

I Peter – Chapter Three

Chapter Two

v.21-25 - This last verses in chapter two point to Jesus as our primary example of the way we should be willing to suffer for God. Jesus died for our sins although he himself had no sin. v.23) reviled but did not revile, suffered, but did not threaten. He bore our sins, healed us with his stripes and brought us back to God as the Shepherd and Bishop of our souls. These verses parallel Isaiah 53, the suffering servant. We, then, should FOLLOW HIS STEPS.

Chapter Three

v.1-7 –CONDUCT in Marriage: Women should be subject to their husbands, being concerned with their inner beauty more than with their outer. That by their respectful and humble conduct, they would even draw an unsaved husband to the Lord (or help bring a saved one even closer to the Lord). Meek and quiet spirit is of great price in the sight of God. HUSBANDS should first submit themselves to their wives, making decisions for the good of the marriage and home. He must honor her, always aware that she is the weaker vessel in physical strength. (?WHAT WOULD BE THE CONSIDERATIONS HERE?). Understanding they are heirs together of the grace of life, that his prayers be not hindered.

v.8-12 – CONDUCT with the brethren and in life in general. With the brethren, submitting to one another, compassionate, tenderhearted (pitiful), full of love, courteous. Not revengeful, but on the contrary, giving good for evil, blessing as we have been blessed. Verses 10 to 12 are quotes from Psalm 34:13-17, which show us what our general conduct should be in the world. We follow peace with all men. This ends the verses on conduct which began in Chapter 2:11 and ends with Chapter 3:12

SUFFERING

v.13,14 – Who would harm you if you follow that which is good, but should you suffer for righteousness sake, rejoice and don't be afraid or troubled. Have no fear of your persecutors, honor and reverence the Lord, who always is our help, and be ready to give answer for the hope that is in you. Persecution just may be the opportunity to testify, in word or in behavior. In meekness and reverence (not in arrogance; Remember Moses hitting the rock to give children of Israel water. God said he did not sanctify Him in the eyes of the people – Numbers 20:10-12)

V.16-18 – Having a good conscience, knowing we've behaved correctly. Better to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. God will vindicate and those who spoke evil of you will be ashamed. Remember Christ's example: the just one suffered for the unjust, put to death in the flesh but raised to life by the Spirit. (Even if wicked men put you to death, you have the hope of the resurrection).

v.19-22 – Jesus, resurrected preaches, but maybe better yet announces to spirits his victory. Arc likened to baptism. All things are subject to the resurrected Lord, Jesus Christ.