

Session 10 – 1 Peter 5:1-14

The Mission of Suffering Believers in the Church

*Hope in Suffering:
Studies in First Peter*
Monday, August 12, 2013
michaelg@eibibleschool.org

1. Main Themes: Humility & Grace

- **Humility** is having accurate _____. Because of sin, self-knowledge is impossible without a true knowledge of _____.
- **Grace** is God's _____ and _____ expressed towards sinners.
- **Relationship:** God is opposed to the proud but gives grace to the humble.

2. Love: Serve one another fulfilling your role (5:1-5)

Elders

- **Peter's humility:** Peter could have reminded them of his apostleship, but instead, he reminds them of his greatest _____.
- **COMMAND: "Shepherd the flock of God"** The very same charge that the risen Christ gave to Peter, he now gives to the elders. (See Ezek. 34)
 - Not unwillingly, not out of _____, but willingly
 - Not for _____ as a motive (greedily) but freely, eagerly
 - Not overpowering (exercising one's authority to one's _____) but as examples.
- **Calvin:** "In exhorting pastors to their duty, he points out three vices especially which are often to be found, namely sloth, desire for gain, and lust for power."

Young People

- **COMMAND: "Be subject to your elders"**= _____ & _____.

Everyone

- **COMMAND: "Be clothed with humility"**= Paul describes how this honest assessment will express itself in regarding others to be more _____ than ourselves (Phil 2:3).
- **Tom Schreiner:** "Humility is the _____ that allows relationships in the church to run smoothly and lovingly."

Outline for 1 Peter:

- Salutation (1:1-2)
- God's Gracious Activity in the Lives of Suffering Believers (1:3-2:10)
- The Mission of Suffering Believers in the World (2:11-4:6)
- The Mission of Suffering Believers in the Church (4:7-5:11)
 - General Strategy: Knowledge and Love (4:7-8)
 - Specific Strategy (4:9-5:11)
 - Love: Serve one another using your gifts (4:9-11)
 - Knowledge: Understand God's purpose in suffering (4:12-19)
 - **Love: Serve one another fulfilling your role (5:1-5)**
 - **Knowledge: Understand Satan's purpose in suffering (5:6-9)**
 - **The Promise of Salvation (5:10-11)**
- **Final Greeting (5:12-14)**

Notes

3. Knowledge: Understand Satan's purpose in suffering (5:6-9)

Posture towards God

- **COMMAND: "Humble yourself"** = Imperative Passive: Perhaps better translated, "Allow yourselves to be humbled..." willingly submit to God. Do not _____ God's activity in your life.

- **HOW?** "by casting"= Lay something on the _____ of another. (1 Peter 2:23; 4:19)

- **WHY?** "because he cares for you". God's mighty hand is a _____ hand. God takes _____ over that which He cares for most.

Posture towards Satan

- Peter does not dwell much on Satan and his activity. Yes, we are to be aware of the devil's _____ and his intentions and resist him, but we must understand our suffering to be coming _____ from the mighty hand of a loving Father.

- **Be sober, be on the alert (watchful)**= Note 1:13; 4:7

- Be sober in order to _____ in the second coming (1:13)

- Be sober in order to _____ (4:7)

- Be sober in order to _____ the devil (5:8-9)

- **Your adversary, the devil**= Your accuser, the _____. Behind the accusations and slander from neighbors, co-workers, family members is the devil himself.

- **COMMAND: "Resist" (antistēte)**= Stand against the devil. The authority to resist the devil depends on our _____ to God.

- **HOW?** by staying firm in faith (_____ in God).

- **WHY?** Because we know God causes all his people to experience suffering as the _____ of his objective and purpose (being accomplished- epiteleo).

4. The Promise of Salvation (5:10-11)

- **Promise:** He who began a good work will complete it. He who called you will perfect you. Listen to the fourfold promise and take courage believer:

- God himself will make you _____ (katartizo)

- God himself will make you inwardly _____ and secure (stērizo)

- God himself will _____ you (sthenōo)

- God himself will firmly _____ you (themeliōo)

The LORD said to Satan, "From where do you come?" Then Satan answered the LORD and said, "From roaming about on the earth and walking around on it."

-- Job 1:7 NASB

For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.

-- Philippians 1:6 NASB

- **Means:** How will God fulfill his promise? Not in spite of suffering but _____ suffering!

5. Final Greeting (5:12-14)

- **This is the true grace of God=** 1) that we have been _____. 2) that we will be _____, confirmed, strengthened and established through suffering. 3) that we will inherit eternal _____ in Christ.
- **Stand firm in it (stēte)=** Stand in grace. How? _____

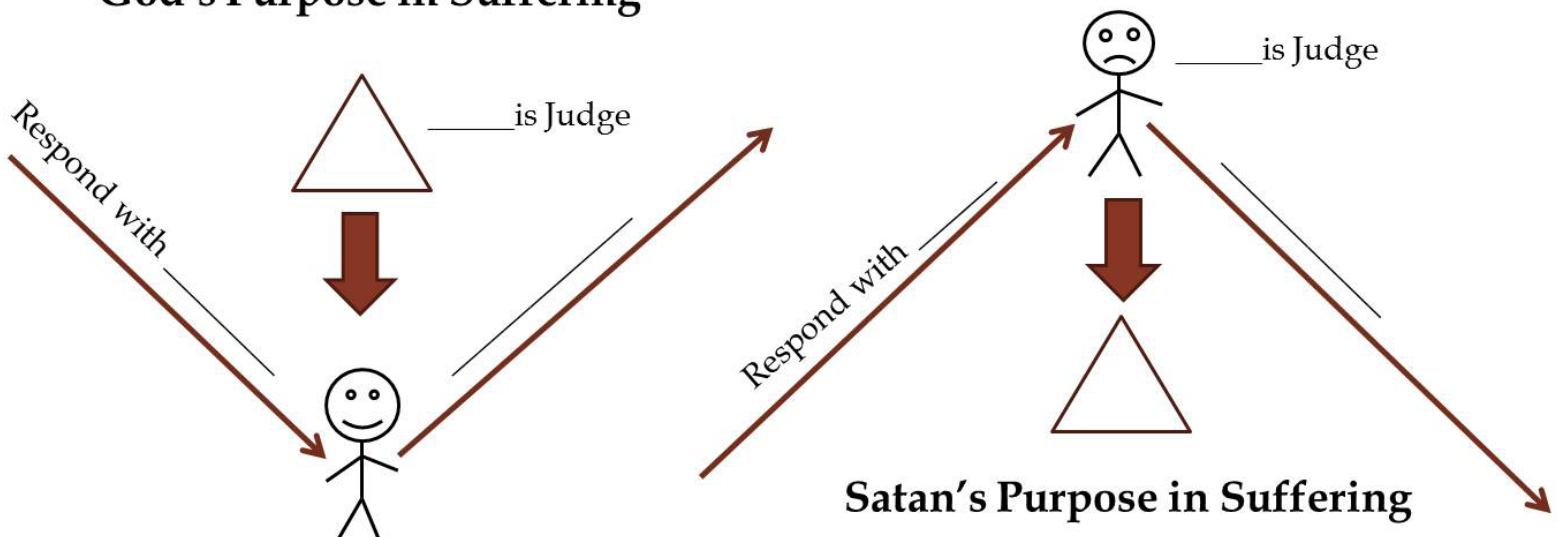
6. Conclusion:

The relationship between sin, suffering, God, and Satan

- Sin and suffering are not _____. Sin causes suffering and suffering can cause sin but suffering is not sin.
- God stands _____ sin & suffering: 1) God is sovereign, in control of it. 2) He is not the author of it.
- Satan stands _____ sin & suffering: 1) He is not sovereign. 2) Sin and resulting suffering can be traced back to him.
- Both God and Satan have an _____ when it comes to suffering:
 - Satan seeks to _____ us
 - God seeks to _____ us
- It is our posture toward _____ that determines our posture toward _____.
 - To _____ God (pride) is to forfeit grace and succumb to Satan.
 - To _____ to God (humility) is receive and stand in grace and resist the devil.

Notes

God's Purpose in Suffering



Peter's Life Experience

- Peter failed to keep _____ : **Mark 14:37**
- Peter resisted _____, not the _____ in the face of persecution: **Luke 22:49**
- Peter _____ to the lion's roar: He denied Christ three times out of fear. (Mark 14:66-72)
- Peter was _____ by Christ and _____ to:
_____ Luke 22:32 _____
John 21:16

Question for August 19

In his book *Humility: True Greatness*, C.J. Mahaney exhorts us saying, "Indeed we should strive to develop a theology of suffering ahead of time, so we're prepared for suffering and sustained through our experience of it. Because the crucial unanswered question is not whether we will suffer but how we'll respond when we suffer" (138). In light of this, what contribution does 1 Peter make to our theology of suffering?

Notes

And He came and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep watch for one hour?"

-- Mark 14:37 NASB