

## 1 PETER CHAPTER 5 – Shepherd the Flock; Submit to God; Resist the Devil; Farewell and Peace

### OBSERVATION

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221; email – [ptwente@gmail.com](mailto:ptwente@gmail.com) For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: [www.ptwente.com](http://www.ptwente.com) Click on “Latest Studies” on the right side. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.

### INTERPRETATION

### APPLICATION

#### INTRODUCTION TO 1 PETER:

**Persecution can cause either growth or bitterness** in the Christian life. **Response determines the result!** The Epistle of Peter is the fulfillment of the commission given to Peter by Christ in Lk. 22:31-32. Compare 1 Pet. 1 with Jas. 1:1. Peter was a minister of the circumcision (Gal. 2:9), so he writes to the dispersed Jews (1:1). He is the apostle of hope: 1:3,7,9,12, 3:9-15; 4:13; 5:4. Like Paul, Peter sets forth the doctrines of grace. There are a number of parallels in his letter to the words of the Lord recorded in the Gospels; also there are resemblances between the language of this Epistle and the speeches of Peter in Acts.

First Peter was written from Babylon (5:13). Geographical notations in 1:1 agree with Babylon as the center of writing; however, many understand the name to be a symbol of Rome. The letter is addressed to Hebrew Christians (cp. 4:3 with 1:1), with wider application to all believers in Christ.

The purpose of the Epistle is exhortation and testimony. The key thought is the suffering of the Christian. Peter pleads for steadfastness in time of suffering. In the light of the believer's hope in the resurrected Redeemer. The Epistle is full of exhortations to godly living, and is replete with quotations from and allusions to the OT.

First Peter may be divided as follows:

Introduction, 1:1-2.

Christian Suffering and Conduct in the Light of Complete I Salvation, 1:3-2:8.

II Christian Life in View of the Believer's Position and the Vicarious Suffering of Christ, 2:9-4:19.

**III Christian Service in the Light of the Coming of Christ, 5:1-9.**

**Conclusion, 5:10-14.**

#### Background Chapters 1-4

**1 PETER CHAPTER 1 – Greeting to the Elect Pilgrims; A Heavenly Inheritance; Living Before God Our Father; The Enduring Word**

**1 PETER CHAPTER 2 – The Enduring Word; The Chosen Stone and His Chosen People; Living Before the World; Submission to Government; Submission to Masters**

**1 PETER CHAPTER 3 – Submission to Husbands; A Word to Husbands; Called to Blessing; Suffering for Right and Wrong; Christ's Suffering and Ours**

**1 PETER CHAPTER 4 – Christ's Suffering and Ours; Serving for God's Glory; Suffering for God's Glory**

#### Introduction

We're not sure that Peter knew that he would write 2nd Peter at this point. He began this epistle by presenting our living hope about the coming of Christ; our relationship to government, employers, husbands to wives, suffering. Then an exhortation to the church and to the elders; then a final exhortation to everyone.

#### Chapter Five - Shepherd the Flock; Submit to God; Resist the Devil; Farewell and Peace

How To Be A Good Shepherd *1Pe 5:1-4*

Times of persecution demand that God's people have adequate spiritual leadership. If judgment is to begin at God's house (*1Pe 4:17*), then that house had better be in order, or it will fall apart! This explains why Peter wrote this special message to the leaders of the church, to encourage them to do their work faithfully. Leaders who run away in times of difficulty are only proving that they are hirelings and not true shepherds (*Joh 10:12-14*). The New Testament assemblies were organized under the leadership of elders and deacons (*1Ti 3:1-16*). The words “elder” and “bishop” refer to the same office (*Act 20:17, Act 20:28*). The word “bishop” is often translated “overseer” (see *1Pe 5:2*, and note that this title is applied to Christ in *1Pe 2:25*). “Elder” refers to the maturity of the officer, and “bishop” to the responsibility of the office. The word “pastor” (which means “shepherd”) is another title for this same office (*Eph 4:11*). The elders were appointed to office (*Act 14:23*, where the verb “ordain” means “to appoint by the raising of hands”). Apparently each congregation had the privilege of voting on qualified men. Peter was concerned that the leadership in the local churches be at its best. When the fiery trial would come, the believers in the assemblies would look to their elders for encouragement and direction. What are the personal qualities that make for a successful pastor? From Grace To Glory!

*1Pe 5:5-14*

Peter knew that a “fiery trial” was about to occur, and he wanted the entire church family to be prepared. As he closed his letter, Peter gave the church three important admonitions to obey if they were to glorify God in this difficult experience.

#### CROWNS

***The Crown of Rejoicing – (1Th 2:19-20)*** For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Is it not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming? [20] For you are our glory and joy. – **the crown for soul winners!**

***The Crown of Righteousness (2Ti 4:7-8)*** Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing. – Those who say, “it could be today!” **Those waiting, praying for His second coming with expectancy!**  
***The Crown of Life (Jas 1:12)*** Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has **promised to those who love Him. Do you love Him? Is He the love of your life? I need to love Him!** – that's where life is found-in Him!

***The Crown of Glory (1Pe 5:2-4)*** Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; [3] nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock; [4] and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away. - for those who are faithful to serving. Glory – Weightiness! Substance! Heavy! **The service we give to Him – worship, serving Him!**

***The Incorruptible Crown – (1 Cor. 9:25)*** And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown. - **Given to those who run the race with discipline!** They live their life in moderation. Running to run the race-to lay aside everything that hinders us or slows us down! Strip away everything that slows me down in running the race for Him!

***The Crown of Life - (Rev 2:10)*** Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life. **For those who are martyred.**

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### INTERPRETATION

### APPLICATION

#### 1 PETER CHAPTER 5 – Shepherd the Flock - Elders should be faithful shepherds;

*1Pe 5:1 The elders who are among you I exhort, I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that will be revealed:*

*1Pe 5:2 Shepherd (tend, feed) the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly;*

*1Pe 5:3 nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock;*

*1Pe 5:4 and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.*

#### Submit to God, Resist the Devil;

*1Pe 5:5 Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed (girded) with humility, for "GOD RESISTS THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE."*

**v. 1** The apostle Peter does not command, but exhorts. He does not claim power to rule over all pastors and churches. It was the peculiar honor of Peter and a few more, to be witnesses of Christ's sufferings; but it is the privilege of all true Christians to partake of the glory that shall be revealed. (*Mt. 17:1-9*)

**v. 2** These poor, dispersed, suffering Christians, were the flock of God, redeemed to God by the great Shepherd, living in holy love and communion, according to the will of God. *Dishonest gain... Tim. 3:3; Titus 1:7.* Billy Graham identified three problems - Pride, money, women. *John 21:15-17*

**v. 3** They are also dignified with the title of God's heritage or clergy; his peculiar lot, chosen for his own people, to enjoy his special favor, and to do him special service

**v. 4** Christ is the chief Shepherd of the whole flock and heritage of God. And all faithful ministers will receive a crown of unfading glory, infinitely better and more honorable than all the authority, wealth, and pleasure of the world. This may have seemed to Peter like a family reunion – John is still alive; but James is gone; Thomas is gone, Matthew is gone. Many who were with the disciples would have been no longer alive. The Good Shepherd gives His life for the sheep—that is seen in *Psalms 22*. The Great Shepherd watches over the sheep—that is seen in *Psalms 23*. In *Psalms 24* He is the Chief Shepherd who is coming again. Some day our Chief Shepherd is going to appear, and He will still have with Him His flock, and we will be members of that flock. How wonderful this is! (*Crowns* – see pg. 1). The **glorious condition of blessedness into which is appointed and promised that true Christians shall enter after their Savior's return from heaven**

**v. 5** Humility preserves peace and order in all Christian churches and societies; pride disturbs them. Where God gives grace to be humble, he will give wisdom, faith, and holiness. To be humble, and subject to our reconciled God, will bring greater comfort to the soul than the gratification of pride and ambition. *Joh 13:3-4* Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God, [4] rose from supper and laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself

*Mat 26:33* Peter answered and said to Him, "Even if all are made to stumble because of You, I will never be made to

**v. 1** Although we were not eye witnesses to the sufferings of Christ and to a partaker of His glory, shone on the Mount of Transfiguration, **are you close enough, through your faith and knowledge of the Scriptures, to be a witness to others of the sufferings of Christ?** To the glory that will be revealed at His Second Coming?

**v. 2** Remembering Peter's denial and Jesus' restoration to Peter, now as a fellow elder, do you understand his exhortation that **the most important function of an elder is to tend, to feed the flock of God?** Are you involved in any part of that ministry?

**v. 3** The flock here, is being identified as belonging to God. Do you look at your ministry as your own or as that of belonging to God? Is your life a Godly example for others?

**v. 4** What is the *crown of glory*? The Crown of Glory (*1Pe 5:2-4*) Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; [3] nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock; [4] and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away. - for those who are faithful to serving. Glory – Weightiness! Substance! Heavy! The service we give to Him – worship, serving Him! Will you, will I, receive this crown? This faithful ministers shall receive at the hands of the chief Shepherd, as a gift of His, as a reward of grace; when they have finished their work, they will enter into the joy of their Lord, and **shine as the stars for ever and ever**; they shall reign with Christ, as kings, on a throne of glory, wearing a crown of glory, and enjoying a kingdom and glory to all eternity.

**v. 5** Remembering how that in *John 13*, when Jesus knowing that He had all power, humbled Himself, laid aside His garments and did the most lowly task, that of washing the disciples feet! How humble are we? Is it conceivable that we would ever willing do what Jesus did? **Do you want God to resist you or to give you His grace?**

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### INTERPRETATION

### APPLICATION

**1Pe 5:6** *Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time.*

**1Pe 5:7** *casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.*

**1Pe 5:8** ***Be sober** (watchful, alert), **be vigilant**; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.*

**1Pe 5:9** *Resist him, steadfast in the faith (the faith completed by Him), knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.*

**1Pe 5:10** *But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while (a limitation, a short while), perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you.*

**1Pe 5:11** *To Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.*

**v. 6** But it is to be in due time; not in thy fancied time, but God's own wisely appointed time. Does He wait, and will you not? What difficulties will not the firm belief of his wisdom, power, and goodness get over! Then be humble under His hand.

**v. 7** *Casting “all your care;”* personal cares, family cares, cares for the present, and cares for the future, for yourselves, for others, for the church, on God. These are burdensome, and often very sinful, when they arise from unbelief and distrust, when they torture and distract the mind, unfit us for duties, and hinder our delight in the service of God. The remedy is, to cast our care upon God, and leave every event to his wise and gracious disposal. Firm belief that the Divine will and counsels are right, calms the spirit of a man. Truly the godly too often forget this, and fret themselves to no purpose. Refer all to God's disposal. The golden mines of all spiritual comfort and good are wholly his, and the Spirit itself. Then, will he not furnish what is fit for us, if we humbly attend on him, and lay the care of providing for us, upon his wisdom and love?

**v. 8** The whole design of Satan is to devour and destroy souls. He always is contriving whom he may ensnare to eternal ruin. Our duty plainly is, to be sober; to govern both the outward and the inward man by the rules of temperance. To be **vigilant**; **suspicious of constant danger from this spiritual enemy**, **watchful and diligent to prevent his designs**.

**v. 9** Be steadfast, or solid, by faith, not yours, but in the Christian faith! A man cannot fight upon a quagmire, there is no standing without firm ground to tread upon; this faith alone furnishes. It lifts the soul to the firm advanced ground of the promises, and fixes it there. The consideration of what others suffer, is proper to encourage us to bear our share in any affliction; and in whatever form Satan assaults us, or by whatever means, we may know that our brethren experience the same.

**vs. 10-11** In conclusion, the apostle prays to God for them, as the God of all grace. Perfect implies their progress towards perfection. Stablish imports the curing of our natural lightness and inconstancy. Strengthen has respect to the growth of graces, especially where weakest and lowest. Settle signifies to fix upon a sure foundation, and may refer to Him who is the Foundation and Strength of believers.

**v. 6** Are you aware of the **connection between humbling yourselves under the mighty hand of God and His exalting you in due time?**

**v. 7** How readily do you cast **all** your care, past, present and future, upon Him? How often after casting your care on Him, do you take it back?

**v. 8** Satan must ask permission from our Savior, He doesn't have free reign, but he wants to see you defeated! He is our adversary, our opponent in the courtroom. He is the accuser of the brethren! But every category is covered by His blood! But can you see you're not what you used to be!

**v. 9** Satan loves to get you thinking that no one else is experiencing the sufferings that you are. But do you know that the same sufferings are experienced by believers throughout the whole world?

**v. 10** Wow! Can you grasp this awesome promise? The God of all grace, who called us, will perfect, complete, establish, strengthen and settle you? Walk thankfully and joyfully in this promise! **Joh 17:24** *"Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.*

**v. 11** Yes, may we indeed give Him all glory and dominion forever and ever!

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#### Farewell and Peace

*1Pe 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.*

*1Pe 5:13 She who is in Babylon, elect together with you, greets you; and so does Mark my son.*

*1Pe 5:14 Greet one another with a kiss of love. Peace to you all who are in Christ Jesus. Amen.*

vs. 12-14 These expressions show that perseverance and progress in grace are first to be sought after by every Christian. The power of these doctrines on the hearts, and the fruits in the lives, showed who are partakers of the grace of God. The cherishing and increase of Christian love, and of affection one to another, is no matter of empty compliment, but the stamp and badge of Jesus Christ on his followers. Others may have a false peace for a time, and wicked men may wish for it to themselves and to one another; but theirs is a vain hope, and will come to nothing. All solid peace is founded on Christ, and flows from him.

v. 12 In summing up his message, Peter, acknowledging his faithful brother Silvanus, probably the one we know as Silas, exhorts us one last time **to understand and recognize the true grace of God in which you stand?** Do you understand and recognize that? - We must understand not only what God's grace is, **but that grace is our place of present standing** before Him.

v. 13 Whether or not Peter is identifying the church as being in the actual city of Babylon or another in a symbolic sense, Rome, really doesn't impact the message of his epistle. May we focus on the message and not be too concerned what is meant by "Babylon".

v. 14 Are you in Christ Jesus? Do you have peace in Him?

**O Come All Ye Faithful** – John Wade - sung Susan Boyle/Elvis Presley

*O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold Him Born the King of angels; O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.  
Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation, Sing, all ye citizens Of heaven above;  
Glory to God, Glory in the highest; O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.*

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