

1 Peter 4:7-11 – Beatify: Glorify God In Your Doing!

Intro:

1. Peter's Direction: Hope in the Midst of Suffering for Righteousness Sake
2. 1 Peter 4:1 – It is Better to Suffer than to Sin
3. Christian attitudes, speech, and deeds are to be adopted

The Chief Truth of 1 Peter 4:7-11

Christians glorify God in these last days by God's grace, power, and Word in their resolve to have a clear prayerful mind, an earnest love for others, and contented service within the church.

A Critical Hour: A Church That Is Alertly Prepared (v 7a)

1. 1 Peter was written appx 63-4 A.D. Was Peter Wrong?
2. What does, "*The end of all things is at hand*" mean?
3. There will be an End of things as we Know It
 - a. History will be consummated, completed (**1 Cor 7**)
 - b. Eastern Religion: Life is Cyclical, Reincarnated
 - c. Secularists: Life will end in Extinction
 - d. Bible: Linear Conclusion → New Heavens & Earth
4. The End is Near/At Hand
 - a. Scoffers will come and ask where the Lord is (**2 Pet 3:4**)
 - b. Is Jesus' Return Imminent, or do other events have to occur first? (**Luke 21**)
 - i. The Great Commission Fulfilled (**Matt 24:14**)
 - ii. The trajectory of Christianity – rapid spread
 - c. God's Time Table is not Man's – only been two days to God (**2 Peter 3:8**)

A Concentrated Mind: A Church That Clearly Prays (v 7b)

1. Since it is the Last Days, Be Self-Controlled & Be Sober Minded
 - a. Opposite of 2 Peter 4:1-6 – sobriety over drunkenness, self-control over being impassioned
2. Your Prayer Life Depends on a Sound Mind (**1 Th 5:6**)
3. Peter Emphasizes a Mind Ready and Prepared throughout the Letter: (**1 Peter 1:13, 5:8-9**)
4. A Clear mind hopes in God, and is able to pray to God and resist the Devil!
5. Do not be intoxicated with the world, Be Sober to Pray

A Crucial Concern: A Church That Prizes Others (vv 8-11)

1. Earnest Love
 - a. Love Covers a Multitude of Sins
 - i. Atonement for Sins? Does our goodness cover others' sins? NO!
 - ii. Sweep Sin under the rug or turn a blind eye to sin? NO!
 - iii. When we gently confront sin, and the person repents, we love them by forgiving!
 - iv. **See Proverbs 10:12 and 17:9; James 5:20**
 - v. We do not interact with the offender on the basis of their sins, but on the basis of their repentance and our forgiveness
 - vi. Kind Love Covers Sins... (**1 Corinthians 13**)
 - b. Hospitality w/o Grumbling is Light to the World
 - i. Serving Christ by Hospitality (**Mat 25:35-40**)
 - ii. Peter's Day: No Motel 6... at mercy of the home owner
 - iii. Without Grumbling – (**2 Cor 9:7**)
 - iv. Christian had opportunity to show how great God is! (**1 Pet 2:21**)
 - v. Hospitality to Angels (**Heb 13:2**)
 - vi. We will be Repaid for our Hospitality (**Lk 14**)
 - vii. Doing Good in Peter (**2:15, 20, 3:6, 17, 4:19**) demonstrates how Great God is! (**1 Peter 2:12**)
 - viii. Grumbling makes God look bad, instead rejoice and be glad (**Philippians 2:14-15**) = salt & light
 - c. Service & Speaking in God's Grace
 - i. God's Gifts – we are stewards
 - ii. God's Oracles (His Word) in Speaking
 - iii. God's Strength (His Power) in Serving
 - iv. God-Centered & Empowered Service/Speech
2. God's Grace → Gifts → Power & Word → To Others

The Central Aim: A Church That Praises God (v 11)

1. The Aim (...so that...) of God Giving Grace for Us to Love through Word and Deed: God Gets The Glory!
2. We cannot pat ourselves on the back for a job well done
3. The Giver gets the Glory & the Receiver gets the Grace
 - a. Salvation, favor, forgiveness, empowerment, reward in heaven – hospitality from King Jesus
4. Why should God receive all the Glory in our doing?
 - a. He has all the glory and all the dominion (rule)