Knowing Christ
A Study of 1 Peter

Serving in Hope
Lesson 19
1 Peter 5

Trinity Bible Church Sunday School
May 10, 2020
1 Peter

- An epistle to teach about suffering in the Christian life
- Suffering is an essential part of the Christian life – the true grace of God
- The purpose of Peter is to encourage believers to stand firm in suffering
- 1 Peter 5 – new subjects: Elder ministry, humility, anxiety, the devil
- An appropriate ending to an epistle on suffering
1 Peter: The Doctrine of Suffering

- Suffering is necessary (1:6)
  - Various trials – persecution – events or circumstances challenging our peace in Christ
- Not punishment for sin – a “once for all” event by Christ (3:18)
  - Chastening (Hebrews 12:4-7)
  - Hebrew (MUSAR) – Discipline or instruction (Proverbs 3:11-12)
  - Greek (paideia) – the training of a child – discipline and instruction
- Suffering is a trial, or proof, of your faith (1:7)
  - “The just shall live by faith” (Habakkuk 2:4)
  - Examples: Job, Christ
- Suffering is sharing (experiencing) the life of Christ (2:21)
- Suffering is blessing (3:14; 4:14; Phil 1:29)
The Plan of Salvation

- The determining will of God (1:2; 2:21; 3:17; 4:2, 19)
- The centrality of Jesus Christ (1:2, 18-19; 2:5, 21; 3:15; 3:18; 4:13-14)
- The living hope – resurrection – the end of our faith (1:3, 9; 5:1)
- A growing experience – grace and peace in fullest measure (1:3)
Submission to the Lord

- Submission to every human creation for the Lord’s sake (2:13)
- The pathway to blessing (3:9)
- Citizens – to kings and governors, as slaves of God
- Slaves – endure with patience – grace with God
- Wives – the hidden person of the heart; precious in the sight of God
- Husbands – honor wife as a fellow heir of the grace of life, to be heard by God
- Submission reflects our valuation of the Shepherd and Guardian of our souls
Serving in Hope

- Exhortations regarding elders (5:1-5a)
- Exhortations to “all of you” (5:5b-11)
- Final exhortation to stand firm (5:12-14)
Exhortation Regarding Elders (5:1-5a)

- Elders – serving the true grace of God (5:1)
- Witness to the sufferings of Christ
  - Atoning sacrifice
  - Example for believers
- Partaker of the glory to be revealed
  - The living hope
  - God’s own possession – aliens and strangers in the world
- Shepherds (5:2; John 21:16)
  - The flock of God (John 10:14; 21:15)
  - A costly flock (Acts 20:28)
  - Guardians (2:25)
  - Examples for the flock (2:21)
Exhortation Regarding Elders (5:1-5a)

- Not under compulsion, but voluntary submission to the will of God
- Not for sordid gain, but eagerly
- Not lording over the flock, but proving to be examples
- Serving for the living hope – the unfading crown of glory
- A word for younger men – submission with expectation of blessing
Exhortations to “All of You” (5:5b-9)

- Humility toward one another (5:5b)
- Humility under the mighty hand of God (5:6)
- Casting anxiety on Him (5:7)
- Be sober and on the alert for the devil (5:8-9)
  - A roaring lion seeking to devour
  - The enemy of our faith
    - Eve in the Garden (Gen 3:1-7)
    - Job in his suffering (Job 1:9-11)
    - Peter in his denial (Luke 22:31)
    - Disciples in the storm (Matt 8:26)
    - Christ in His temptations (Matt 4:1-11)
  - Resist him, firm in the faith
- Instructions for preparing for various trials
Stand Firm (5:10-14)

- Suffering, ordained by the God of all grace to perfect, confirm, strengthen, stablish you
- Called to be in Christ
- Called to His eternal glory
- This is the true grace of God
- Stand firm in it