

Peter's First Epistle

I-PETER

CHAPTER 3:8-12

TAPE SM. #256 ~ APRIL 27, 1997

TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

"CALLING ALL CHRISTIANS"

THE CHRISTIANS JOURNEY THROUGH THE WILDERNESS OF THE WORLD

THEME OF THE BOOK:

1 Peter 5:12

I have written to you briefly, exhorting and testifying that this is the true grace of God in which you stand.

INTRODUCTION: Reading of the Text 3:8-12

The Audience, Then and Now... in 63 ad. Social Persecution against the Christian was throughout the Roman Empire in the forms of slander, riots, local police harassment, public scorning and family ostracism. The Roman blood baths, where over 6 million Christian's were killed for their faith, had not yet begun under the Emperor Nero.

It was Expensive to be a Christian then... it is now!

1 Peter 1:1-2

To the pilgrims of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, ² elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace be multiplied.

Surprisingly, Peter introduces the need for the Christian to a Submissive Witness
• to the Governing Authorities • to their employers • and wives toward their husbands...

Last Time:

4.) Marriage is Submission vv. 7

Verse 7

Husbands, **likewise**, **#1** dwell with them with understanding, **#2** giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and **#3** as being heirs together of the grace of life, **#4** that your prayers may not be hindered (cut off or short circuit).

“REAL MEN *LOVE JESUS*”

...how true that statement is

Because there is a pronounced difficulty, an almost retardation in a man to be submissive!!!

Little Boy's (girls) and drawing the line against rebellion

BUT REAL MEN

when he comes face to face with the reality that Jesus is Christ, Savior and Lord, he will never be that same:

in the way he **thinks**, in the way he **talks**, in the way he **acts**, in the way he **lives towards others**

THE FACT OF THE MATTER IS;

GOD CHANGES LIVES - DO YOU WANT A NEW LIFE ?

Ezekiel 36:25-27

"Then **I will** sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; **I will** cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. ²⁶ **I will** give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; **I will** take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ **I will** put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.

We are going to look at "Several proofs"

to determine if God is alive in well - in your life today

Because:

THE WORLD OUT THERE IS LOOKING FOR EVIDENCE TO OUR CLAIMS

We Tell Them That;

“God is So Great, because He has Loved Us So Much

We Tell Them That;

“Jesus is So Wonderful, that He came to Die on the Cross, Forgiving Us of All our Sins

We Tell Them That;

The Holy Spirit Lives inside of Us, and that He is Working in Us, Making Us more and more like Jesus...

AND THEY EXPECT AND WANT TO SEE A DIFFERENCE WITH US...

That’s Why They Pick On You... THEY WANT A CHANGE TOO

That’s Why They Question You...

2 Corinthians 3:18

But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are **being transformed** into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

1 Corinthians 15:51-52

Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be **changed**-- in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be **changed**.

Philippians 3:21

who will **transform** our lowly body that it may be **conformed** to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

“The Only True Evolution that is taking Place at all in the Universe,

is the “evolution of maturity” that is taking place in the Life of every Christian”

Verse 8

“Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous;

- * **Finally** **GRK 5056 tells (tel'-os)**
from its primary word 'tello' = to set out for a definite point or purpose); to hit the point that is being aimed at... To send out and to return, having fulfilled a mission

“Teleo-nomic, Teleo-metric, Telemetry”
The Delivery of Vital Information

THERE’S A GENERAL ALARM

That Peter is sounding here
He’s calling on all those
who name the name of Jesus... to make all effort to secure
oneness and unity

All of you be of one mind

Calling All Christians to Unity

- * **be of one mind** **GRK 3675 homophon (hom-of'-rone)**
like-minded, a harmonious state:

but never at the expense of truth...
Truth will either unite us or it will divide us

((It all depends on if you want to submit to truth))

(“There is health in division...
when Truth is the knife”)

He’s Bringing “The Submission Topic” to Its Proper
Conclusion

The Husband, Wife,
and the Christian Church is to be Harmonious

Being Like-minded

Romans 12:16

Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things,
but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion.

We Have A Living Example of This;

Romans 15:5-6

Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward
one another, **according to Christ Jesus** ⁶ that you may with one mind and
one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Without divisions or cliques, Without “Favoritism Groups”

1 Corinthians 1:10

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

Philippians 3:14-15

I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me
heavenward in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ All of us who are **mature should take such a view of
things**. And if on some point you think differently, that too God
will make clear to you.

**“Us who are mature,
should take such a view of things”**

...HAVING THE SAME FOCUS

LANDING AN AIRPLANE TO MOWING THE LAWN

((((((((

This Happens via
the “Teaching” of the Word...

Apostle Paul’s Personal Passion for Unity...

Philippians 1:3-6

I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, ⁴ always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy, ⁵ for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now, ⁶ being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;

God’s Commitment to Unity...

Ephesians 4:11-13

And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, ¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, ¹³ till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

The Call to Unity...

1 Timothy 4:13 NIV

Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching.

The Outward Display of “Unity”

*

having **compassion**

GRK 4835 sumpathes (soom-path-ace')

having a “fellow-feeling” of (“sympathy”) - having compassion upon another.

Matthew 14:14

And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; and He was moved with compassion (in the bowels - the deeps) for them, and healed their sick.

This week at CHOC's in Orange County - Lil' Ashley

- * **Love as brothers** **GRK 5361 philadelphos (fil-ad'-el-fos);**
being fond of the brethren, to be fraternal.
The word also means to hang out at the coffeehouse

(But... I don't drink coffee)

- * **Be tenderhearted** **GRK 2155 eusplagchnos (yoo'-splanekh-nos);**
to be "super compassioned" like being turbo-charged with it.
-- pitiful, tender-hearted.

Submission to God is displayed by a willingness to Forgive
Another

Ephesians 4:32

And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ forgave you.

Go to your Brother....
a ministry of reconciliation

- * **be courteous;** **GRK 5391 philophron (fil-of'-rone)**
to an active friend toward others. *friendly of mind, to reach out toward others. The act of Being kind*

!!!Philippines 2:1-4!!!

The world...

Gal 5:19

Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, :20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissension's, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Verse 9a

“not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing,

AN EXHORTATION - A WARNING

This is a call to “Give Up” the self-defense Mode when other is talking about you

!!!just Commit them to God!!!

Jesus Taught on this;

Matthew 5:38-39

"You have heard that it was said, `An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' ³⁹ But I tell you not to resist an evil person. But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also.

Jesus lived it;

Luke 22:64-65

And having blindfolded Him, they struck Him on the face and asked Him, saying, "Prophesy! Who is the one who struck You?" ⁶⁵ And many other things they blasphemously spoke against Him.

Verse 9b

knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing.”

Meaning that,
the adverse conditions that the christian is under,
literally becomes a **grand opportunity** to #1 Obey
Jesus, #2 Point other to Christ by example, #3 and
to be doubly blessed!

!!! That difficult Hubby or Wiffy or Child or Boss or Neighbor
is a God ordained Jackpot of blessings for you personally !!!

Admit It - Those "Jerks" in our lives, Keep Us Praying
Those "Difficult People" Keep Us Crying Out to God

Ephesians 4:3
Make every effort to keep the unity
of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

(Be Quiet)

Guarding Against Evil

The Evil of **not doing** what we should do and **doing** what we ought not to do

Guard Against Familiarity

Familiarity leads to contempt, contempt leads to disrespect, disrespect ends in neglect (**a danger with God too**)

Guard Against Assumption

(Taking them for granted) degrading someone to a thing. Seeing them as a tool rather than a living breathing, feeling person also. (**A danger with God too**)

"Guard Against Ungratefulness

Is when we no longer value that person's input or addition to the family
(**A danger with God too**)

******* ROMANS 12:9-21 *******

Paul Told the Church in Ephesus;

Ephesians 4:1-4

I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, ² with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, ³ endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴ There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling;

Ephesians 4:11-13

And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, ¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, ¹³ till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

Paul Told Timothy;

“**That the Christians home** should be the best representation of Christianity, and that it should be that way so the church could be healthy

And Jesus Said,

Matthew 16:18

"And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. (And that goes for the church inside your home too)

As long as there is His Church, there will be families and there will be husbands and wives

And Peter is Telling Us That;

A husband is to Submit to the wife being displayed by “Honoring” her

B.) The Call to Holiness of Living vv. 10-12

Peter Opens His Bible to Psalm 34:12-16a

Verse 10

“For

(Ps 34:12) “Who is the man who desires life, (we do) and loves many days, (we do) that he may see good (we do)?

(Ps 34:13) - Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit

evil is speaking words that dismantle another reputation, that
and deceit is "lying", using words to cover up the truth, to change to truth, to color the truth.

Verse 11

Ps 34:14 Depart from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

Ps 34:15 The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, and His ears are open to their cry.

Ps 34:16 The face of the LORD is against those who do evil,.....

- 1. Let Him (Them)...
- 2. Let Him (Them).....
- 3. Let Him (Them).....

(Why?)

The Judgment is Yet Ahead of Us

(Ps. 34:16b).....to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth

Matthew 12:34-36
"Brood of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. ³⁵ "A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things. ³⁶ "But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment.

THE PERFECT “CONSTRUCTION SITE” POSTER

The heart flows out of the mouth, it effects the husband, the wife, which effects the children, the friends and neighbors, the world around us!!!

James 3:1-8

Not many of you should presume to be teachers, my brothers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly. ² We all stumble in many ways. If anyone is never at fault in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to keep his whole body in check. ³ When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal. ⁴ Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go. ⁵ Likewise the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. ⁶ The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole person, sets the whole course of his life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell. ⁷ All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and creatures of the sea are being tamed and have been tamed by man, (Seaworld) ⁸ but no man can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

(Put that Thing Away - You're scaring me)

Verse 12

For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and His ears are open to their prayers; but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."

We Need to Be Theologically Honest in Our Representation of God. We've all seen The Bumper Sticker Say's

Smile, God Loves You"
and there is truth to that statement

John 3:16

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life....."

But to be T.C. the sticker should read

**"Smile, God Loves You,
But He's Angry with the Wicked every day"**

Psalm 7:11b

...God is angry with the wicked every day.

In Fact John 3:18

"He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. (And that angers God - that a person would refuse to believe and choose to go to hell rather than heaven.... **Like Being a Parent !!!**)

The Desire of the New Heart is this

Psalm 24:3-6 NIV

Who may ascend the hill of the LORD? Who may stand in his holy place? ⁴ He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to an idol or swear by what is false. ⁵ He will receive blessing from the LORD and vindication from God his Savior. ⁶ Such is the generation of those who seek him,

The Passion of those Seeking The Lord is This;

Psalm 23:6

...and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Psalm 27:4

One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.

How are these Things Done in Our Marriages & Church

- By Reading the Bible
- By Praying often
- By Giving up your schedule to God
- By Determining to put what you know into practice
- By Following Jesus

Micah 6:8

He has shown you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?