
holy living in troubled times

1 PETER



faithchurch
STATESVILLE

holy living in your house

1 peter 2-3

foundations

- Government
 - How do Christians respond to a corrupt dictatorship?
- Slaves/Masters
 - How do we respond when living and working conditions are abysmal?
- Family
 - At the most basic level, how do we live?

holy living

- Purity – God is fully and completely pure and any holy living we walk in, comes from Him.
- Presence – God always wanted His presence to be among His people. We are holy because He is in us.
- Power – The power of God both compels us and equips us to live holy lives.

1 peter 2:13-3:12

Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.

1 peter 2: 1-17

Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust. For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. 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. 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.

1 peter 2: 1-17

He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. 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. 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. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

1 peter 2: 1-17

Likewise, wives, be subject to your own husbands, so that even if some do not obey the word, they may be won without a word by the conduct of their wives, when they see your respectful and pure conduct. Do not let your adorning be external—the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear—but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious. For this is how the holy women who hoped in God used to adorn themselves, by submitting to their own husbands, as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord. And you are her children, if you do good and do not fear anything that is frightening.

1 peter 2: 1-17

Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.

Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind. Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing. For

1 peter 2: 1-17

*“Whoever desires to love life
and see good days,
let him keep his tongue from evil
and his lips from speaking deceit;
let him turn away from evil and do good;
let him seek peace and pursue it.
For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,
and his ears are open to their prayer.
But the face of the Lord is against those who do
evil.”*

unjust oppression

- Peter tells Christians to honor the emperor that will end up killing them.
 - He does not advocate to take up arms against their government.
- Peter does not seek to overthrow the governmental or societal structures, but rather to endure them when they bring suffering.
 - He does not advocate for abolishing slavery.
- He trusts the expansion of the kingdom of God to affect radical change.

suffering

- While Peter is zeroing in on slaves and masters, he ties unjust suffering to Christ's unjust suffering.
 - This makes it applicable to all Christians, since we are all in Christ.
- Suffering in the NT:
 - Not suffering that happens because we live in a fallen world. (getting a ticket, car accident, stubbed toe, etc)
 - Not sickness or infirmity.

suffering

- Suffering in the NT is framed by two things:
 - The physical nature of it.
 - The fact that it is unjust suffering for the cause of the kingdom.
- Because unjust suffering is tied to Christ, then we should respond the way that Christ did. (v.22-23)
 - We do not insult
 - We do not threaten people
 - We trust that God will do what is right

guidelines for wives

- Make your opinion known, if necessary, but do not be the Holy Spirit for your husband.
 - *v.3:1-2: Likewise, wives, be subject to your own husbands, so that even if some do not obey the word, they may be won without a word by the conduct of their wives, when they see your respectful and pure conduct.*
- When a husband is not living up to his God-ordained role the Holy Spirit will convict.

guidelines for wives

- You are beautiful, but that's not what it's all about.
 - v. 3: *Do not let your adorning be external—the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear—*
- Cultivate the spirit-woman (Holy Spirit) in your life.
 - v.4: *but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious.*

guidelines for wives

- Respect your husbands.
 - v.6: *as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord. And you are her children, if you do good and do not fear anything that is frightening.*
- It takes a powerful work of Holy Spirit grace to respect a spiritually floundering husband.

guidelines for husbands

- Live in an understanding way.
- Show them honor.
- Keep the communication lines with the Father open and available.
- *v.7: Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.*

bles to be blessed

- **1 Peter 3:8–9:** *Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind. Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing.*
- There is a light at the end of the tunnel.
- **Philippians 1:6:** *And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.*

reflection

- At the most basic level, what does Christ suffering mean for you?
- If you are married, where is the struggle that God wants to step into with you?
- There is light at the end of the tunnel.