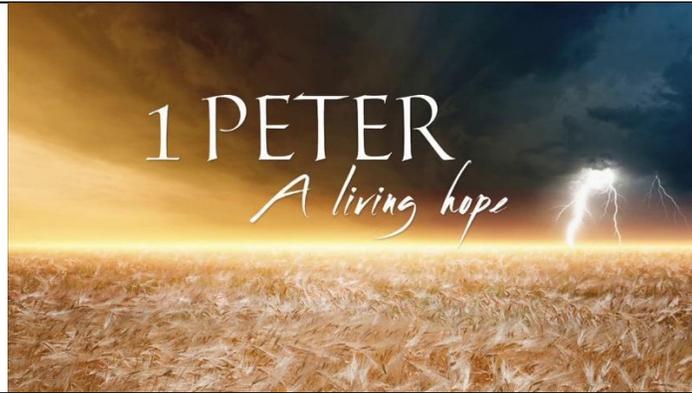


1 Peter

a living hope

16 May 2021

1 Peter 2:11-25



Text

| V | NIV | ESV |
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| 11 | Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. | Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. |
| 12 | Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us. | Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation. |
| 13 | Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, | Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, |
| 14 | or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. | or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. |
| 15 | For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people. | For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. |
| 16 | Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves. | Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. |
| 17 | Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor. | Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor. |
| 18 | Slaves, in reverent fear of God submit yourselves to your masters, not only to those who are good and considerate, but also to those who are harsh. | Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust. |
| 19 | For it is commendable if someone bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because they are conscious of God. | For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. |
| 20 | But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. | For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. |
| 21 | To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. | For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. |
| 22 | "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." [Isaiah 53:9] | He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. |
| 23 | When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. | When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. |
| 24 | He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed." | He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. |
| 25 | For "you were like sheep going astray," [Isaiah 53:4,5,6] but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls. | For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls. |

Group Discussion

- In **verse 11** Peter says that “*sinful desires... wage war against your soul.*”
 - In what way do they do this?
 - What is the counter to this this (**verse 12**)?
 - Notice that Peter says “*though they accuse of doing wrong*”. You will be accused one way or the other. So why live good lives?
 - Why does Peter remind them again that they are as “*foreigners and exiles*”, sojourners? What is the significance of this? Do you see yourself as strangers in this world or at home in this world? Why is this important?
- In **verses 13-20** Peter writes about submission to human authority.
 - Roman slaves had more rights than American slavery.
 - Why does Peter address this issue of submission to authority?
 - In what way(s) does our actions impact our witness?
 - Why does Peter mention several levels of authority?
 - What is difficult about this? What aspect of this do you struggle with?
 - You might also want to read **Romans 13:1-7**.
 - How does this relate to the current lockdown, stay-at-home order in Ontario and the actions of, churches like the Aylmer Church of God?
 - How do we know when to submit and when to resist?
 - Peter sums this up by four injunctions in **verse 17**. Why do you think this is important?
- In **verses 21-25** Peter points to Jesus as our example. He quotes **Isaiah 53:4-9**.
 - In what sense is Jesus our example?
 - Why does Peter highlight this? Of what significance would this be for 1st century believers?
 - Looking at **verse 24**, what do these phrases mean?
 - (a) die to sins
 - (b) live for righteousness
 - (c) by his wounds you have been healedDoes it mean what people often think it means? i.e. there is healing in the atonement, often used as an almost expected result?

Praying For One Another

Pray that each one in your group be aware of the implications of living out these questions.

This Week

- Read 1 Peter 3 in preparation for next week