they knock on your apartment door for "being too loud" when chopping vegetables on your counter for dinner, will tell flight attendants something like "excuse me but I saw that man using his cell phone during the safety demo" and will tell a COP something like "excuse me sir but I saw that man's license plate tag as being expired." What do you want me to do about a cell phone or an expired tag you stupid, loser? I had a friend once who was a busybody. He told me 6 months after I moved to Arizona that "I am going to report your car to the state DMV if you dont get your car registered with the state." He did exactly what he said and I punched him in the face for it. We are not frinds anymore. I can't stand ANY busybody like this. Let's just say busybodies are the fingernails and we are their chalkboard.

Busy bodies are usually self-rightous hypocrites that are quick to point out the faults in others but get defensive when you point out theirs.

I can't stand any busybody. I want to puch them all in the mouth."

Verse 16 Yet if any man suffer as a **Christian**, let him not be ashamed; **but let him glorify God on this behalf.**

This is one of three places in the New Testament where the followers of Jesus are named Christians.

Acts 11:26

²⁶ And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called **Christians** first in Antioch.

Acts 26:28

²⁸ Then Agrippa said unto Paul, Almost thou persuadest me to be a **Christian**.

CHRISTIAN : The Bible reveals that in the new dispensation, the children of God are to be called by a new name which the "mouth of the LORD" would name. **We are called Christians!**

Isaiah 62:2

² And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory: **and thou shalt be called by a new name**, which the mouth of the LORD shall name.

In **1 Peter 4:16** the idea is that many are suffering because they are identified as **Christians**. This shows that the name had become very widely used, so much so that one could be persecuted for being numbered as a Christian.

At first believers had no distinctive name, but were called among themselves "brethren," Acts 6:3; "disciples," Acts 6:1; "of this way," Acts 9:2; "saints," Romans 1:7.

Etymology: Christian. The Greek word Χριστιανός (*Christianos*), meaning "follower of Christ", comes from Χριστός (*Christos*), meaning "anointed one", with an adjectival ending borrowed from Latin to denote adhering to, or even belonging to, as in slave ownership, coined to **distinguish** followers of Christ from Jews and Gentiles.

The earliest occurrences of the term "Christian" in non-Christian literature include Josephus: "Antiquities of the Jews — XVIII, 3:3, 93-94 A.D.

3:3 "Now there was about this time Jesus, a wise man, if it be lawful to call him a man; for he was a doer of wonderful works, a teacher of such men as receive the truth with pleasure. He drew over to him both many of the Jews and many of the Gentiles. He was [the] Christ. And when Pilate, at the suggestion of the principal men amongst us, had condemned him to the cross, those that loved him at the first did not forsake him; for he appeared to them alive again the third day; as the divine prophets had foretold these and ten thousand other wonderful things concerning him. **And the tribe of Christians, so named from him, are not extinct at this day.**"

Let him not be ashamed... Ashamed of being called a Christian so as to refuse to suffer on account of it.

but let him glorify God on this behalf...

Acts 5:41

⁴¹ And they departed from the presence of the council, **rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name.**

326 I'll Tell the World That I'm a Christian

Tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee. Mark 5:19

BAYNARD L. FOX


BAYNARD L. FOX




1. I'll tell the world that I'm a Christ-ian— I'm not a - shamed
2. I'll tell the world that He is com-ing— It may be near



His name to bear; I'll tell the world that I'm a Christ-ian—
or far a - way; But we must live as if His com-ing



I'll take Him with me an - y - where. I'll tell the world
Would be to - mor - row or to - day. For when He comes



how Je - sus saved me, And how He gave me a life brand-new;
and life is o - ver, For those who love Him, there's more to be;

THE CHRISTIAN POST Saturday, May 21, 2016

Rob Bell: 'I Don't Use the Word Christian, Jesus Would Be Mortified Religion Started in His Name'



Author and former megachurch pastor Rob Bell speaks with Oprah Winfrey on "Super Soul Sunday" on OWN during a Nov. 3, 2013, broadcast.

By Michael Gryboski , Christian Post Reporter

Controversial author and former megachurch Pastor Rob Bell says he rarely uses the term "Christian," claiming that Jesus would oppose it.

In an interview with Uproxx published last week, the former Mars Hill Bible Church pastor explained that he does not like to use the term "Christian" to describe himself.

"I don't actually use the word 'Christian' much, because I think Jesus would be mortified that a religion with very strong codes of in-and-out had started in his name," said Bell in the interview.

"I don't have a problem with the word 'Christian,' I just don't think it's the point, and I actually think, oftentimes, it gets in the way. Especially in the word 'Christianity,' which implies some big sort of cumbersome system, when at the heart is a Christ who invites us to live in the world in a particular way."

Bell also told Uproxx he felt that having a "religious affiliation can sometimes be a way to bolster your own ego."

"I met so many people who would *never* call themselves a Christian who were so Jesus-y, and I met so many people who were loud and outspoken about how they were Christians who didn't seem like they were Jesus-like at all," continued Bell.

"I don't find the categories helpful at all. I think what Jesus is doing is calling us beyond form. To not clutch and cling to some of these forms, but to let go of them."

A best-selling author and founder of the Mars Hill Bible Church in Grandville, Michigan, in recent years Bell has garnered controversy for his views on issues like homosexuality and salvation.

In 2011, Bell left Mars Hill in response to the criticism he received for his book *Love Wins: A Book About Heaven, Hell, and the Fate of Every Person Who Ever Lived*.

The book questioned the existence of Hell and Jesus Christ being the only way to salvation, prompting intense criticism from evangelicals and members of the Mars Hill congregation.

In an interview with Oprah Winfrey in February 2015, Rob and his wife, Kristen, claimed that the American church would inevitably accept gay marriage and questioned the Bible's relevance to modern society.

"We're moments away. I think the culture is already there. And the church will continue to be even more irrelevant when it quotes letters from 2,000 years ago as their best defense," claimed Rob.

For her part, Kristen told Oprah that she believes churches that maintain the traditional view of marriage are "regressing."

"I think there are a lot of people, who as they see culture moving, their response is to dig in deeper, hold their ground, fight against it," argued Kristen.

"So I think that there are both things happening. There are churches that are moving forward into that area, and there are churches who are almost regressing and making it more of a battle."

Rob Bell's recent comments to Uproxx came in response to a question posed by the publication to Bell regarding his opinions on the boycott of Target over its announcement that customers and employees can use any bathroom they want, regardless of their birth sex.

The American Family Association launched a petition which was signed by over 1.2 million people who said they would refuse to shop at Target as long as they allowed men to use women's restrooms.

"... you have people who when you say 'Christian,' they think 'oh, you mean the people who are boycotting Target?' I don't think the heart of the Jesus message has much to do with boycotting Target," said Bell to Uproxx.

Beware of Rob Bell! Sorry to quote a letter from 2,000 years ago...

Matthew 7:15

¹⁵ Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.



Pastor Hank's Notes on: 1 Peter

Chapter 4 Outline: Our duties as sufferers for righteousness sake, verses 1-6. Our duties while we wait for The Coming of Christ, verses 7-19.

Our duties while we wait for The Coming of Christ, verses 7-19 continued:

Verse 17 For the time is come that **judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?**

judgment must begin at the house of God... In the context of suffering, Peter tells us that judgment begins at the house of God. Right now, God uses suffering as a judgment (in a positive, purifying sense) for Christians (the house of God).

Judgment ... Not condemnation, but the purging, chastening, and purifying of the Church by the loving hand of God. It is far better and more important to kingdom work to endure suffering as the Lord purges and strengthens the church, that to endure the eternal sufferings of the unbeliever in the Lake of Fire. The "**house of God**" is speaking of the believers in Christ, or the **Church**. Jesus is coming back for **His Church** that is without spot or wrinkle. God will shake the Church/Judgment, so that those who are playing church will be shaken out. Only the true believers in Christ will remain.

Why? It Starts With His Church: "judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us" Judgment begins **first** with us!

1. Judgment for His Loved Ones has always been God's plan.

Amos 3:2

² You only have I known of all the families of the earth: therefore I will punish **you** for all your iniquities.

Jeremiah 25:29

²⁹ For, lo, I begin to bring evil on the city which is called by my name, and should ye be utterly unpunished? **Ye shall not be unpunished: for I will call for a sword upon all the inhabitants of the earth**, saith the LORD of hosts.

Jesus said to the Churches in:

Ephesus- I will remove your candlestick. (Revelation 2:5)

Pergamum- Repent. (Revelation 2:16)

Thyatira- I am going to bring death and tribulation to you congregation. (Revelation 2:22-23)

Sardis- Will surprise them. (Revelation 3:3)

Laodicea- Will spit them out. (Revelation 3:16)

2. Judgment is always done for a purpose.

Why was God going to bring judgment to the Churches in the Book of Revelation? Because...

Ephesus - They had lost their first love.

Pergamum – They were teaching of false Doctrine.

Thyatira – They were Condoning of immorality.

Sardis – They were dead.

Laodicea – They had become lazy.

The Bible tells us that we (The Church) are the light of the world. In the case of each Church mentioned in Revelation chapters 2 and 3 their light had gone out or was barely flickering. They were no longer a lighthouse for the lost and was shedding very little or no light at all!

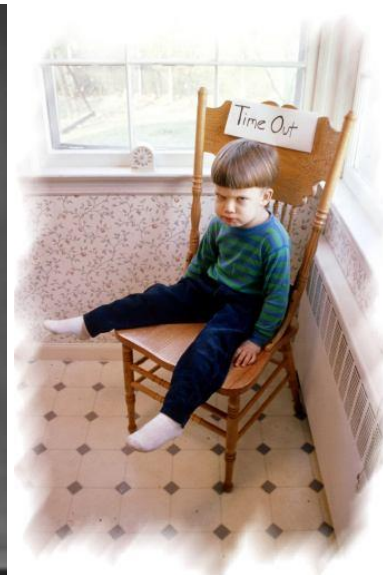
Judgment is always done to His people, thennnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnn comes:

Chastening or Chastisement is used to describe acts of discipline, correction, or punishment. According to the Bible, the Lord's chastening is generally be considered painful and unpleasant (Hebrews 12:11). This is how God works with His people.

Chastisement is not a bad thing. Although unpleasant, it is not to be confused with the wrath of God. It is a reference to the correction and discipline of a loving Heavenly Father toward His children. God's love for us is as a parent, finding the occasional need to correct us with a spiritual "spanking" whenever our sin and rebellion makes it necessary.



Old School



Modern

Hebrews 12:5-11

⁵ And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him:

⁶ For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.

⁷ If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?

⁸ But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.

⁹ Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live?

¹⁰ For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness.

¹¹ Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.

Chastening can come in the form of conviction, guilty feelings, unpleasant circumstances, loss of peace, relationship fractures, or any number of negative consequences for choosing sin. Sometimes, the chastening of the Lord can be physical illness or even death.

1 Corinthians 11:30

³⁰ For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep.

Verse 17 continued: what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?... Peter's sobering application is clear. If God's children experience judgment-suffering-chastisement, what will become of those who **obey not the gospel of God**? How can they ever hope to stand before the judgment and wrath of God when they through rejection of God and did not **obey gospel of God**?

Christians can rejoice that the sufferings they face in this life are the worst they will ever face throughout all eternity. We have seen the worst; those who reject Jesus Christ have seen the **best** of life their eternal existence. So sad...

The Apostle Paul revealed fully the fate of those who will not "obey the gospel":

2 Thessalonians 1:8

⁸ In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:



Verse 18 And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?

Peter is very much aware of how great the cost of our salvation has been. Only God could have accomplished it. Salvation may be free for us but we must never forget the great effort and cost

that God put into it on our behalf. It was by no means easy for Him. And if that be true, what hope is there for Christ-rejecters who do not have the benefit of His saving work? They will appear on the wrong side of God's judgments.

Verse 19 Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God **commit the keeping of their souls** to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.

Peter again made a distinction between those who **suffer according to the will of God** and those who suffer otherwise (verses 18 & 19). Not all suffering is the will of God.

Peter's theme in 1 Peter is that Christians, even for doing good and right for God, God will allow you to suffer according to His will. Remember:

1 Corinthians 10:13

¹³ There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.



commit the keeping of their souls... Those who place their lives confidently in his hand, who, being their Creator, will also be their eternal life giver!

Psalms 37:5

⁵ Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

Pastor Hank's Notes on: 1 Peter

Chapter 5 Outline: Chapter 5 concludes the epistle with exhortations concerning the eldership and the general attitude of submission and obedience for all Christians (verses 1-11), and ending with salutations and benediction (verses 12-14).

Verse 1 The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:

The elders which are among you... The word “elder” means, “one who is old;” but it is frequently used in the New Testament as applicable to the officers of the church; probably because aged persons were at first commonly appointed to these offices.

who am also an elder... Peter was qualified to speak because he is a fellow elder. Though Peter was clearly the prominent disciple among the twelve, he claimed no special privilege or position, such as being the pope of the early church. Instead, Peter saw himself only as one fellow elder among all the elders in the church.

“It will always be our wisdom, dear friends, to put ourselves as much as we can into the position of those whom we address. It is a pity for anyone ever to seem to preach down to people; it is always better to be as nearly as possible on the same level as they are.” – Spurgeon

and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed... Peter was an eyewitness of The Lord's Transfiguration. (Matthew 17:2)

The Pastor's Title:

The terms **Pastor**, **Elder**, and **Bishop** describe the same office in the assembly, referring to three different aspects of the church leader's work.

PASTOR refers to the church leader as the shepherd of the flock, speaking of his work of teaching and nurturing and protecting the assembly (Eph. 4:11). “Pastor” is translated from the Greek word *poimen*, which 16 times in the N.T. is translated “shepherd”. (Matt. 9:36; 25:32; 26:31; Mark 6:34; 14:27; Luke 2:8,15,18,20; John 10:2,11,12,14,16; Hebrews 13:20). In the Greek language of the N.T., “feed the flock” (Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 5:2) literally means “shepherd the flock”; it is from the same root word translated “pastor” and “shepherd.”

ELDER refers to the church leader's maturity and responsibility and the fact that he is to be an example to the church.

BISHOP refers to the church leader's authority, to the fact that he is to rule the church. The Greek word translated “bishop” is also translated “overseers and oversight” (Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 5:2).

Acts 20:28

²⁸ Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

1 Peter 5:2

² Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;

These terms refer to the same office in the church is seen in their usage. In Titus 1:5- 7, the terms “elders” and “bishops” are used interchangeably.

Titus 1:5-7

⁵ For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and **ordain elders** in every city, as I had appointed thee:

⁶ If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly.

⁷ **For a bishop** must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre;

In Acts 20 all three terms are applied to the same office. In v. 17 the church leaders are called “elders.” In v. 28 the Greek words for bishop (“overseers”) and pastor (“feed the flock”) are used.

Acts 20:17

¹⁷ And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the **elders** of the church.

Acts 20:28

²⁸ Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all **the flock**, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you **overseers**, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

1 Peter 5 also uses these terms to refer to the same office in the church. Verse 1 speaks of the “elders,” and v. 2 speaks of these elders as overseers (bishops) and shepherds.

1 Peter 5:1-2

1 The **elders** which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:

2 **Feed the flock of God** which is among you, **taking the oversight thereof**, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;

The fact that these terms are used interchangeably **is significant**.

A Pastor is an Elder is a Bishop. **These are not separate offices**.

Pastor, Elder, Bishop

The Pastorate is the chief office of leadership in the local assembly.

Ephesians 4:11

¹¹ And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, **pastors** and teachers;

The Two New Testament Church Officers: Pastors and Deacons

Philippians 1:1

1 Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the **saints** in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi, **with the bishops and deacons**:

Paul and Timothy, in their address to the Philippian Christians, specify three classes as plainly, constituting the entire body of disciples: **saints, bishops and deacons**.

The Episcopal Church insists that there should be three sets - deacons, priests, and bishops; to which the Church of England adds archbishops. The Roman Catholic Church carries the list up to ten or twelve, ending with the Pope. What was the basis of these churches inspiration organized upon?

Some Catholic Titles and Officers: The laity, Deacon, Monk, Friar, Brother, Priest, Monsignor, Bishop, Archbishop, Cardinal, Pope.

While Pastors and Deacons are the only permanent Biblical church officers, it is good to have other officers as needed. A **Church Clerk or Secretary** to keep a correct record of the business proceedings of the church, to take charge of the records, keep a register of the church membership, and dispatch all correspondence authorized by the church. **Trustees** are generally the legal custodians of the church property, and are chosen by the church. Trustees have nothing to do with the spiritual affairs of the church. This is not always so, as some churches merge the trusteeship into the deaconship. This would mean an increase in the number of deacons. The church must select their best business men for trustees. There shall be a **Treasurer** to record accurately all funds and expense money of the church, and shall deposit in the name of the church the money received in a bank. It shall be the duty of the **Treasurer** to collect and disburse all funds of the church according to the expressed will of the church. The **Treasurer** shall also make a report to the church of all finances.

Other offices of the church could be: Music Director, Children's/Youth Director, Ushers, Sunday School Superintendent, Caretaker and others as needed.

Whereas Pastors are usually selected from persons outside the membership of the congregation, deacons are selected from within the membership. The Biblical qualifications for a Deacon (1 Timothy 3:8-13) focus primarily on character and relationships within the church, family and community. Deacons are to be persons of impeccable character and deep faith who rely on the Holy Spirit. Acts 6:1-6 likely records the beginning of the role of Deacons. They are to care for the physical needs of the congregation so that pastors can concentrate on spiritual needs. The deacons are not viewed as a governing body but as servant leaders. Pastors and Churches involve Deacons in various ministries, such as visiting the sick, helping families in distress and providing relief to the poor.

God's Standards for Pastors, Elders and Bishops:

(1) He must be a man.

1 Timothy 2:12

¹² But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence.

1 Timothy 3:1

1 This is a true saying, if a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work.

(2) He must have a divine call.

See **1 Timothy 3:1** The divine calling speaks of a strong, compelling desire.

1 Corinthians 9:16

¹⁶For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!

(3) He must be proven.

1 Timothy 3:10

¹⁰ And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless.

(4) He must be blameless in the areas listed in 1 Timothy 3:2-5 and Titus 1:6-8—in relationship with his wife (1 Timothy 3:2), in relationship with his children (1 Timothy 3:4; Titus 1:6), in his personal life (1 Timothy 3:2-3; Titus 1:8).

(5) He must be able to teach. (1 Timothy 3:2).

(6) He must hold fast to apostolic doctrine. (Titus 1:9).

(7) He must be able to deal with false teaching. (Titus 1:9- 11).

(8) He must not be a novice (1 Timothy 3:6).

(9) He must have a good reputation in the community. (1 Timothy 3:7).

(10) His wife must be spiritual (1 Timothy 3:11).

(11) Every Pastor is to be God-called, scripturally qualified, and ordained.

Acts 14:23

²³ And when they had ordained them **elders in every church**, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed.

Every Pastor is to be a teacher, a spiritual protector, and a ruler or overseer.

1 Timothy 3:1-11

1 This is a true saying, if a man desire the office of a **bishop**, he desireth a good work.

2 A **bishop** then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;

3 Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous;

4 One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity;

5 (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)

⁶ Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.

⁷ Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

⁸ Likewise must the **deacons** be grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre;

⁹ Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience.

¹⁰ And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless.

¹¹ Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things.

Titus 1:5-9

⁵ For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, **and ordain elders** in every city, as I had appointed thee:

⁶ If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly.

⁷ **For a bishop must** be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre;

⁸ But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate;

⁹ Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.

What is not required of the Pastor:

(1) *A formal Bible education or a college degree.* (Acts 4:13). The Apostles were not trained in a formal seminary and did not hold theological degrees, and the Bible says nothing about such a requirement. The pastor must be skillful in the Word of God, but he does not necessarily have to possess a theological degree.

Acts 4:13

¹³ Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, **and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men**, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.

(2) *Impressive appearance or demeanor.* (1 Cor. 2:3-4; 2 Cor. 10:10).



Hey Now...

1 Corinthians 2:3-4

³ And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling.

⁴ And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:

2 Corinthians 10:10

¹⁰ For his letters, say they, are weighty and powerful; **but his bodily presence is weak, and his speech contemptible**

(3) *Wealth and connections.* (Acts. 3:6).

Acts 3:6

⁶ Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.

(4) *Great speaking gifts.* (2 Cor. 10:10; 11:6).

2 Corinthians 10:10

¹⁰ For his letters, say they, are weighty and powerful; but his bodily presence is weak, and his speech contemptible.

2 Corinthians 11:6

⁶ **But though I be rude in speech**, yet not in knowledge; but we have been thoroughly made manifest among you in all things.

(5) *Great natural abilities.* (1 Cor. 1:26-29).

1 Corinthians 1:26-29

²⁶ For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called:

²⁷ But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;

²⁸ And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are:

²⁹ That no flesh should glory in his presence.

(6) *Ability to fit every man's idea of what a church leader should be.* The Pastor must be blameless according to the standards of the Word of God, **not blameless according to man's standards and thinking.**

And what is He to do then?

Verse 2 **Feed** the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;

A Spiritual Shepherd does his job in two main ways. The first job is to feed the sheep. Jesus emphasized this to Peter in John 21:15-17. Another aspect of the job is to tend the sheep, which means protecting, guiding, nurturing, and caring for the sheep.

John 21:15-17

¹⁵ So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, **Feed my lambs.**

¹⁶ He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, **Feed my sheep.**

¹⁷ He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. **Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep.**

After the motivation (verse 1) comes the exhortation (verses 2-4). Since the primary objective of shepherding is feeding, that is, teaching, every elder must be able to teach (John 21:15-17). Involved with the feeding of the flock is also protecting the flock (Acts 20:28-30). In both duties, it must be remembered that the flock belongs to God, not to the pastor. God entrusts His flock to the pastor of a Church to lead, care for, and feed (verse 3).



Verse 2 continued:

Feed... teach and rule, Matthew 2:6 John 21:15-17 Acts 20:28.

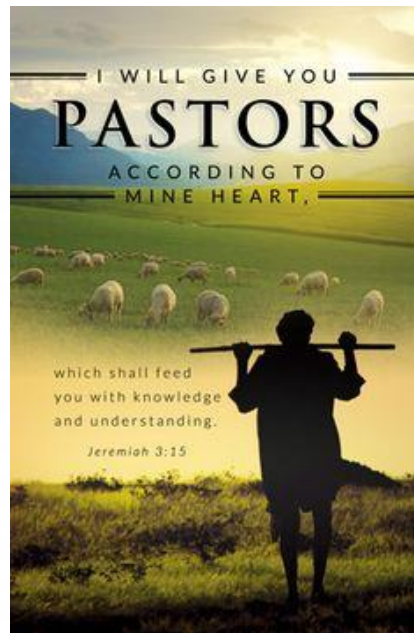
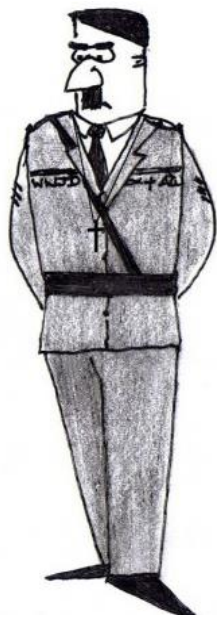
The flock of God... the Church.

Which is among you... which is with you, or committed to your charge.

Taking the oversight thereof... or "take the care of it". Leadership as Bishops over it and watching over it with all care, Acts 20:28- 29.

“An acting the part of a bishop or overseer of it, as the word signifies; looking diligently to it, inspecting into the various cases of the members of the church; using diligence to know the state of the flock, and performing all the offices of a careful shepherd; as feeding the flock; and not themselves; strengthening the diseased; healing the sick; binding up that which was broken; bringing again that which was driven away, and seeking that which was lost; watching over them that they go not astray; and restoring of them in the spirit of meekness, when they are gone out of the way; and overlooking both their practices and their principles; admonishing, reproofing them for sin, as the case requires; and preserving them, as much as in them lies, from wolves, and beasts of prey; from false teachers, and from all errors and heresies: all which is to be done”. – John Gill

Not by constraint... not forcing their flock, over driving them, or ruling them with force and cruelty,



But willingly... cheerfully and freely.

Not for filthy lucre; not out of covetousness, or a design of making a gain of the work; it being a shameful thing for a shepherd to feed the sheep out of love of money

But of a ready mind; out of a good affection to the welfare of the flock.

Verse 3 **Neither as being lords** over God's heritage, but being examples to the flock.

Neither as being lords... Implies leadership by manipulation and intimidation. Rather, true spiritual leadership is by example

Shepherds should not do their job as lords, because the sheep do not belong to them. The sheep are entrusted to them. Therefore shepherds are to serve by being examples, not dictators.

The reward for leaders in the Church:

Verse 4 And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

Jesus Christ, the “chief Shepherd” (John 10:11; Hebrews 13:20), will return to reward His faithful undershepherds (Pastors, Elders, Bishops) with “a crown of glory that fadeth not away.” This special reward for faithful, godly spiritual leaders is one of five crowns mentioned in Scripture for living, faithful service.



Hebrews 13:20

²⁰ Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, **that great shepherd of the sheep**, through the blood of the everlasting covenant,

Pastor Hank's Notes on: 1 Peter

Chapter 5 Outline: Chapter 5 concludes the epistle with exhortations concerning the eldership and the general attitude of submission and obedience for all Christians (verses 1-11), and ending with salutations and benediction (verses 12-14).

A promise for the humble, verses 5-6. The Christian is to be characterized by humility:

Verse 5 Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, **and be clothed with humility:** for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.

Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder... That is, with the respect due to their age, and to the offices (Elder) which they are called to. Peter here speaks of **humility** to younger people, in contrast to the elders (verses 1-4) to whom he had just addressed, but he turns the application of Humility to **Yea, all of you**. This word to be **submissive** to one another **and be clothed with humility** applies to everyone, but especially to the young.

Peter quoted Proverbs 3:34 to show that humility is essential to our relationship with God. If we want to live in God's grace (His unmerited favor) then we must lay aside our pride and be humble - not only to Him but also to one another. Grace and pride are eternal enemies. Pride demands that God bless me in light of what I think I deserve. Grace deals with me on the basis what is in God, not on the basis of anything in me.

Verse 6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:

Humble, Humility: Freedom from pride and arrogance; humbleness of mind; a modest estimate of one's own worth. In theology, humility consists in lowliness of mind; a deep sense of one's own unworthiness in the sight of God, self-abasement, penitence for sin, and submission to the divine will. Humility is the opposite of pride, vainglory, haughtiness, being puffed up, boasting, self-will, selfglory and self-promotion.

Some Bible Thoughts on Humility:

1. Humility is not seeking or demanding personal recognition. It is esteeming others better than oneself.

Philippians 2:3

³Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; **but in lowliness of mind** let each esteem other better than themselves.

2. Humility is caring for others, not just for self.

Philippians 2:4

⁴Look not every man on his own things, but every man also **on the things of others**.

3. Humility is submitting to God and His will.

James 4:6-7

⁶But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the **humble**.

⁷ Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

4. Humility is refusing to seek greatness for oneself.

Mark 9:35

³⁵ And he sat down, and called the twelve, and saith unto them, If any man desire to be first, the same shall be last of all, and servant of all.

5. Humility is being mindful of and condescending to the weak:

Romans 12:16

¹⁶ Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.

a. Such as children:

Mark 9:36-37

³⁶ And he took a child, and set him in the midst of them: and when he had taken him in his arms, he said unto them,

³⁷ Whosoever shall receive one of such children in my name, receiveth me: and whosoever shall receive me, receiveth not me, but him that sent me.

b. The poor, see James chapter 2.

c. The weakminded:

1 Thessalonians 5:14

¹⁴ Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men.

c. Those with few talents:

1 Corinthians 12:23-24

²³ And those members of the body, which we think to be less honourable, upon these we bestow more abundant honour; and our uncomely parts have more abundant comeliness.

²⁴ For our comely parts have no need: but God hath tempered the body together, having given more abundant honour to that part which lacked.

d. To those weak in faith:

Romans 12:3

³ For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

6. Humility is to give all glory to God:

2 Corinthians 10:17

¹⁷ But he that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.

7. Humility is to receive the Word of God:

James 1:21

²¹ Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, **and receive with meekness the engrafted word**, which is able to save your souls.

8. Humility is a product of the Spirit of God.

Galatians 5:22-23

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

²³ Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

9. Humility is precious in God's sight.

1 Peter 3:4

⁴ But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a **meek** and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.

10. Humility is connected with gentleness.

Titus 3:2

² To speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, but gentle, shewing all **meekness** unto all men.

11. Humility involves patience, forgiveness and love.

Ephesians 4:2

² With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;

12. In The Ministry Humility is to be kind and gentle and patient towards others:

2 Timothy 2:24-25

²⁴ And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient,

²⁵ In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;

Synonyms for Humble include: down-to-earth, lowly, meek, modest, unassuming, unpretentious.

Examples of Humility: Moses (Numbers 12:3), David (2 Samuel 16:11), Jeremiah (Jeremiah 26:14), Stephen (Acts 7:60), Paul (2 Timothy 4:16), Jesus Christ (Mt. 11:29; Is. 53:7).

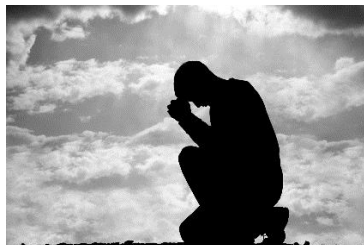
Numbers 12:3

³ (Now the man Moses was very **meek**, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth.)

Matthew 11:29

²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; **for I am meek** and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

Are we Humble?





13 Habits Of Humble People, Jeff Boss, March 1, 2015

Humble people can receive a bad rap. Humility is frequently associated with being too passive, submissive or insecure, but this couldn't be any further from the truth.

Instead, humble people are quite the opposite—confident and competent in themselves so much that, as a result, they seek to self-actualize by helping theirs. Humble people are still self-efficacious; they just don't feel the impetus to boast about themselves but instead, let their actions speak for their ideals. To be humble is not to think less of oneself, but to think of oneself less.

To help identify what humble looks like (and how you can adopt greater humility for yourself. After all, who *doesn't* need greater humility?), here are 13 habits of humble people:

They're Situationally Aware

Situational awareness is a function of emotional intelligence as it is being aware of oneself, the group, the actions of each and the social dynamics therein. As such, situationally aware people aim their focus outward as they try to absorb (i.e. learn) more about the situation

They Retain Relationships

Studies have shown that humble people are more likely to help friends than their prideful counterparts. As a result, they maintain stronger personal and professional relationships. A study of more than 1,000 people—with roughly 200 in leadership positions—revealed that companies with humble people in leadership positions had a more engaged workforce and less employee turnover.

They Make Difficult Decisions With Ease

Since humble people put others' needs before their own, when faced with difficult decisions they respect the moral and ethical boundaries that govern the decision and base their decision-making criteria off a sense of shared purpose rather than self-interest.

They Put Others First

Humble people know their self-worth. As a result, they don't feel the need to cast themselves before others just to show them how much they know. Instead, humble people realize that nobody cares how much they know until those people know how much they're cared for.

Humility is the true key to success. Successful people lose their way at times. They often embrace and overindulge from the fruits of success. Humility halts this arrogance and self-indulging trap. Humble people share the credit and wealth, remaining focused and hungry to continue the journey of success. - Rick Pitino

They Listen

There's nothing more annoying than being in a conversation with somebody who you can just tell is *dying* to get his or her words in. When you see their mental gears spinning, it's a sign they're not listening but rather waiting to speak. Why? Because they believe that what *they* have to say is more valuable than listening to you. In other words, they're placing their self-interest first.

Humble people, however, actively listen to others before summarizing the conversation. Moreover, humble people don't try to dominate a conversation or talk over people. They're eager to understand others because they're curious. Speaking of which...

They're Curious

Humble people seek knowledge because they are perpetual learners and realize that they don't have all the answers. They glean knowledge from the experiences of others and crave more opportunities to learn.

They Speak Their Minds

While active listening is certainly important, humble people aren't afraid to speak their minds because being wrong is not a fear they have. They know that to bridge the gap between *unwillingness* and *willingness* there must be action; they summon the courage to face difficulty as they graciously accept to sacrifice themselves.

They Take Time To Say "Thank You"

At a business dinner, for example, no matter whether you're engaged in a heated conversation with others or not, humble people take the time to express thanks to the service for tending to the little things.

They Have An Abundance Mentality

Humble people don't believe that one person's "win" necessarily mean another person's "loss." Instead, they know there's plenty of opportunity to go around and that finding it just necessitates collaboration and communication.

They Start Sentences With "You" Rather Than "I"

Humble people put others at the forefront of their thoughts. Humble people brag about others, while the prideful people brag about themselves.

They Accept Feedback

Humble people are not only receptive to constructive criticism but actively seek it because they know that feedback is a pathway to improvement.

They Assume Responsibility

Rather than eschewing blame on "the system" or the behaviors of others, humble people assume responsibility by speaking up and owning their part.

They Ask For Help.

Part of being humble means realizing that you don't have all the answers. No one does. Humble people acknowledge what they do and do not know and enlist help for the latter.

Humility displays a willingness to learn and become better—two things that everybody should cultivate. How is humility viewed in your organization?

One of Many of the Great Promises of God:

Verse ⁷ Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

Peter was probably thinking of:

Psalm 55:22

²² Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.

True humility is shown by our ability to cast our care upon God. It is proud presumption to take things into our own worry and care about things that **God has promised to take care of!**

Christians are to cast all of their discontent, discouragement, despair, and **sufferings** on the Lord, and trust Him for knowing He cares and loves His children!

Casting is an energetic word. He didn't say, "Lay all your care upon Him," because we have to do it more energetically than that. The idea is, "throw it away from you." The pressures and the burdens of your life are so heavy and difficult that it takes great concentration of effort to put them on Jesus.

This is Personal: "Casting all **your** care upon him; for he careth for **you**"

Casting all your care upon Him does NOT mean you will never be unhappy or that you will never experience trials of your faith. What it DOES mean, though, is that you have the guarantee of God through His Word that He will never leave nor forsake you because He cares for You!

Philippians 4:19

¹⁹ But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Psalm 121

¹ I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help.

² My help cometh from the LORD, which made heaven and earth.

³ He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber.

⁴ Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.

⁵ The LORD is thy keeper: the LORD is thy shade upon thy right hand.

⁶ The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night.

⁷ The LORD shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul.

⁸ The LORD shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.

1 Chronicles 16:34

³⁴ O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever.

Matthew 11:28

²⁸ Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

2 Corinthians 1:20

²⁰ For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.

Amen, Amen and Amen!

Pastor Hank's Notes on: 1 Peter

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Verse 8 Be **sober**, be **vigilant**; because your adversary the devil, **as a roaring lion**, walketh about, seeking whom he may **devour**:

Peter exhorts us to remain clear-headed (**sober**) and watchful (**vigilant**), because Satan has not yet been bound and restrained for 1,000 years as Revelation 20:1-2 says he will be. At the present time, the devil walks about.

The devil certainly **walketh about**; he is a finite being and can only be in one place at one time, yet his effort, energy, and associates (human and devils) enable him to extend his influence all over the world and in every arena of life.

For Christians, Satan is a lion who may roar but who has been de-fanged at the cross (Colossians 2:15). Yet the sound of his roar - his deceptive lies - are still potent and he has the power to **devour** souls and rob Christians of effectiveness.

Peter tells us, Satan comes against us like a roaring lion, loud and full of intimidation. Notice "**as a roaring lion**". The old devil is not a lion; he is just trying to pretend that he is. Jesus is the Lion of the tribe of Judah. The devil would like to ruin your life. Do not let him!



Satan The Great Counterfeiter:

Counterfeit: To forge; to copy or imitate, without authority or right, and with a view to deceive or defraud, by passing the copy or thing forged, for that which is original or genuine. To make a likeness or resemblance of anything with a view to defraud.

1. Jesus is The True Lion.

Revelation 5:5

⁵ And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the **Lion of the tribe of Judah**, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.

Satan as the counterfeit lion.

1 Peter 5:8

⁸ Be sober, be vigilant; because **your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion**, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

2. Jesus is The True God.

1 Timothy 3:16

¹⁶ And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: **God was manifest in the flesh**, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

Satan as the counterfeit god.

2 Corinthians 4:4

⁴ In whom **the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them** which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

3. Jesus is The True Light.

John 1:1-9

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

² The same was in the beginning with God.

³ All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

⁴ In him was life; and the life was **the light** of men.

⁵ And **the light** shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.

⁷ The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the **Light**, that all men through him might believe.

⁸ He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that **Light**.

⁹ That was **the true Light**, which **lighteth** every man that cometh into the world.

Satan as the counterfeit light.

2 Corinthians 11:14

¹⁴ And no marvel; **for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light**.

4. Jesus is The True Shepherd.

John 10:11

¹¹ I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

Satan as the counterfeit shepherd.

Zechariah 11:17

¹⁷ Woe to **the idol shepherd** that leaveth the flock! the sword shall be upon his arm, and upon his right eye: his arm shall be clean dried up, and his right eye shall be utterly darkened.

5. Jesus is The True Prince.

Isaiah 9:6

⁶ For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, **The Prince of Peace**.

Satan as the counterfeit prince.

John 12:31

³¹ Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the **prince of this world** be cast out.

6. Jesus is The True King.

Revelation 19:16

¹⁶ And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, **KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS**.

Satan as the counterfeit king.

Job 41:34

³⁴ He beholdeth all high things: **he is a king over all the children of pride**.

Satan has a kingdom. In Luke 4:5-6 the devil offers Jesus Christ “the kingdoms of the world”. They are controlled by him at this present time.

7. Jesus is The True Miracle Worker.

Acts 2:22

²² Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you **by miracles and wonders and signs**, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know:

Satan as the counterfeit miracle worker.

2 Thessalonians 2:9

⁹ Even him, whose coming is after the working of **Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders**,

8. Jesus as The True Saving Serpent. Interesting...

Numbers 21:4-9

⁴ And they journeyed from mount Hor by the way of the Red sea, to compass the land of Edom: and the soul of the people was much discouraged because of the way.

⁵ And the people spake against God, and against Moses, Wherefore have ye brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? for there is no bread, neither is there any water; and our soul loatheth this light bread.

⁶ And the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and much people of Israel died.

⁷ Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD, and against thee; pray unto the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us. And Moses prayed for the people.

⁸ And the LORD said unto Moses, **Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole:** and it shall come to pass, that every one that is bitten, **when he looketh upon it, shall live.**

⁹ And Moses **made a serpent of brass, and put it upon a pole,** and it came to pass, that if a serpent had bitten any man, **when he beheld the serpent of brass, he lived.**

John 3:14-15

¹⁴ And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:

¹⁵ That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

321 Look and Live

When he looketh upon it, he shall live. Num. 21:8

WILLIAM A. OGDEN

WILLIAM A. OGDEN

1. I've a mes-sage from the Lord, Hal-le - lu - jah! The mes-sage un - to you I'll
 2. I've a mes-sage full of love, Hal-le - lu - jah! A mes-sage, O my friend, for
 3. Life is of-fered un - to you, Hal-le - lu - jah! E - ter - nal life your soul shall

give; 'Tis re - cord - ed in His word, Hal - le - lu - jah! It is
 you; 'Tis a mes - sage from a - bove, Hal - le - lu - jah! Je - sus
 have, If you'll on - ly look to Him, Hal - le - lu - jah! Look to

Chorus

on - ly that you "look and live."
 said it and I know 'tis true. Look and live, O sin - ner,
 Je - sus, who a - lone can save. Look and live, O sin - ner,

live,
 live, Look and live, Look to Je - sus now and live; 'Tis re-

cord - ed in His word, Hal-le - lu - jah! It is on - ly that you look and live.

Satan as the counterfeit serpent.

Revelation 12:9

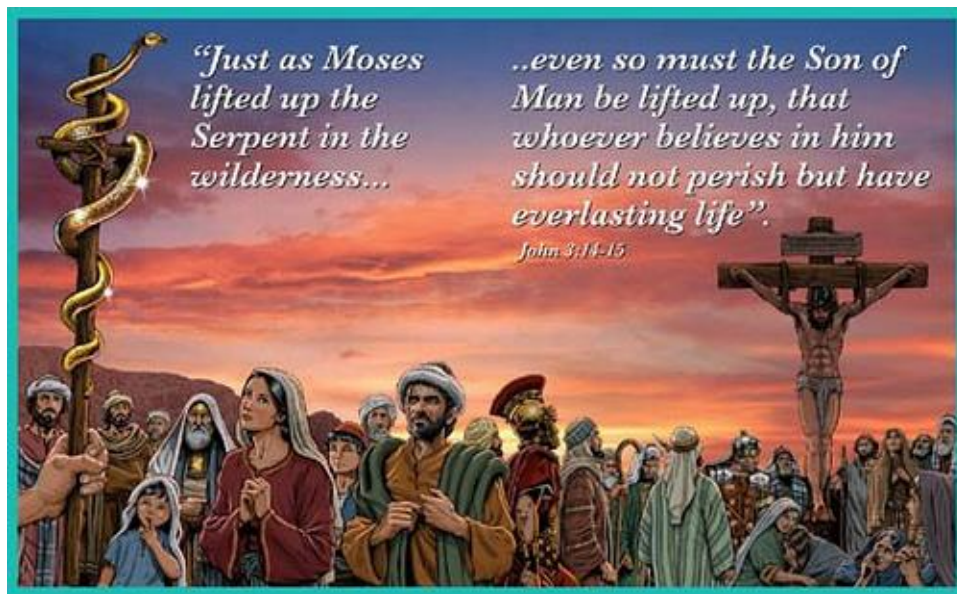
⁹ And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

The snakes represented sin. The snake on the pole represented Christ on the Cross. Jesus Christ BECAME OUR SIN. Our sin was put to DEATH on the cross. Jesus paid for OUR SIN with His own flesh and blood.

Jesus mentioned the ‘**a serpent of brass, and put it upon a pole**’ story just before He spoke the most famous verse in the Bible:

John 3:16

¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.



9. Jesus is The True Jesus=Jehovah Saves.

Matthew 1:21

²¹ And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name **JESUS**: for he shall **save** his people from their sins.

10. Jesus is The True Gospel.

Mark 1:1

1 The beginning of **the gospel of Jesus Christ**, the Son of God;

11. Jesus Gives You His Spirit.

Romans 8:9

⁹ But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. **Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.**

Satan's counterfeit Jesus, gospel and spirit:

2 Corinthians 11:3-4

³But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

⁴For if he that cometh preacheth **another Jesus**, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive **another spirit**, which ye have not received, **or another gospel**, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him.

Peter's Advice to Christians on dealing with that "roaring lion":

Verse ⁹ Whom **resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions** are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

The secret of spiritual warfare is simple: we are to **resist stedfast in the faith**, we **resist** the devil's lies, threats and intimidation. **Resist** comes from two Greek words: *stand* and *against*. Peter tells us to *stand against* the devil.

James tells us to:

James 4:7

⁷ Submit yourselves therefore to God. **Resist the devil**, and he will flee from you.

knowing that the same afflictions... The whole brotherhood, the entire Christian community, is always going through similar trials brought on by the roaring lion that never stops trying to devour believers. We can also take comfort in knowing that we are never alone in our spiritual warfare. Our brothers and sisters in Jesus have fought, and are fighting, the same battles as we are.

A prayer for their spiritual strengthening:

Verse ¹⁰ But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you **perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you**.

Knowing the suffering and danger Christians face, Peter can only conclude with *prayer*. He asks God to do His work of perfecting, establishing, strengthening, and settling in **you**.

Perfect you... complete in character.

Stablish you... This word means "to fix, to make fast, to set," as when concrete sets. Be stablished in the gospel.

Strengthen you... By giving inward power to resist temptations and bear all trials with patience.

Settle you... Ground you, making you immovable, steadfast, always abounding in the work of the Lord.

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Chapter 5 Outline: Chapter 5 concludes the epistle with exhortations concerning the eldership and the general attitude of submission and obedience for all Christians (verses 1-11), and ending with salutations and benediction (verses 12-14).

Peter's Doxology, verse 11:

Verse 11 To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

The God who did and continues to do a great work in our lives is certainly worthy of our praise!

Doxology: Is an expression of praise to God, especially a short hymn sung as part of a Christian Worship Service." The word Doxology comes from the Greek doxa, ("glory, splendor, grandeur") and logos, ("word" or "speaking").

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

(Doxology; see also 'Awake, My Soul, And With The Sun')

Words: Thomas Ken, 1674. Music: 'Old 100th' Genevan Psalter, attr. Louis Bourgeois, c. 1551.

Setting: Sternhold and Hopkins' Psalter, 1561.

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$\text{♩} = 120$

1. Praise God, from Whom all bles - sings flow; Praise Him, all crea-tures here be - low;

Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Salutations and Benediction, verses 12-14:

Verse 12 **By Silvanus**, a faithful brother unto you, as I suppose, I have written briefly, **exhorting, and testifying** that **this is the true grace of God wherein ye stand**.

By Silvanus, a faithful brother ... When someone mentions your name in a conversation are you a **Faithful Brother or Sister** included?

By Silvanus... Sylvanus was the deliverer of the letter. Silvanus and Silas in The Bible are the same person, Silas, so often mentioned in the Acts of the Apostles, as a companion of the Apostle Paul; whom Peter met with in his travels, and sent this letter by him. Silvanus is referred to as a chief man among the brethren (Acts 15:22), also as a prophet (Acts 15:32).

Silas=Greek Silvanus=Latin

Acts 15:22

²² Then pleased it the apostles and elders with the whole church, to send chosen men of their own company to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; namely, Judas surnamed Barsabas and **Silas**, chief men among the brethren:

The importance of subordinate work: Silvanus could not write letters like Peter, but he could carry them when written.

exhorting, and testifying... commanding the people to obey the word of God.

Exhorting: Inciting to good deeds by words or arguments; encouraging; counseling.

Testifying: the purpose of establishing a fact; giving testimony; bearing witness; declaring.

this is the true grace of God wherein ye stand... That the religion in which you stand, or which you now hold, is that which is identified with the grace or favor of God. Christianity, not Judaism, or Paganism, is the true religion. To show this, and bear continual witness to it, was the leading design of the apostolic office.

TESTIMONY

The Solid Rock 590

1. My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je - sus' blood and
 2. When dark-ness seems to hide His face, I rest on His un -
 3. His oath, His cov - e - nant, His blood sup - port me in the
 4. When He shall come with trum-pet sound, oh, may I then in

righ - teous-ness; I dare not trust the sweet - est frame, but
 chang - ing grace; in ev - ery high and storm - y gale, my
 whelm-ing flood; when all a - round my soul gives way, He
 Him be found, dressed in His righ - teous - ness a - lone, fault -

whol-ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 an - chor holds with - in the veil. On Christ, the sol - id Rock, I stand; all
 then is all my hope and stay. less to stand be - fore the throne.

oth - er ground is sink-ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink-ing sand.

WORDS: Edward Mote, 1834
 MUSIC: William B. Bradbury, 1863

SOLID ROCK
 LM with refrain
 Alternate tune, MELITA

Verse 13 The church that is at **Babylon**, elected together with you, saluteth you; and so doth **Marcus my son**.

Babylon: The ancient celebrated Babylon in Assyria, which was, the metropolis of the eastern dispersion of the Jews.

Peter was not in Rome, Paul went to Rome and wrote a Book to The Romans!

Marcus my son... Peter was Mark's mentor and "spiritual father", not his actual father; and he is called "my son" in the sense that Paul thus referred to Timothy. Mark the evangelist, who was called John Mark, was Barnabas's sister's son, and his mother's name was Mary. Mark is the author of The Gospel of mark.

Acts 12:12

¹² And when he had considered the thing, he came to the house of Mary the mother of **John, whose surname was Mark**; where many were gathered together praying.

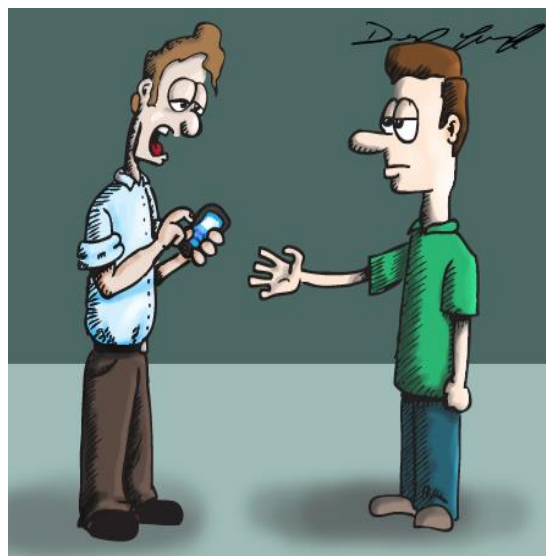
Verse 14 Greet ye one another with a kiss of charity. Peace be with you all that are in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Charity-Peace Peter concludes with a command to greet and display God's love to one another, and by pronouncing a blessing of peace. These two things : **charity-love** for each other and **peace** - are especially necessary for those who suffer and live in dangerous times.

The kiss, spoken of here, is not a passionate kiss. This was a kiss of fellowship between brothers, or sisters and brothers in Christ. This was a kiss (probably on the cheek) of brotherly love. Notice, who the peace is with. It is with those who are in Jesus Christ. Jesus is the King of Peace. If we have Jesus in us, we are full of love and peace.

Christian Greetings!

By: Pastor Henry T. Anderson



"I JUST TWEETED YOU A HANDSHAKE."

Greetings: In Bible times and now.

Xenophobia is the fear of strangers. The opposite of xenophobia is the biblical term “hospitality,” which is the translation of the Greek word PHILOXENIA, or literally “love of strangers.” Rather than fear strangers, we are called to love those who are unfamiliar to us (Romans 12:13; 1 Timothy 3:2; Titus 1:8; Hebrews 13:2; 1 Peter 4:9). Most people have difficulty relating to those they do not know. We naturally are drawn to those who are most like us. This is why our family members are so close to us, we are comfortable around those who are similar and familiar to us. Yet the biblical injunction to “greet the brethren” is even more important for us to fulfill than our need to greet our family during the holidays. We should be just as conscientious about greeting our brothers and sisters in Christ as we are about greeting our mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, cousins, and best friends.

Why is the biblical injunction to “greet the brethren” even more important than greeting our own family?

Bible-New Testament Greetings:

Romans 16:16

¹⁶Salute one another with an holy kiss. The churches of Christ salute you.

1 Corinthians 16:20

²⁰All the brethren greet you. Greet ye one another with an holy kiss.

2 Corinthians 13:12

¹²Greet one another with an holy kiss.

1 Thessalonians 5:26

²⁶Greet all the brethren with an holy kiss.

1 Peter 5:14

¹⁴Greet ye one another with a kiss of charity. Peace be with you all that are in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Salute-Greet one another with a holy kiss - **In those early times the kiss, as a token of peace, friendship, and brotherly love, was frequent among all people; and the Christians used it in their public assemblies, as well as in their occasional meetings.** This was at last laid aside, not because it was abused, but because, the Church becoming very numerous, the thing was impossible. In some countries the kiss of friendship is still common; and in such countries it is scarcely ever abused, nor is it an incentive to evil, because it is customary and common. Shaking of hands is now substituted for it in almost all Christian congregations.

This made me laugh since there is another thread where people don't even like to shake hands in church.

If these same writers were writing today in America, what might they say in light of our culture? They might say greet one another with a **“Holy hello.”** Or they might say greet one another with a **“Holy handshake.”** “Greeting someone with a “hello” or a handshake is what is expected in our Culture when we greet one another. In contrast, a kiss would communicate something very different. Demonstrating affection for one another in the church of Jesus Christ in our greetings is not an option. It is a command and it must be done carefully, not indiscriminately.

Bible-Hebrew Greetings:

The Hebrew word for *peace*— *shalom*— is a common greeting. The Hebrew-English *Multi Dictionary* in its "how to begin a conversation" and "how to end a conversation" phrases section lists six common phrases that use the word *shalom*. Here they are:

- Hello – שלום – *shalom*
- How are you? – שלומך מה – *mah shlomkha*
- So long – ולהתראות שלום – *shalom ulhitra'ot*
- Good-bye and best wishes – וברכה שלום – *shalom uvrakhah*
- Good Sabbath! – שלום שבת – *shabbat shalom*
- Best regards to... – ל חמה שלום דרישת – *drishat shalom chamah l'...*

We can see examples of *peace/shalom as a greeting* in a number of New Testament texts.

Luke 10:5

⁵And into whatsoever house ye enter, first say, **Peace** be to this house.

(Hebrew translation from Greek: שלום לבית הזה – *shalom labayit hazeh*)

Luke 24:36

³⁶And as they thus spake, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, *Peace* be unto you.

(Hebrew translation from Greek: לכם שלום – *shalom lakhem*)

Romans 16:8

⁸Greet Amplias my beloved in the Lord.

(Hebrew translation from Greek: שלום דרישת – *drishat shalom*)

Here are 20 tips for Greeting first time visitors in the church.

1. Smile.
2. Fresh breath.
3. Make eye contact
4. Take initiative and greet.
5. Don't ask "Are you new?"
6. Don't ask "Is this your first time here?"
7. Offer a bulletin if your church uses them.
8. Personal warmth — look like you enjoy welcoming people.
9. Say "I don't think I've met you yet, I'm {insert your name here}"
10. If they are new, offer to show them where the restrooms are and offer information about childcare if necessary.
11. Help with the children. If your church has nursery facilities or age-graded classes, show them where these rooms are and guide them through the process of checking in. Don't force them to take their baby into the nursery. Simply ask.
12. Know when to back off. Church visitors don't want to be smothered. Rather than totally blanketing visitors with attention, you may need to give them some time to breathe and just look around. This takes tact and sensitivity.

13. **Avoid Church Business.** Avoid using pre or post service activities to conduct church business that could be done over the phone during the week. Focus on visitors.
14. Give them something by which they can remember the church. Pens are great, but nearly every church has them. How about a complimentary coffee, a booklet, a t-shirt, a mug, or even an iPad. Okay, maybe the iPad thing will get too expensive, but you get the idea. There's a fine line between cheesy gifts and something truly welcoming and appreciated.
15. Send church visitors a letter. If you have their information, jot them a note (a handwritten note) later in the week, thanking them for coming, and providing your personal information and invitation to return.
16. **SIGNS, SIGNS, SIGNS!** Those who have been part of a congregation for a long time quickly forget which hall to turn down once in the door, where the child care is, and so on.
17. Invite, guide, and join. First-time visitors won't know what or where your coffee hour or its equivalent is.
18. Have your worship time on your answering machine message, written large on the sign in front and, if possible, in the yellow pages of the phone book and/or on a Web site. You'd be amazed how many churches don't make this basic information available to a Saturday night seeker.
19. **Say goodbye with warmth.**
20. **Get Up, Go Meet, Give Your Name, Greet.**

What Does Your Handshake Say about You?

A bad handshake can set the tone for the rest of an important conversation, particularly a job interview. This also can apply to other Social situations (Church Greetings).

Do you have any idea what your handshake says about you?

1. **The Politician** – A double fisted shake that attempts to convey the message of “sincerity”. Unless you are familiar with the other person and already have a relationship established, skip this handshake and leave it to the politician's campaigning for your vote. Also used with close family, friends and at funerals.
2. **The Frat Bump** – Knuckle to knuckle is not an appropriate greeting when you are attempting to make a good first impression. Yes, President Obama uses this greeting on occasion but he is the President of the United States and is not applying for another job at this time.
3. **The Cold Fish** – A limp, weak handshake that sends the message of insecurity is a definite “don't” in any handshaking situation.
4. **The Lobster** – This handshake is similar to the “Cold Fish” except the grip is strong. This signals that you are disengaged in the conversation and difficult to communicate with.
5. **The Vice Grip** – Ouch! The person that is offering this grip is similar to the school yard bully. Be careful when doing business with this person.

The Perfect Handshake – A firm, but not too firm grip, that engages the entire hand. The connection should be between the fold of skin between the index finger and thumb. A few shakes from the elbow, a smile and good eye contact deliver a confident handshake.

Also according to Miss Manners: A man should not, in social settings, extend his hand in an offer of a handshake to a woman. It is the prerogative of the woman to make this overture first. Although this “Custom” is still practiced, women today report they are not offended if a man offers a Handshake first.



“Greet ye one another with a kiss of charity. Peace be with you all that are in Christ Jesus. Amen.”
1 Peter 5:14, Great Study, Amen!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!