

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH BIBLE STUDY INSTITUTE

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**“ THE REST OF YOUR TIME “**

1 PETER 4 VS 1-6

PETER HAS A GREAT DEAL TO SAY ABOUT **TIME** ( 1 PETER 1 VS 5, 11, 17, 20; 4 VS 2-3, 17; 5 VS 6 ). CERTAINLY THE AWARENESS OF HIS OWN IMPENDING MARTYRDOM HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH HIS EMPHASIS ( JOHN 21 VS 15-19; 2 PETER 1 VS 12 ). IF A PERSON REALLY BELIEVES IN ETERNITY, THEN HE WILL MAKE THE BEST USE OF HIS TIME. IF WE ARE CONVINCED THAT JESUS IS COMING, THEN WE WILL WANT TO LIVE PREPARED LIVES. WHETHER JESUS IS COMES FIRST OR DEATH COMES FIRST, WE WANT TO MAKE “ **THE REST OF OUR TIME** “ COUNT FOR ETERNITY. AND WE CAN !

IN THESE NEXT FEW VERSES PETER DESCRIBES FOUR ATTITUDES THAT A CHRISTIAN CAN CULTIVATE IN HIS LIFETIME, IF HE DESIRES TO MAKE HIS LIFE ALL THAT GOD WANTS IT TO BE.

**I. A MILITANT ATTITUDE TOWARDS SIN** ( 4 VS 1-3 ) THE PICTURE PETER IS PAINTING IS OF A SOLDIER WHO PUTS ON HIS EQUIPMENT AND ARMS HIMSELF FOR BATTLE. OUR ATTITUDES ARE WEAPONS, WEAK OR WRONG ATTITUDES WILL LEAD US TO DEFEAT.

**NOTE: OUTLOOK DETERMINES OUTCOME**

A BELIEVER MUST HAVE THE RIGHT ATTITUDES IF HE IS TO LIVE A RIGHT LIFE. IT IS EASY FOR CHRISTIANS TO GET ACCUSTOMED TO SIN. INSTEAD OF HAVING A MILITANT ATTITUDE THAT HATES AND OPPOSES IT, WE GRADUALLY GET USED TO SIN, SOMETIMES WITHOUT EVEN REALIZING IT. THE ONE THING THAT WILL DESTROY “ THE REST OF OUR TIME “ IS SIN. A BELIEVER LIVING IN SIN IS A TERRIBLE WEAPON IN THE HANDS OF SATAN. **PETER PRESENTS SEVERAL ARGUMENTS TO CONVINC US TO OPPOSE SIN IN OUR LIVES:**

**A. THINK OF WHAT SIN DID TO JESUS** ( VS 1 ) AS WE LOOK AT THE FOLLOWING VERSES WE WILL SEE WHAT SIN DID TO JESUS :

**1 PETER 4 VS 1 , 1 PETER 2 VS 21, 1 PETER 3 VS 18** ALL OF THESE VERSES TELL US THAT JESUS :  
**SUFFERED** BECAUSE OF SIN.

**QUESTION :** HOW CAN WE ENJOY THAT WHICH MADE JESUS **SUFFER** AND **DIE ON THE CROSS**.

**EXAMPLE :** IF A CRIMINAL STABBED YOUR CHILD TO DEATH, WOULD YOU PRESERVE THE KNIFE IN A GLASS CASE ON YOUR MANTLE ? I DOUBT IT. YOU WOULD NEVER WANT TO SEE THAT KNIFE AGAIN.

**JESUS CAME TO EARTH TO DEAL WITH SIN AND TO CONQUER IT FOREVER, HE DEALT WITH THE :**

1. **IGNORANCE** - OF SIN BY TEACHING THE TRUTH AND BY LIVING IT BEFORE MENS EYES
2. **CONSEQUENCES**- OF SIN BY HEALING AND FORGIVING
3. **PENALTY**- OF SIN BY DYING ON THE CROSS

JESUS WAS ARMED WITH A **MILITANT ATTITUDE** TOWARDS SIN – EVEN THOUGH HE HAD GREAT COMPASSION FOR LOST SINNERS.

**NOTE :** OUR GOAL IS TO “ **CEASE FROM SIN** “ WE WILL NOT REACH THIS GOAL UNTIL WE DIE OR ARE CALLED HOME WHEN THE LORD RETURNS, BUT THIS SHOULD NOT KEEP US FROM STRIVING:

**READ :** ( 1 JOHN 2 VS 28- 3 VS 9 )

**B. ENJOY THE WILL OF GOD** (VS 2 ) ... THE CONTRAST IS BETWEEN THE DESIRE OF **MEN** AND THE **WILL** OF GOD. OUR LONGTIME FRIENDS CAN NOT UNDERSTAND THE CHANGE IN OUR LIVES, AND THEY WANT US TO RETURN TO LIVE HOW WE USED TO LIVE. BUT THE WILL OF GOD IS SO MUCH BETTER! IF WE DO THE WILL OF GOD THEN WE WILL **INVEST** “ THE REST OF OUR TIME “ IN THAT WHICH IS LASTING AND STAISFYING , BUT IF WE GIVE INTO THE WORLD AROUND US , WE WILL **WASTE** “ THE REST OF OUR TIME “ AND REGRET IT WHEN WE STAND BEFORE JESUS.

**THE WILL OF GOD**

1. **IT IS NOT A BURDEN THAT THE FATHER PLACES ON US**
2. **IT IS DIVINE ENJOYMENT AND ENABLEMENT THAT MAKES ALL BURDENS LIGHT**
3. **IT COMES FROM THE HEART OF GOD** –( PSALMS 33 VS 11 )
4. **IT IS AN EXPRESSION OF THE LOVE OF GOD**

**NOTE :** WE MAY NOT ALWAYS UNDERSTAND WHAT HE IS DOING , BUT WE KNOW THAT HE IS DOING WHATS BEST FOR US. WE DO NOT LIVE ON EXPLANATIONS WE LIVE ON PROMISES.

**C. REMEMBER WHAT YOU WERE BEFORE YOU MET CHRIST** ( VS 3 ) THERE ARE TIMES WHEN LOOKING BACK AT YOUR PAST LIFE WOULD BE WRONG, BECAUSE SATAN CAN USE THOSE MEMORIES TO DISCOURAGE YOU . PAUL SAY ‘S – FORGETTING WHAT IS BEHIND “ I PRESS TOWARD THE MARK “

HOWEVER SOMETIME LOOKING BACK CAN HELP YOU MOVE FORWARD

1. **ISRAEL THAT THEY WERE SLAVES IN EGYPT** \_ DUET 5 VS 15

2. **PAUL THAT HE PERSECUTED BELIEVERS** / TIM 1 VS 12

THESE THINGS ENCOURAGED PAUL TO DO EVEN MORE FOR CHRIST . THE DANGER IS THAT WE SOMETIME FORGET THE BONDAGE OF SIN AND REMEMBER ONLY THE PASSING PLEASURES OF SIN.

### **WORD STUDY**

LASCIVIOUSNESS – **DESCRIBES EVIL APPETITES AND NOT JUST SEXUAL SINS**

LUST – **DESCRIBES EVIL APPETITES AND NOT JUST SEXUAL SIN**

REVELINGS AND BANQUETINGS - **PAGAN ORGIES WHERE THE WINE FLOWED FREELY**

**NOTE:** EVEN THOUGH THESE PRACTICES WERE FORBIDDEN BY THE LAW THEY WERE OFTEN PRACTICED IN SECRET

**II. A PATIENT ATTITUDE TOWARD THE LOST** ( 4-6) UNSAVED PEOPLE DO NOT UNDERSTAND THE RADICAL CHANGE THAT THEIR FRIENDS EXPERIENCE WHEN THEY TRUST CHRIST AND BECOME CHILDREN OF GOD. THEY DO NOT THINK IT STRANGE WHEN PEOPLE WRECK THEIR BODIES, DESTROY THEIR HOMES AND RUIN THEIR LIVES BY RUNNING FROM ONE SIN TO ANOTHER ! BUT LET THE **DRUNK** BECOME **SOBER** , THE **IMMORAL** PERSON BECOME **PURE** , AND PEOPLE WILL THINK THEY HAVE LOST THEIR MIND.

**EXAMPLE :**

ACTS 26 VS 24 – **PAUL**

MARK 3 VS 21 – **JESUS**

WE MUST BE PATIENT WITH THE LOST EVEN THOUGH WE DO NOT AGREE WITH THEIR LIFESTYLES OR PARTICIPATE IN THEIR SINS.

### **WHY , SHOULD WE BE PATIENT ?**

1. **WE ONCE WERE LOST** ( EPH 2 VS 3– 4 )

2. **THEY ARE BLIND TO SPIRITUAL TRUTH** ( 2 COR 4 VS 3-4 )

3. **DEAD TO SPIRITUAL ENJOYMENT** ( EPH 2 VS 1 )

OUR CONTACT WITH THE LOST IS IMPORTANT TO THEM, SINCE WE ARE BEARERS OF THE TRUTH THAT THEY NEED. WHEN UNSAVED FRIENDS ATTACK US THIS IS OUR OPPORTUNITY TO :

1. **WITNESS** NOT ATTACK **BACK** ( I PETER 3 VS 15 )

**NOTE :** IF WE ARE GOING TO MAKE THE BEST OF OUR TIME WE MUST HAVE A  
\_\_\_\_\_ATTITUDE TOWARDS SIN AND A  
\_\_\_\_\_ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE LOST !