

## I. INTRODUCTION.

-  A. Scripture text: **1Peter 5:6-11.**  
Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, [7] casting all your anxiety upon Him, because He cares for you. [8] Be of sober *spirit*, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls about like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. [9] But resist him, firm in *your* faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world. [10] And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen *and* establish you. [11] To Him *be* dominion forever and ever. Amen.
- B. This lesson brings my series over 1Peter to a close. Unfortunately I will not be able to continue into the book of 2Peter as I had hoped.
- C. In this final section of the epistle Peter tells of the need for faithfulness in leadership and how suffering can be productive in our overcoming of the devil.

## II. A CALL TO FAITHFULNESS.

-  A. The text: 1Pet. 5:1-4.  
Therefore, I exhort the elders among you, as *your* fellow elder and witness of the sufferings of Christ, and a partaker also of the glory that is to be revealed, [2] shepherd the flock of God among you, exercising oversight not under compulsion, but voluntarily, according to *the will of* God; and not for sordid gain, but with eagerness; [3] nor yet as lording it over those allotted to your charge, but proving to be examples to the flock. [4] And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.
- B. One very important thing that will help the brethren be faithful in the midst of suffering is a committed and active eldership. Peter encourages his fellow elders to do their ministry.
- C. The word 'elder' here more than likely denotes the office of a pastor. But the greater context is also showing that the older men are to be examples for the younger so that all will remain faithful.
- D. This section of Scripture uses all three words in the NT for the office of an elder:
1. *Presbuteros* -- a presbyter or elder.
  2. *Episokopos* -- an overseer or bishop.
  3. *Poimen* -- a pastor, or shepherd.
- E. the example for all elders (shepherds) is the Chief Shepherd, JC:
1. He is the good shepherd who dies (Jn. 10:11).  
"I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.
  2. He is the great shepherd who is raised (Heb. 13:20).  
Now the God of peace, who brought up from the dead the great Shepherd of the sheep through the blood of the eternal covenant, *even* Jesus our Lord,
  3. He is the chief shepherd who will return again (1Pet. 5:4).  
And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.
- F. Elders, and all faithful Xians, will receive their crown of glory when Jesus returns (5:4; 2Tim. 4:8).  
in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.

## III. THE VICTORY OVER SATAN THROUGH HUMILITY.

-  A. The text: 1Pet. 5:5-7.  
You younger men, likewise, be subject to your elders; and all of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for **GOD IS OPPOSED TO THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE.** [6] Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, [7] casting all your anxiety upon Him, because He cares for you.
- B. Younger men (and women) are to be subject to the older men.
- C. The wisdom of the aged (physically and spiritually) is invaluable in handling the problems of life.

- D. The word 'casting' in 5:7 is in the aorist tense, meaning a once, and for all action. Xians are to cast, once, and for all, all their cares on the Lord and then walk away from them.

#### IV. THE VICTORY OVER SATAN THROUGH SUFFERING.

-  A. The text: 1Pet. 5:8-11.  
*Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls about like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. [9] But resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world. [10] And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you. [11] To Him be dominion forever and ever. Amen.*
- B. Xians are to be sober in spirit and on the alert. The devil prowls like a lions seeking to devour.
- C. But the command of 5:9 is to resist him. Resist the devil just as their fellow brethren all over the world are doing.
- D. The promise is that once the suffering has ended, God will bless (5:10). Blessings include being:
1. Perfect (mature or complete).
  2. Confirmed (deep-rooted).
  3. Strengthened (powerful).
  4. Established (reputable, time-honored).
- E. Suffering and the devil will be defeated, it is God who has the dominion forever (5:11).

#### V. FINAL REMARKS.

-  A. The text: 1Pet. 5:12-14.  
*Through Silvanus, our faithful brother (for so I regard him), I have written to you briefly, exhorting and testifying that this is the true grace of God. Stand firm in it! [13] She who is in Babylon, chosen together with you, sends you greetings, and so does my son, Mark. [14] Greet one another with a kiss of love. Peace be to you all who are in Christ.*
- B. Silvanus is Peter's scribe. Peter testifies that what he writes is the true grace of God.
- C. More than likely Peter's reference to Babylon is a figurative way to speak of Rome.
- D. The 'she' is the church that meets there.
- E. Peter's final words of encouragement are for the brethren to:
1. Stand firm in the grace of God (see 5:12).
  2. Greet one another with love (see 5:14).
  3. May the peace of X be with them (see 5:14).

#### VI. CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

-  A. A brief recap of 1Peter as we bring this lesson to a close:
1. Chapter 1: Xians have a great salvation, inheritance, and hope.
  2. Chapter 2: Xians have a great spiritual standing in the church with God.
  3. Chapter 3: Xians are to show submission to the government, in the home, and in the church.
  4. Chapter 4: X's victory over suffering is our victory over suffering and sin.
  5. Chapter 5: Xians can overcome Satan by enduring through their suffering--God will bless.
- B. Revelation 1:9a is applicable.  
*I, John, your brother and fellow partaker in the tribulation and kingdom and perseverance which are in Jesus,...*  
What is in Christ?:
1. Tribulation.
  2. The kingdom.
  3. The perseverance.
- C. Get out of Jesus and you lose your salvation. Stay in Jesus, with its tribulation, and you will also find perseverance (1Pet. 4:19).  
*Therefore, let those also who suffer according to the will of God entrust their souls to a faithful Creator in doing what is right.*
- D. Plan of salvation for non-Xians, erring Xians.