

# **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   |   |
| <p>1-2 <u>salutation</u></p> <p>3-13 <u>salvation</u><br/>                     the Father of Jesus Christ<br/>                     the new birth<br/>                     the preserved inheritance<br/>                     the protected heir<br/>                     the prophetic search</p> <p>14-25 <u>sanctification</u><br/>                     the fixed future hope<br/>                     the present pursuit of holiness<br/>                     born again to love one another</p> <p>2:1-12 born again to grow<br/>                     into a spiritual house<br/>                     as the people of God<br/>                     and as aliens and strangers</p> | <p>2:13-3:7 <u>called to submit</u><br/>                     · 13-17 in government<br/>                     · 18-20 in work<br/>                     · 21-25 <u>submit like Christ</u><br/>                     no sin, no threats,<br/>                     entrusting Himself to<br/>                     the righteous judge</p> <p>· 3:1-7 in marriage</p> <p>3:8-12 <u>called to blessing</u><br/>                     live before the Lord<br/>                     Psalm 32:12-16</p> | <p>3:13-17 <u>the way of suffering</u><br/>                     · for righteousness sake<br/>                     · sanctifying Christ as Lord<br/>                     · ready to make a defense<br/>                     · with a good conscience</p> <p>3:18-22 <u>Christ the atonement</u><br/>                     · He died for our sins to bring us<br/>                     to God with a good conscience</p> <p>4:1-19 <u>counsel for suffering</u><br/>                     · 1-6 arm yourselves to suffer<br/>                     · 7-11 wisdom and prayer<br/>                     love &amp; serve one another<br/>                     · 12-19 no surprise at fiery trials<br/>                     entrust your souls to<br/>                     a faithful Creator</p> | <p>1-5 <u>the way of service</u><br/>                     · shepherd the flock<br/>                     · submit to the elders</p> <p>6-11 <u>the final words</u><br/>                     · humble to exalt<br/>                     · cast your anxiety<br/>                     · be alert for the devil<br/>                     · resist firm in faith<br/>                     · after suffering the<br/>                     God of grace will<br/>                     establish you</p> <p>12-14 <u>this is the<br/>                     true grace of God</u><br/>                     · <u>stand firm in it!</u></p> |   |

# 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)