

Peter's First Epistle

I-PETER

CHAPTER 4:1-6

TAPE SM. #260 ~ MAY 25, 1997

TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

"LIVING IN THE NEW"

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 4:1-6

Mic Jagger.... sings, sang a song "Tiiiiime is on my side yes it is"

Time is not on Mic's Side - Just look at Him...

Believing that the days are short and that the appearing of Jesus Christ is drawing near.... We want to be very ready and watchful as we see the day approaching

2 Peter 1:13-14

Yes, I think it is right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by reminding you, ¹⁴ knowing that shortly I must put off my tent, just as our Lord Jesus Christ showed me.

2 Timothy 4:6-8

⁶ For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸ Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

Matthew 25:21
We All Want Hear - 'Well done'

(Well done)

Last week we saw that baptism was the outward manifestation of an inward commitment.

Baptism provides for us a good conscience (v.21b) in relation to our past, that we are now recorded in the records of eternity, in heaven as dying, being buried and having been risen from the dead with Jesus

THE SECTION BEFORE US

There are **four Attitudes** that we are going to have to nurture and establish within our thinking if we are going to hear those words "WELL DONE"

vv. 1-3 A Militant Attitude about Sin

vv. 4-6 A Patient Attitude toward the Lost

vv. 7 An Expectant Attitude about His Coming

vv. 8-11 A Fervent Attitude toward the Church

1.) Having a Militant Attitude About Sin vv. 1-3

The Mission of Jesus Christ; was to destroy the works of the devil - sin and death...

1 John 3:8

He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might **destroy** the works of the devil.

John 10:10

The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

* **Destroy** GRK 622 *apollumi* (ap-ol'-loo-mee)
to make a full destruction of. To totally and utterly crush

Like Smokey the Bear Stomping out a fire

IT COST HIM HIS LIFE

WE NEED TO LOOK AT HIS LIFE MORE CLOSELY, more often

Jesus Life was a Baptism of Suffering!

Verse 1a

*Therefore, since Christ suffered for us in the flesh, **arm yourselves** also with the same mind, for (because) he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin,*

Therefore, since Christ suffered for us in the flesh,

By the very act of HIS death,
HE empowered a victory that cannot be stopped, that can never lose

“Jesus Suffered in the Flesh”

1a) Consider the Coastlines of Sin

v.1

Jesus never had to “cease from sin”, the powers of sin was unleashed against HIM. Sin “exhausted itself” because of the cross. Once the price was paid, Jesus ceased from being under its power because there was no sin within HIM. Sin could not adhere to HIM - it **only killed HIM in the flesh.**

We are to hate sin,
for all it can be hated for

**You & I
are to hate the sin that we do
not justify it, but confess it
and then forsake it**

PERSONAL HOLINESS

- JESUS IN YOUR **THOUGHT LIFE**
- JESUS IN YOUR **PRIVATE TIME**
- JESUS WHEN **YOUR ALONE**

DO YOU HATE WHAT KILLED GOD'S SON?

It's just my own private little thing going on, nobody knows, and it affects no body

What if you came home to find your only baby boy dead... the victim of a murderer's insanity... would you want to keep the bloody knife as a reminder?

The story about the man would raised a cobra from a worm

The story about the hungry school boy and the hot dogs

Arm yourselves also with the same mind

- * Arm yourselves **GRK 3695 hoplizo (hop-lid'-zo)**
to be fully equipped with all available weaponry
being armed to the teeth

The Buccaneer & Pirates

The Christian Solider of Ephesian 6

- #1 - To sit down and to tie on an armament,
- #2 - To have sharpened all blades
- #3 - To have covered all areas of weakness

The same mind

The Same Attitude, or Way of Looking at Things

1 Timothy 6:13

urge you in the sight of God who gives life to all things, and before Christ Jesus who witnessed the good confession before Pontius Pilate,

Philippians 2:5

Let this **mind** be in you which was
also in Christ Jesus,

Colossians 3:2-3

therefore Set your **mind** on things above, not on things on the earth.
³ For you died, and your life is **hidden** with Christ in God.

MY IDENTITY HAS BEEN "ERASED"

Every sin, every ungodly deed, every wicked thought and act

The federal government

(Has the power to recreate you by giving you a new identity.
A new name, a new address, a new family... in some cases even a new appearance)

*

Hidden

GRK 2928 krupto (kroop'-to)

to have concealed something. To keep secret with no
intentions of telling

THE ACCUSER OF THE BRETHREN

Satan comes and says to us, you big #@#%\$%#%\$%
Then Satan goes before the Lord and says, "Jack is *#@*%\$\$

GOD'S RESPONSE IS

(God): I can't see a thing Louie....

(Lucifer): He's right there, come on open your eyes, he's got crumbs all over his finger
and jelly on face....

(God): I just can't see a thing - I think you're living the past Louie..... besides I told you
Satan...

"For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is His mercy toward those who
fear Him; As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions
from us.....

..... I will again have compassion on him and will subdue his iniquities. I will
cast all his sins into the depths of the sea.

**SATAN MUST POUND HIS FIST AND YELL,
"DAMN THE BLOOD"**

SKIN FOR SKIN, ALL THAT A MAN HAS, HE'S GIVE TO SAVE HIS OWN SKIN

let me pull a **JOB** on him and he'll curse you...

SO BE ARMED..... BECAUSE,

whenever things don't go our way and we are upset or hurt,
Satan will come "God could have done something you know, He could have kept that
from happening you know - Hey you want to get HIS attention? Punish God right now by
Not reading our Bible, going to church, praying...."

...Just Curse God and Die - it's better that way!!!

Colossians 3:4-7

When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory. ⁵

Therefore **put to death your members** which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶ Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, ⁷ in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them.

Verse 1b

for (because) he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin,

*

Ceased GRK 3973 pauo (pow'-o)

to have come to end. To have finished having to deal with. To have been freed from something that once had power.

Romans 6:6-8

knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. ⁷ For he who has died has been freed from sin. ⁸ Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him,

Just as Jesus was freed, finally from the limitations of being confined to the weakness of humanity, so we, through the power of the cross, have been freed from both;

#1 The power of sin that dwells within us and

#2 Having been filled with a greater power, power to overcome anything this world, the flesh, and the devil can produce.

Romans 8:3-4

For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

Romans 8:11-13

But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you. ¹² Therefore, brethren, we are debtors-- not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³ For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you **put to death** the deeds of the body, you will live.

**(THAT SOUNDS KINDA FINAL TO ME
.... IT SOUNDS VIOLENT TO ME)**

JUST LIKE HOW YOU WOULD KILL ANYTHING ELSE, YOU'D DIVIDE ITS FLESH.

THE DIVIDING OF THE FLESH

SEPARATES CAPILLARIES, VESSELS, ARTERIES AND NERVES SO THAT THE LINK IS SEVERED - THEN DEATH occur.

BECAUSE THERE IS NO LONGER ANY ASSOCIATION WITH THE OTHER

YOU CAN BE A CHRISTIAN, SURFING THE WORLDWIDE WEB FOR THE LATEST AND GREATEST AND THEN OOPS! - YOU GET INTO VISUAL PORNOGRAPHY, EMOTIONAL AFFAIRS AND.....

**WHY DO YOU THINK IT'S CALLED "THE WEB"
WHY DO YOU THINK IT'S CALLED "THE NET"**

Suffering can also be used
to keep us out of trouble...

(**LIKE A LAMB** - PRONE TO WANDER, THE SHEPHERD WILL BREAK Its LEG
AS IT SUFFERS FROM A BROKEN LEG, IT HAS NO ABILITY TO WANDER)

Pride Might Have Been Paul's Fear

2 Corinthians 12:7-10

And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. ⁸ Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. ⁹ And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. ¹⁰ Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Verse 2

*that he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh ---- for **the lusts of men**, but for **the will of God**.*

1b) Enjoying God’s Will for Your Life v.2

We are to now live for the will of God,
yes, in our heart, soul and minds but also (in our flesh)

But for the will of God.

2:15 - 3:17 - 4:19

“Suffering” says Vance Havner
“It Won’t Last Forever... But We Will”
- Vance Havner

Psalm 66:10
For You, O God, have tested us; you have refined us as silver is refined.

2 Corinthians 4:16-18
Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, ¹⁸ while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

Difficult situations & Hard Times will always alter a person's character. *For the better or for the worse*

In Washington D.C at the National Cathedral there is a bronze statue of Abraham Lincoln kneeling and crying out to God in prayer which was a common practice of Lincoln...

"On one occasion President Lincoln told Noah Brooks "I have been driven many times upon my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go"

Verse 3

*For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles-- **when we walked** in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries.*

1c) Remembering Who You Were Without Christ v.3

*

When we walked GRK 4198 *poreuō* (*por-yoo'-om-ahee*)

To clone one after another. To do as the others. To walk the same way

- *Lewdness, is ungodly talk and Sexual perversion*
- *Lusts, are longings and burnings that you desire to fulfill*
- *Drunkenness, is being influenced by intoxicating drink*
- *Revelries, are environments that encourage loosen of convictions*
- *Drinking parties, is going about drunk and unrestrained*
- *And abominable idolatries. any type of idol worship & sexual activity*

Ephesians 2:1-2

And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, ² in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience,

I NEVER SAW MYSELF LIKE THIS - JUST HAVING FUN MAN

God Alone can undo the past...

Deuteronomy 5:15a

And remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and that the LORD your God brought you out from there by a mighty hand

He Alone provides second chances

Colossians 4:5

Walk in wisdom toward those who are non-believers, **redeeming the time.**

Ephesians 5:16

redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

*

Redeeming GRK 1805 exagorazo (ex-ag-or-ad'-zo)

to buy up, to ransom back or to bring back from loss to rescue from destruction

THIS IS THE “MIRACULOUS” IN ACTION

THIS DEFIES THE LAWS OF PHYSICS BECAUSE WHAT WAS SPENT OR EXHAUSTED IS GONE - BUT IN SALVATION - GOD INTERVENES

2.) A Patient Attitude toward the Lost vv. 4-6

Verse 4

*In regard to these, they think it **strange** that you **do not run with them** in the same flood of **dissipation** (unsavedness) speaking evil of you.*

*

Run GRK 4936 suntrecho (soon-trekh'-o)

to be rushing together, hastily without a directions or purpose.
To go headlong without a course

“Come on Let’s Go, Go where, I don’t know but let’s hurry”

The First place of Attack for the new believer

Peer-pressure & Acceptance

If your old friends can get you to fall -
They'll be a lot more comfortable about your commitment....

Jesus Warned About This;

Matthew 13:20-21

"But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹ "yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he **stumbles. (Away from the faith)**

Why do they think it strange?

Because...

- The world is all that there is to them
- They're at Home here
- They can't see

2 Corinthians 4:3-4

But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, ⁴ whose minds **the god of this age** has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

Break it Off...

Make a Clean Break From Your Past with friends, with places, with...

But Please Put Up With Them...

deal with them like Jesus would... and is through you...

Verse 5

*They will give an account to Him who is ready to judge
the living and the dead.*

I.e. to all generations from all ages in eternity

He's Ready... But He's Waiting

Hebrews 10:31

It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Jesus is the judge

Because:

Matthew 12:36

"But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment.

Romans 14:8-9

For if we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. ⁹ For to this end Christ died and rose and lived again, that He might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Verse 6

For this reason the gospel was preached also to those who are dead, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh, but live according to God in the spirit.

What Reason ?..... “Verse 5”

That they might be judged according to men in the flesh
men judge us every day, family judges us, co-workers judge us

What’s Implied is - those who are wrong about Christ & Christianity

It’s not just your neighbors or family or co-workers but all...
Stalin & Hitler, Marx & Darwin, Charles T. Russell & L. Ron Hubbard
Joseph Smith and Brigham Young
(their theology is very correct now...)

APPLICATION:

Summarization:

#1

Suffering has produced a wonderful freedom; Jesus’ temporary **sufferings, empowered** my freedom from suffering eternally. This is as bad as life can get for me. From here on out it only gets better....

#2

Suffering Reproduces godliness; in the life of a Christian, suffering leads to a deepening beauty of character, of soul, and of spiritual awareness and peace!

#3

That now my life's focus has changed. I look to do those things that are pleasing to God - **His desires become my desires**

#4

I then realize that this world is passing away. That my time and life here has mainly one purpose, **to bring GOD glory by how I live**, how think, and what I do with whatever HE has placed within my hands.

APPLICATION:

Implementation:

#1

The Freedom - I Thank HIM for it

#2

The Deepening - I embrace it with understanding

#3

My Desires are HIS - I include HIM in all things

#4

Bring HIM glory - I look for HIM in everything

Invitation to Receive

1. **Stress clearly** and repeat **the benefits** of the teaching for those who believe.
2. **Help the uncommitted** to see that God wants this for them too.
3. That **the choice is theirs** to make freely.
4. Choice **demands responsibility**.
5. The decision is **now**.

Revelation 3:20

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.

John 10:27-28

"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. ²⁸ And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.

Matthew 4:17

From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Romans 10:9-11

that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. ¹¹ For the scripture says, Whosoever trust in Him shall never be ashamed.