

Peter's First Epistle

I-PETER

CHAPTER 5:12-14

TAPE SM. #265 - JULY 27, 1997

TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

"RECOGNIZING GOD'S FAITHFUL FOLLOWERS"

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 5:12-14

The Chapter Outline is divided in three sections:

(The service of God's grace in the life of the believer)

Verses 1-4	Shepherding the flock of God
Verses 5-7	Submission to the will of God
Verses 8-11	Suffering in the light of God

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.

"RECOGNIZING GOD'S GRACE"

1.) Revealed by Being Humble vv. 5-7

What is Pride?

It appears to be a spiritual decease of the heart. It effects the brain and will eventually destroy the entire person

It's a self-centered, self-reliant, self-confident mind set

How will this be lived out in life?

That I decide today, to willfully determine to Service others and to watch out for their interests over my own...

This is so "Jesus Like"

Philippians 2:3-4

Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. ⁴ Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.

Application: *Pride is a Declaration Against God.*

It's the Warring and Striving Against Someone That **You Know** You Should Be in Harmony With

How Can You Tell If You Suffer From Pride?

That's Easy to Determine...

How Can I Defeat Pride?

- a.) Decide to Submit
- b.) Decide to Die

Galatians 2:20

"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

c.) Decide to Live

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?

“RECOGNIZING GOD’S GRACE”

2.) Revealed by Being Watchful

vv. 8-9

How Do I Resist Him?

Verse 9b

steadfast in the faith

Faith in God (our general)

Faith in God’s Word (our orders)

Stand Hard in the Faith

“RECOGNIZING GOD’S GRACE”

3.) Revealed by Being Hopeful

vv. 10-11

Who are the players?

THE NAMES OF BELIEVERS throughout Paul’s ministry, Christian life

(There should always be someone or a few that are the “tried and true” they’ve seen you and your worse... they love you anyway - just like Jesus does)

That’s Grace

(not a performance-based relationship)

What is being said?

#1 - That what Peter has written to them is indeed the grace of God

#2 - That He bids His people to stand firm in that grace

#3 - Because the Christian life is a difficult life, filled with joy

That there are those faithful Christians

Then there are those who fellowship on the outside, they kind of look in. For fear, for shyness, for little reasons they stay on the outside of things.

- They come to church
- They tithe, they worship

Why is it being said?

Because trying and stressing times are part of human life.

And so, the promises of God and glory to come, can easily be forgotten in the midst of troubles.

- if we stop looking toward Jesus, things start falling apart:

Soul - #1 - in our minds first (thoughts wander)

Spirit - #2 - that affects our hearts (pressure and fear begins to build)

Body - #3 - we begin sink emotionally and spiritually, then physically

What about the times and places?

What would I think if I were there to hear this letter?

#1 Would I be receiving it, - as it being from the apostle Peter or from God

2 Timothy 3:16

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for **teaching**,
rebuking, correcting **and training** in righteousness,

#2 - I would begin to believe that difficult times are coming (thinking about what I had already seen from the world system that's around me)

#3 - I would also be encouraged because I would have been forewarned and thus I would make myself ready

That would create confidence

FOR every situation that comes into my life

Because God is in Control

Isaiah 46:10

Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things that are not yet done, saying, **'My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure,'**

But What is His Pleasure?

...Your Life,
Having An Awesome Purpose a Wonderful Meaning and Deep Fulfillment

Psalms 37:3-5,23

Trust in the LORD, and do good; dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness. ⁴
Delight yourself also in the LORD, and He shall give you the desires of your heart. ⁵
Commit your way to the LORD, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass...
²³ **The steps** of a good man are **ordered** by the LORD,
and He **delights** in his way.

The steps **HEB 4703 mits` ad (mits-awd')**

A companionship at walking or a travelling partner
to be in step, as in marching

ordered **HEB 3559 kûn (koon)**

To confirm, to fasten firm, ordained
to be fitted or set within a frame,

delights **HEB 2654 chaphets (khaw-fates')**

To be incline towards, to watch over with pleasure to have favour in.

Ephesians 2:10

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

A PERSONAL MESSAGE HERE

One of the crimes that we commit as Christians is that we fail to
"Selah"

O' Yes - Our Selah is slacking

The exhortation to "Selah" appears 74 times in the book of psalms

Selah **HEB 5542 Celah (seh'-law)**

a suspension of music or a thought. To hold or to let settle
to drink it in: to **let think about it !**

Psalm 3:8

Salvation belongs to the LORD. Your blessing is upon Your people.
Selah - **lets think about it !**

Psalm 85:2

You have forgiven the iniquity of Your people; you have covered all their sins.
Selah - **lets think about it !**

Psalm 68:19

Blessed be the Lord, who daily loads us with benefits,
the God of our salvation! - **lets think about it !**

Psalm 46:11

The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.
Selah - **lets think about it !**

Sweaty Palms 9:11

I've lost my job, but God still sits upon the throne
lets think about it !

Sweaty Palms 2:2

Things aren't going the way that I have planned, but I have made Jesus my Lord and
savior of my live - **lets think about it !**

1.) True Friends in the Faith

vv. 12

Verse 12

1a.) Those faithful followers of Jesus !!!!!!!

By Silvanus, **our faithful brother** as I **consider** him, I have written to you briefly, **exhorting** and **testifying** that this is the **true grace** of God in which you **stand**.

Silvanus (the Silas of Paul Ministry as Well) was the physical writer or secretary for Paul

Silvanus the man, he was the kind of man that the church couldn't afford to be without. He was content to be second, third or fourth, as long as God's work was being done - and the church blessed

1b.) **How** we will make it into eternity

exhorting and **testifying** that this is the **true grace** of God in which you **stand**.

2.) True Christian that reaches out

vv. 13

Verse 13

She who is in Babylon, elect together with you,
greet you; and so does Mark my son.

“Greets”

to hold tightly and to cherish.... it's like a farewell hug

- The ‘**She**’ who is in **Babylon**; is The Church at Rome

Rome is the Place where Peter was Writing From

Why is Rome called Babylon

several times in the scriptures?

To avoid trouble / it was pagan in worship / it was torturous

In Revelation 14,16,18 Babylon
is the name given to the greatest city/church that the world has ever
seen. In Revelation 17:9 it says that church is headquartered in a city
that is known to have been built on seven hills

The Early Christians and those in Judaism called Rome, Babylon
because of its spiritual wickedness

There was a healthy, bible teaching church there
(The Book of Romans was Written to the Born-again Believers)

3.) True Christian Fellowship

vv. 14

Verse 14

Greet one another with a **kiss of love**.
Peace to you **all who are in Christ Jesus**. Amen.

A.) Christian love

- * **Greet** **GRK 782 aspazomai (as-pad'-zom-ahee);**
to salute or to give welcome to it can mean an embrace if
that is appropriate

- * **A kiss of love. GRK 5370 philēma (fil'-ay-mah)**
the kiss with which, as a sign of fraternal affection,
Christians were accustomed to welcome or dismiss their
companions in the faith

Augustine wrote that “The Christians of his day, before they began their conversation, they would first kiss each other, revealing outwardly their hearts delight in meeting up one with another”

Justin Mayter said “With the kiss, glad greetings are made, farewells made to last and all wrongs have been done away, Christ alone rules our hearts

Then, it was a Kiss to the cheek, a man to the man, and a woman to the woman

Jesus seemed to enjoy, even miss the traditional kiss of the brethren

Luke 7:45

You gave Me no kiss, but this
woman has not ceased to kiss My feet since the time I came in.

He must have liked it - because Satan had Judas do it to Jesus as an act of betrayal

1 Corinthians 16:20

All the brethren greet you. Greet one another with a holy kiss.

In Our Day, it's “The Christian Hug”

This church, you, and I, share a great desire to spread the word of God and to establish churches anywhere and everywhere - and I love it - I love all the "impossibilities about it"

**What is Possible, is this
God Does Want to do a Work**
(And He might want to tell us to do it)

"It's All So Romantic to Me"

BUT JACK,

What if it doesn't work - what if theres no
one there - what if God says no

**We Win,
We Win Again, And Again, And Again**

It's Like a Movie - Like Dream - Like another
World
and it is...

**He will raise up people to encourage you, to help you, to pray
with you and for you...**

- * **Peace** **GRK 1515 eirene (i-ray'-nay);**
probably from a primary verb eiro (to join); peace (literally or
figuratively); by implication, prosperity:
KJV-- one, peace, quietness, rest, + set at one again.

All who are in Christ Jesus.

They are “ALL WHO ARE IN CHRIST”

It's not enough to go to church, to own a Bible, even to sing the songs, it's not enough to be a believer in Jesus Christ...

Are you in Christ

(Is the question we should ask others and ourselves)

“RECOGNIZING GOD’S FAITHFUL FOLLOWERS”

They Are, In Fact, Followers of Jesus

If you'll turn to Ephesians 1

Ephesians 1:1

Paul... To the saints who are **in** Ephesus, (geographically on earth)
and faithful **in** Christ Jesus: (practically in heaven)

Paul introduces this position / this state actually,
of being “In Christ”

Ephesians 1:13

“**In Him** you also trusted,”
(but first) you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; **in Whom** also,
having believed... **you were sealed** with the Holy Spirit of **promise**, (layaway)

#1 You heard the good news (You were open)

#2 It was attractive to you enough to say YES to Him (You believed)

#3 You trusted in Jesus to save you

#4 Now you rest, enjoy, because you have been sealed

Ephesians 1:14

(H.S.) who is the guarantee of our inheritance
until the redemption of THE PURCHASED POSSESSION,
to the praise of His glory.

How Does it Happen?

How are we placed in Christ

When Jesus came, He said...

John 12:32
When I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself."
#1 Demanding All to Acknowledge #2 Delivering Thru
Redemption

Ezekiel 36:26-27
I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your body and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ I will put My Spirit within you and I will cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will (enabled) keep My judgments and do them.

When Does This Happen?

1 Corinthians 12:12-13
For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. ¹³ For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body-- whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free-- and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.

2 Corinthians 6:1-2
as workers together with Christ, I also plead with you not to receive the grace of God in vain. ² For God says: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, and in the day of salvation I have helped you."
Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

Why Does This NEED TO Happen?

Romans 5:12
just as through one man (Adam) sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned

What does this position "In Christ"
do for us NOW...

It Guarantees Our Blessed State In Life

And They Are, In Fact, Faithful to Jesus

“RECOGNIZING GOD’S FAITHFUL FOLLOWERS”

Who is a faithful follower

First off, it’s not the super saints only

It’s the Christian brother or sister that is “continuing” in the faith

They’ve been “trial tested”

They have gone through difficult times and have stayed with Jesus

(We lean toward Hinduism alot - if I do good, God will do me good)

2 Timothy 3:10-12

But you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance, ¹¹ persecutions, afflictions, which happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra-- what persecutions I endured. And out of them all the Lord delivered me. ¹² **Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.**

1 Peter 4:12

Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you;

What is a faithful follower?

A man or woman after God’s own heart

To desire Him (You must at least, assume that He is good)

He is attractive to you

To love Him (living in his continuel prescience)

loving Him keeps Him near to the heart

To boast of Him (being real enough that you want other to know Him too)

Satisfies the waiting, the longing for His arrival

Having True Christian Friendship is all important

The friends you have will mold and shape many of your decisions

The friends you have will either draw you closer to Jesus or farther away

It’s like taking any course at college or school

It will affect your life

Ministry drew these together

Do want to find a future pastor or missionary, secretary or elder?
Look at those serving within the body

Do want to find a future husband or wife?
Look at those serving within the body