

# The Epistle of 1 Peter

## ▶ Purpose of epistle

- ▶ Encourage Christians to remain faithful through sufferings

- ▶ 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”

- ▶ 1 Peter 5:12:

- ▶ “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.”

# 1 Peter – Three main subject areas

- ▶ Three main subject areas addressed and re-addressed
  - ▶ How we ought to live because we have been born again and because of the eternal life we anticipate
  - ▶ Obligations in various relationships
  - ▶ Attitudes and behavior in suffering

Based on Outline in 1 Peter Commentary by Clinton Hamilton

## 5:6-7 Relationship of Christians to God

“Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.”

- ▶ What must we do now if we want to be exalted by God in due time?
  - ▶ “humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God”
- ▶ When we humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God, we will commit to God, place upon God, what?
  - ▶ “all your care”
- ▶ What reason is given that we can do this?
  - ▶ “for He cares for you”

## 5:8-9 Relationship of Christians to the devil

“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.”

- ▶ Christians are commanded to be \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ▶ “be sober, be vigilant”
- ▶ What reason is given for being sober and vigilant?
  - ▶ “because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour”
- ▶ How should we respond to the devil’s attacks?
  - ▶ “resist him, steadfast in the faith”
- ▶ What do we know about sufferings for Christ?
  - ▶ “the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world”

## 5:10-11 The reward of suffering

“But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you. To Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.”

- ▶ God is the God of all what?
  - ▶ “grace”
- ▶ What will God do for His children who suffer?
  - ▶ “perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you”

## 5:12-14 Conclusion

“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. She who is in Babylon, elect together with you, greets you; and so does Mark my son. Greet one another with a kiss of love. Peace to you all who are in Christ Jesus. Amen.”

- ▶ What two things does Peter say he has done, writing briefly in this letter?
  - ▶ “exhorting and testifying that this is the true grace of God in which you stand”
- ▶ What are Christians to do in the true grace of God?
  - ▶ “stand”