

Knowing Christ

A Study of 1 Peter

Suffering in Hope

Lesson 18

1 Peter 3:13-4:19

Trinity Bible Church Sunday School

May 3, 2020

1 Peter

- ▶ Purpose: “This is the true grace of God. Stand firm in it!”
- ▶ Plan:
 - The doctrine of salvation with emphasis upon the “living hope”
 - The place of trials in the life of a Christian
 - Encouragement to stand firm in the true grace of God.

1 Peter

standing firm in the true grace of God

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1

2

3

4

5

salvation

2:12

2:13

submission

3:12

3:13

suffering

service

1-2 salutation

3-13 salvation

the Father of Jesus Christ
the new birth
the preserved inheritance
the protected heir
the prophetic search

14-25 sanctification

the fixed future hope
the present pursuit of holiness
born again to love one another
2:1-12 born again to grow
into a spiritual house
as the people of God
and as aliens and strangers

2:13-3:7 called to submit

· 13-17 in government

· 18-20 in work

· 21-25 submit like Christ

no sin, no threats,
entrusting Himself to
the righteous judge

· 3:1-7 in marriage

3:8-12 called to blessing

live before the Lord
Psalm 32:12-16

3:13-17 the way of suffering

· for righteousness sake
· sanctifying Christ as Lord
· ready to make a defense
· with a good conscience

3:18-22 Christ the atonement

· He died for our sins to bring us
to God with a good conscience

4:1-19 counsel for suffering

· 1-6 arm yourselves to suffer
· 7-11 wisdom and prayer
love & serve one another
· 12-19 no surprise at fiery trials
entrust your souls to
a faithful Creator

1-5 the way of service

· shepherd the flock
· submit to the elders

6-11 the final words

· humble to exalt
· cast your anxiety
· be alert for the devil
· resist firm in faith
· after suffering the
God of grace will
establish you

12-14 this is the

true grace of God
· stand firm in it!

Lesson 1: A Living Hope (1:1-2:12)

- ▶ Salvation, the Divine provision (1:1-5)
 - Chosen according to the foreknowledge of God
 - Sanctified by the Spirit
 - To obey Jesus Christ and be sprinkled with His blood (forgiveness)
 - Grace and peace be multiplied
 - From new birth to living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ
 - Protected by the power of God through faith
- ▶ Salvation, the human experience (1:6-2:10)
 - Aliens and strangers (1:1 and 2:11)
 - Various trials
 - The mystery age
 - The response of faith
 - Be holy as God is holy
 - Live in the fear of God
 - Love the people of God
 - Desire the word of God
 - The great work of God in images (2:4-10)
- ▶ Final exhortation: keep your behavior excellent (2:11-12)

Lesson 2: Submitting in Hope (2:13-3:12)

- ▶ Citizens – submit to every human creation – the will of God
- ▶ Slaves – submit to master with respect, whether good or bad
- ▶ Christ – called to follow His example – entrusting Himself to the righteous Judge
- ▶ Wives – submit to husband in the hidden person of the heart
- ▶ Husbands – honor wife as a fellow heir of the grace of God
- ▶ Give blessing for you were called to inherit a blessing – the living hope

Lesson 3: Suffering in Hope

1 Peter 3:13-4:19

- ▶ No harm (3:13-17)
- ▶ Lessons from Christ, the flood, and baptism (3:18-22)
- ▶ Suffering in the flesh (4:1-11)
- ▶ The fiery ordeal (4:12-19)

No Harm (3:13-17)

- ▶ “Who . . .?” Events – Enemies – Satan – God
- ▶ “. . . prove zealous for what is good”
 - Called to obey Jesus Christ (1:1b-2)
 - Called to follow the example of Jesus Christ’s suffering (2:22)
- ▶ The will of God for us to suffer
 - We are blessed (3:14)
 - God is good (Rom 8:28, 31)
- ▶ Sanctify Christ in your heart
 - Elevated above all else in your heart (Col 3:1-4)
 - The governing principle
- ▶ Keep a good conscience – good behavior

Christ, the Flood, and Baptism (3:18-22)

- ▶ Christ died for our sins, once for all . . . to bring us to God
- ▶ His death was the judgment of God, once for all, so we do not duplicate that fact
- ▶ His life of suffering in submission to the Father led to our salvation
- ▶ We share His life of suffering, even to death, because we trust in Him
- ▶ Saving faith is not embarrassed by suffering, but blessed through it
- ▶ We are made alive in the Spirit – ultimately, new flesh and new spiritual life

Christ, the Flood, and Baptism (3:18-22)

- ▶ Christ made proclamation to the spirits in prison
- ▶ When?
 - Likely, after the resurrection
 - “. . . made alive in the Spirit . . . in which also He went . . .”
- ▶ What proclamation?
 - This is the true grace of God – victory through death in Christ
- ▶ To whom?
 - Those who died in the flood
 - Implication: They rejected Noah, the preacher of righteousness, who offered the ark for deliverance
- ▶ The wisdom of man v. the wisdom of God

Christ, the Flood, and Baptism (3:18-22)

- ▶ Corresponding to – the flood depicts what is seen in baptism
- ▶ The main point: Salvation is through our union with Christ – His death and resurrection
- ▶ In enduring suffering, even to the point of death, we are affirming our faith in Christ
- ▶ We look to our living hope – resurrection life in Jesus Christ and His kingdom eternally

Suffering in the Flesh (4:1-11)

- ▶ Suffer in the flesh . . . cease from sin
 - Union with Christ . . . newness of life and no longer slaves to sin (Rom 6:1-7)
 - Live no longer by human desires, but the will of God (4:2)
- ▶ The notable change in the believer's life (4:3-4)
- ▶ Accountable to the Judge of the living and the dead
- ▶ Deliverance proclaimed by the Gospel of the true grace of God
- ▶ How shall we live?
 - Sound mind and free from intoxicants for the purpose of prayer – joint heirs of God (3:7)
 - Fervent love for the brethren
 - Hospitable to one another
 - Minister to one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God
 - By the word of God, in the strength of God, to the glory of God
- ▶ Suffering in the flesh is an aid, not an obstacle, to the life of faith in Christ

The Fiery Ordeal (4:12-19)

- ▶ Do not be surprised, as if this is something strange to the true grace of God
 - Necessary for our faith
 - Following the life of Christ
- ▶ Rejoice in future hope
- ▶ This is the blessing of God and brings glory to God
- ▶ The fiery ordeal is a part of God's judgment – but not His personal wrath on us
- ▶ God's judgment is used for believers to enrich their experience of His grace
- ▶ “Therefore, those also who suffer according to the will of God shall entrust their souls to a faithful Creator in doing what is right.” (4:19)