



Following Christ

1 Peter 3:8-4:6

September 3, 2014

Background

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

1 Peter 1:3 (NIV)

1:1-12	Praise for our Salvation
1:13-2:10	Response to our Salvation
2:11-3:7, 5:1-4	Lifestyles because of our Salvation
3:8-4:6	Suffering in our Salvation

How to be blessed by God

Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble. Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult, but with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.

1 Peter 3:8-9 (NIV)

- Live in _____ with others
- Be _____ toward others
- Loving _____ to others
- Express _____ to others
- Display _____ to others
- Give _____ to others

Illustration

For, “Whoever would love life and see good days must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from deceitful speech. He must turn from evil and do good; he must seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”

1 Peter 3:10-12 (NIV) – Psalm 34:12-18

Exhortation

Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. “Do not fear what they fear; do not be frightened.”

1 Peter 3:13-14 (NIV)

But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord.

1 Peter 3:15a (NIV)

Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.

1 Peter 3:15b-16 (NIV)

- Give an _____
- Give the _____
- Give with _____
- Give with _____

Remember the example of Christ when suffering

It is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.

1 Peter 3:17 (NIV)

For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit, through whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison who disobeyed long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a good conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into Heaven and is at God's right hand—with angels, authorities and powers in submission to Him.

1 Peter 3:18-22 (NIV)

- His _____ (vs. 18)
- His _____ (vs. 18b)
- His _____ (vs. 19-21)
- His _____ (vs. 22)

Act like Christ in suffering!

Therefore, since Christ suffered in His body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because He who has suffered in His body is done with sin. As a result, He does not live the rest of His earthly life for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God. For you have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do—living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry.

1 Peter 4:1-3 (NIV)

- Maintain His _____ (vs. 1a)
- Live In His _____ (vs. 1b)
- Walk with _____ (vs. 2)
- Leave the _____ (vs. 3)

Prepare like Christ in suffering

They think it strange that you do not plunge with them into the same flood of dissipation, and they heap abuse on you. But they will have to give account to Him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. For this is the reason the gospel was preached even to those who are now dead, so that they might be judged according to men in regard to the body, but live according to God in regard to the spirit.

1 Peter 4:4-6 (NIV)