

To Judge the Dead and Guide the Quick

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1Pe 4:1 Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin;

1Pe 4:2 That he no longer should live the rest of *his* time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God.

1Pe 4:3 For the time past of *our* life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles, when we walked in lasciviousness, lusts, excess of wine, revellings, banquetings, and abominable idolatries:

1Pe 4:4 Wherein they think it strange that ye run not with *them* to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of *you*:

1Pe 4:5 Who shall give account to him that is ready to judge the quick and the dead.

1Pe 4:6 For for this cause was the gospel preached also to them that are dead, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh, but live according to God in the spirit.

I. The Christ-minded are to endure the suffering connected with ceasing from sin

1Pe 4:1 Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves like-wise with the same mind: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin;

A. Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh

1Pe 1:11 ...the Spirit of Christ...testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ...

1Pe 1:19 ...the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

1Pe 3:18 For Christ also hath once suffered for sins...being put to death in the flesh...

1Pe 2:21 For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:

B. Arm yourselves likewise with the same mind

Php 2:5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

Php 2:6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

Php 2:7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

Php 2:8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

Rom 13:12 ...let us put on the **armour** of light.

Mat 5:16 **Let your light so shine** before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Php 2:15 ...be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, **among whom ye shine as lights in the world;**

C. For he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin

Gal 5:24 ...they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

Rom 6:11 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

II. For the rest of your life: Stop following fleshly lusts—Start living after God's will

1Pe 4:2 That he no longer should live the rest of *his* time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God.

A. *That he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh to the lusts of men*

1Pe 1:14 ...not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance:

B. *But to the will of God*

1Pe 2:15 For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men:

1Pe 3:17 For *it is* better, if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well doing, than for evil doing.

Rom 12:1 I beseech you therefore...by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service.

Rom 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Eph 6:6 Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart;

III. You have wasted enough time already working the will of the world

1Pe 4:3 For the time past of *our* life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles, when we walked in lasciviousness (*shamelessness*), lusts (*desires for the forbidden*), excess of wine (*drunkenness*), revellings (*drinking parties*), banquetings (*drinking bouts*), and abominable idolatries:

Rom 7:8 But sin, taking occasion by the commandment, wrought in me all manner of concupiscence (*desires for the forbidden*)...

1Pe 1:14 ...not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance:

Eph 2:2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

Eph 2:3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

Tit 3:3 For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, *and* hating one another.

IV. If you are truly different, the world notices— “Somebody is watching”

1Pe 4:4 Wherein they think it strange that ye run not with *them* to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of *you*:

1Pe 3:16 Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ.

1Pe 2:12 Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by *your* good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation.

V. God is the judge of the alive and the dead

1Pe 4:5 Who shall give account to him that is ready to judge the quick and the dead.

A. Up to this point, Peter has said much about the judgment of God

1Pe 1:17 And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning *here* in fear:

1Pe 2:23 Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed *himself* to him that judgeth righteously:

1Pe 3:12 For the eyes of the Lord *are* over the righteous, and his ears *are open* unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord *is* against them that do evil.

1Pe 3:20 Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.

B. God is the judge of the alive and the dead—Both now and in the end

2Ti 4:1 I charge *thee* therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;

1Co 11:32 But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world.

C. I believe these are the spiritually alive & dead—Not the physically alive & dead

Eph 2:1 And you *hath he quickened*, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

VI. The gospel is preached to the dead—For judgment (condemnation) to the dead

1Pe 4:6 For for this cause was the gospel preached also to them that are dead, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh...

A. We are to preach the gospel to those who ask—And to the dead who don't

1Pe 3:15 ...*be* ready always to *give* an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

1Pe 3:19 By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison;

1Pe 3:20 Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing...

2Pe 2:5 ...Noah the eighth *person*, a preacher of righteousness...

B. By our lifestyle, we are to preach a gospel that will condemn the dead in the world

Heb 11:7 By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he **condemned the world...**

1Pe 2:15 ...that **with well doing ye may put to silence** the ignorance of **foolish men:**

1Pe 3:16 ...that...**they may be ashamed that falsely accuse** your good conversation...

Mat 5:14 Ye are the light of the world...

Joh 3:19 And **this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world**, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

C. The gospel savour is different in the spiritually dead and the spiritually alive

Mat 5:13 Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour ...

2Co 2:15 For we are unto God a sweet savour of Christ, in them that are saved, and in them that perish:

2Co 2:16 To the one *we are* the savour of death unto death; and to the other the savour of life unto life...

VII. We are to live a gospel that would be a guide to the dead who might become quick

1Pe 4:6 For for this cause was the gospel preached also to them that are dead, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh, but live according to God in the spirit.

A. We declare the gospel by shining the light we have been made to be

1Pe 2:9 But ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

B. Our godly living is to be the light that would guide those God quickens

1Pe 2:12 Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by *your* good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation.

C. Jesus is the one who visits the dead and quickens them

1Pe 2:25 For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.

D. Our godly living is the light that guides those Jesus quickens to real Christianity

1Pe 3:1 Likewise, ye wives, *be* in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives;

1Pe 3:2 While they behold your chaste conversation *coupled* with fear...

1Pe 3:4 ...a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.