
1 Peter 2:1-12

(Basic Bible in English)

These next 3 chapters are called "The Suffering Chapters" because they speak a great deal of suffering and how we should deal with it as Christians who are living in a world that's lost, dying, dark and bad things go on everyday. We are living in a darkening world that is demonically inspired, and the end of the age is approaching as evidenced by what's going on in the world-politically, socially, environmentally... These chapters talk about the trials and tribulations that we meet in our daily lives.

1 ¶ Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings, Peter says he wants us as Christians to lay aside all malice, or congealed anger; guile, or using cleverness and lies to get even or make a good impression; hypocrisies, or portraying something that is not real or saying one thing and doing the opposite; envy, or wanting what others have; and evil speakings, or slander. Don't say bad untrue things about others, don't commit character assassination on those around you or anybody for that matter. As we grow as Christians we are to get rid of these things.

2 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: After you get saved, you should be desiring to read the bible, because it is the food that will feed our spirit and allow us to grow as Christians. Don't let your bible sit around your house on a pedestal or on a shelf gathering dust; get it out and study it everyday. A little bit everyday, with a prayer before for God to show you what you need to know and what He wants you to learn, will feed your spirit and help you grow as a Christian.

3 If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

4 ¶ To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious, Christ is the chief cornerstone, the foundation that we live on and base our eternal life on.


5 Ye also, as lively (living) stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. Just as the old priesthood offered sacrifices to God, our lives are our sacrifice and offering to God.

6 Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion (Jerusalem) a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded. This verse is a direct quote from Isaiah 28. Don't be confused by what's going on in the world, God is in control and His will is going to be done at all times.

7 Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, if you reject the cornerstone, you'll be in trouble.

8 And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed. When you reject the cornerstone, you trip over it and it will eventually crush you. You're going to meet Jesus Christ one day in the future, either as a saved child of His or as a nonbeliever. He will judge everyone who ever lived, and either you get eternal life in heaven with Him, or you get eternal life in hell. Teachers of the bible, and religious leaders, are going to be judged harsher than non-teachers because teachers lead people to Jesus Christ and help others grow in Christian-hood.

9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar (special, chosen) people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light: this is what we're really all about here. We are a privileged generation of people. We are the first generation to have the full word of God like the old Levitical priests did. When we become a Christian, we are on a mission in our own backyard, at work, at the grocery store...we are to live an example of the Christian way and tell others about the word of God in a way that they will listen, not be repelled by force-feeding them God's word. Actions speak louder than words, and when people see you living the way of God, they will get curious and want to know how you do it, what you're doing, and ask you about it. That's when you start with the word of God and the love and mercy and grace of Jesus Christ.



10 Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.

11 Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul; notice the connotation here: we are being begged to not put our roots down in this world like its all there is. It's not. Our permanent home is in heaven. We are to be just like travelers...keep moving, don't stop here, take a look at the scenery and go right on through. We are to stay away from all fleshly things: sex outside of marriage, material goods like big mansions and fancy cars, etc. These fleshly lusts war against our spirit, and they are demonically driven to break us and take us down. Satan knows us and is constantly probing us to see where we're weak, where he can get in there and do his damage. We are constantly in the frontline war zone, the prize being our soul.

12 Having your conversation (behaviour) 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. Peter makes a reference to something that was going on in the world then. The Roman Empire was looking at the behavior of the Christians. Investigators went out and reported back to the Emperor and told him that Christians are strange; they help each other, they care more for others than themselves, and nobody else in the world was like that at that time.