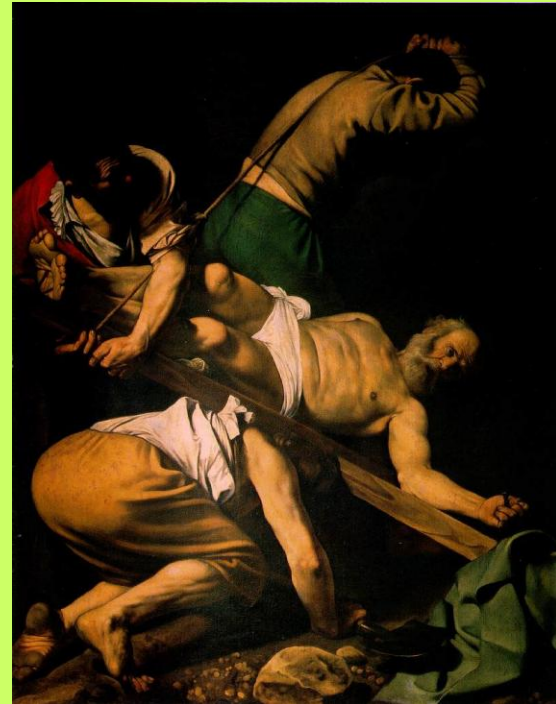



1 Peter Ch3-5





Background Revision Ch1&2

- Peter describes ‘Babylon’ as Rome
- Written between – 62-64 AD under Nero’s reign 54-68 AD, he authorised capturing, torturing and killing of Christians.
- The purpose of writing was to encourage readers to grow in their trust in God and obedience to Him in their lives, but especially when they suffer which he describes as necessary to purify them
- We must prepare for trials with a healthy mind &  holy living

Destination and readers



Galatia


Cappadocia

Bithynia
and Pontus


Asia



1 PETER CHAPTER 3

- **Instructions to wives:**
- *Be* submissive to husbands. The Bible demands if the two are opposed, the wife should submit to the husbands decision in everything except if he asks her to disobey God. We are united spiritually to our spouses. Therefore, it is considered a martyrdom as each spouse learns to die to  self for the sake of the other.

Instruction to wives

- -Do not **only** take care of our appearance (arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel) which is NOT wrong but **MORE importantly** "let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God".
- -A **gentle** spirit is one that does not insist on  its own way or act forcefully or angrily

Instructions to wives

- A **quiet** spirit is one that is not easily disturbed and imparts peace and tranquillity to those around it. A mother and wife should be a calming influence
- Are you as a female preparing for marriage by taking peace and gentleness from the hands of God in prayer?




Instructions to husbands

- -To dwell with wives with **understanding** and give **honor** to the wife, "that your prayers may not be hindered." To disobey has a harsh warning of prayers being seriously affected.
- There are many common practises which defy this verse, to mock your wife or put her down is not honour and to disrespect her allows any children to do the same



How to get a Blessing

- *-Be* of one mind, Have compassion for one another, Love as brothers
- *Be* tenderhearted, *Be* courteous
- -Do not return evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing SO THAT YOU MAY INHERIT A BLESSING. When you are insulted, you are called to bless in return (at the very least  not to insult in return)


“ He who would love life And see good days”

- Is this you??
- Then

*“Let him refrain his tongue from evil,
And his lips from speaking deceit.
11 Let him turn away from evil and do
good;
Let him seek peace and pursue it.”*



Suffering when you're innocent

- It is not common to suffer for doing the right things "But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, *you are* blessed.
- Rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings" who suffered while innocent and carry the cross with Him
- "But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or as a busybody in other  people's matters."

1 Peter CH4

- “As Christ suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves to do the same..”
- We must expect & prepare ourselves to suffer but remember Matthew 11:30 “My yoke is easy and My burden is light
- The famous St Teresa of Avila suffered much and said “the labour is attended with so much bliss and comfort of the soul, that the soul would never willingly pass out of it-and thus the labour is not



felt as labour, but as bliss”

“We have spent enough of our past ..”

- ..in sin “when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries.
- People think its strange when we don’t do these things but “They will give an account to Him who is ready to judge the living and the dead.”
- Why should I follow them & feel all that regret
at Judgement Day?



Would you like to cover your sins?

- “And above all things have fervent love for one another, for *“love will cover a multitude of sins.”*”
- How do I get this love that’s going to cover my sins?
- “Accustom yourself continually to make many acts of love, for they enkindle and melt the soul.” St Teresa of Avila. So acts of love bring about more love!



To those who serve

- “If anyone ministers, *let him do it* as with the ability which God supplies.”
- This ability comes from God and can be taken away in an instant (eg using your good memory in service and preaching and then getting Alzheimers disease). To see ourselves as the donkey the Lord rode on Palm Sunday is the only protection against pride. It would be truly amazing to see the donkey puffed up from people's praise-which certainly was not meant for him.



Take it seriously

- “But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers.”
- *“ If the righteous one is scarcely saved, Where will the ungodly and the sinner appear? ”*
- Going to heaven is not easy, it is the narrow gate. It needs work & God’s grace & we don’t have any time to waste



1 PETER CH5

- **Pastoral instructions to the shepherds to look after the flock**
- **Instruction to younger people:** “Submit yourselves to *your* elders. Yes, all of *you* be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for “ *God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.* ”
- The spirit of disobedience and thinking you know better & rudeness to elders is directly from Satan



Submit to God

- “Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God”. Do not keep running the show yourself. God’s hand will either “exalt you in due time” or come down on you in wrath if you insist on your own will
- Vs 7 “casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.”
- Who better to love than the one who never fails us & cares for us more than anyone else ever can?



Resist the devil

- Be ready for temptation for
" the devil walks about like a roaring lion,
seeking whom he may devour."

We can be seriously damaged after any run in with the devil, we need to take care to arm ourselves with a lot of prayer & good works to escape attack



Resist the devil

- “Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.”
- The devil has used the same temptations on billions of people before us and mocks us in front of God when we fall.
- Why should we add our name to the many fools who have fallen before us & by our own will take our names out of the Book of life?



Called to eternal glory!

- “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*.”
- -We must struggle and suffer for a while before we are able to rise above particular sins but the reward is **GLORY FOREVER**



