

“Love Lifted Me Recovery Ministries”

First Peter Bible Study — I Peter 4:1- 4 Lesson #14

****INSTRUCTIONS:** Read the entire section of Scripture in First Peter before starting to look up the other Scripture verses and filling in the blanks. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to give you understanding as you read God’s word.

1-2 Therefore, since Christ suffered for us in the flesh, **ARM YOURSELVES also with the SAME MIND**, for **he who has SUFFERED in the FLESH has CEASED from SIN**, that he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh for the lusts of men, but **for the WILL of GOD**.

•**Ephesians 6:10-18** “Finally, my brethren, be _____ in the _____, and in the power of His _____. Put on the whole _____ of God, that you may be able to _____ the wiles (tricks) of the _____. For we do _____ wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against _____ hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places (demonic forces in the atmosphere). Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having _____, to stand. Stand, therefore, having girded your waist with _____, having put on the _____ of _____, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace. Above all, taking the _____ of _____ with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take the _____ of salvation, and the _____ of the Spirit, which is the _____ of _____.”

Definition: “ARM YOURSELVES also with the SAME MIND” – This is the SAME THING as PUTTING ON the ARMOR of GOD. Basically, **the ARMOR is the KNOWLEDGE of WHO you are IN CHRIST**. You must **ARM YOURSELF with that knowledge - knowledge of your POSITION IN CHRIST and the KNOWLEDGE that you are a NEW CREATION in Christ Jesus**. In Col. 3:10 & Eph.4:23-24 is it called PUTTING ON the new man (the “new creation” that you are in Christ). The individual pieces of the armor are specific areas where **you NEED to KNOW who you are and what RESOURCES you have AVAILABLE to you in Jesus Christ**. If you do not know WHO YOU ARE as a believer in Jesus Christ, or maybe you’re just shaky on some points, you **MUST** get into the word of God and **RENEW your MIND!** There is no substitute, there is no short cut to renewing our minds with the word of God, and that is why Peter calls it **“ARMING YOURSELVES with the SAME MIND.”**

•**Colossians 3:10** “And have put on the _____ who is _____ in _____ according to the image of Him who created him.”

•**Ephesians 4:23-24** “And be _____ in the spirit of your _____; and that _____ put on the _____, which was _____ according to God, in righteousness and true holiness.”

•**I Corinthians 2:16** “For ‘Who has known the _____ of the _____ that he may instruct him?’ But _____ have the _____ of _____.”

•**Romans 12:2** “And do _____ be conformed to _____, but be _____ by the _____ of your _____, that you may prove what is that _____ and _____ and _____ will of God.”

Definition: “He who has SUFFERED in the FLESH has CEASED from SIN” – This comes after Peter has said, **“Therefore, since Christ suffered for us in the flesh.”** Wherever we see the word

“therefore” it means to look back on what was said before, so we see that Jesus was the ultimate sacrifice **as He SUFFERED according to God’s will in His own HUMAN FLESH**. We, as His followers, as Christians, must also **go through SUFFERING at various times in our lives**, some more than others. **It is that SUFFERING in OUR FLESH, as we go through “VARIOUS TRIALS and TESTINGS”, that can bring us closer to God, and can purify us from certain SINS that we have allowed to still be in our lives.** Just as Jesus’ suffering on the cross brought Him ultimate victory over Satan, our sufferings in this life can help us to draw closer to God, produce godly qualities such as the fruit of the Spirit, and overcome the devil’s work in our lives. Sometimes, our SUFFERING comes because of **“The CHASTENING of the LORD.” Chastening means discipline or correction**, as one would discipline or spank a child in order **to CORRECT the child’s behavior**. Our loving heavenly Father sometimes must take His children **“to the woodshed for a spanking” for our correction** when we are continuing in sin.

●**James 1:2-3** “My brethren, count it all _____ when you fall into various _____, knowing that the _____ of your _____ produces _____. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be _____ and _____, lacking _____.”

●**Acts 5:40-41** “And they agreed with him, and when they had called for the _____ and _____ them, they commanded that they should not _____ in the _____ of _____, and let them go. So they departed from the presence of the council, _____ that they were counted worthy to _____ shame for _____.”

●**John 16:33** “These things I have spoken unto you, that in Me you might have _____. In the world you shall have _____ (troubles, afflictions, suffering): but be of good _____; I have _____ the _____.”

●**Romans 5:3-4** “And not only that, but we also _____ in _____, knowing that tribulation _____ perseverance; and perseverance, _____; and character, hope.”

●**Hebrews 12:7-11** “If you endure _____, God deals with you as with _____; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons. Furthermore, we have had human fathers who _____ us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of (our) spirits and live? For they indeed for a few days _____ us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit (good), that we may be partakers of His _____. Now _____ chastening seems to be _____ for the present, but grievous; nevertheless, _____ it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been _____ by it.”

●**Galatians 5:22-23** “But the fruit of the Spirit is _____, joy, _____, longsuffering (PATIENCE), _____, _____, faithfulness, _____, _____. Against such there is no law.”

Definition: “VARIOUS TRIALS and TESTINGS” — “Testing” means to qualify or prove by way of being put through certain conditions or procedures, in order to determine the quality or character of something. “Trial” means a tryout or experiment to test the quality, value or usefulness of something. Machines and automobiles are put through “stress tests” to TEST and TRY them to make sure there are no problems, and that they stand up under pressure. Sometimes, **God puts US through “stress tests” that may involve SUFFERING of some kind, to TEST and TRY our faith, and to purge out our SINS and character defects, that we may escape the CORRUPTION that is in the world.**

●**I Peter 1:7** “That the genuineness of your _____, being much more precious

than gold that perishes, though it is _____ by fire, may be found to praise, honor and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ.”

● **Matthew 5:10-12** “_____ are those who are _____ for righteousness _____, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed (happy) are you when they revile and _____ you, and _____ all kinds of _____ against you falsely for My _____. _____ and be exceedingly _____, for great is your _____ in heaven, for so they _____ the prophets who were before you.”

● **Romans 5:3-5** “And not only that, but we also glory in _____, knowing that _____ produces _____; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Now hope does not disappoint, because the _____ of _____ has been poured out in our _____ by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.”

● **II Peter 1:3-4** “As His divine _____ has _____ to _____ all things that pertain to _____ and _____, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, by which have been _____ to _____ exceeding great and precious promises, that through these _____ may be _____ of the _____ nature (TO BE LIKE JESUS), having _____ the _____ that is in the world through _____.”

Definition: “Blessed is the man who ENDURES TEMPTATION – The word “temptation” in this context means **testing**, although resisting the temptation to sin can be a part of our testing that God allows in our lives. Usually, these times of “testing” include going through trials, tribulations, SUFFERING, afflictions, and sometimes persecution or sickness. **Even Jesus was tempted by Satan**, but He did not give in to the temptation, so He did not sin in any way. Jesus was the sinless Son of God - He was not being **tested by the devil** because of any sin in His life. There are times when we must go through some kind of testing or trials, the “storms of life” so to speak, but it is not necessarily because there is some sin God is purging out of our lives. **Some testings are just to teach us obedience and to trust in and depend on our Lord no matter what. They are to PREPARE us for SERVICE, a training course or “boot camp”, as we become “soldiers of Christ”.** Even Jesus, God in the flesh, had to be “perfected” **through SUFFERING in order to learn obedience**, because these were things He could not learn in the perfect environment of heaven (see Phil. 2:8).

● **Hebrews 5:8-9** “Though He was a Son, yet He _____ by the things which He _____. And having been _____, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him.”

● **Hebrews 2:10** “For it was fitting for _____, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the _____ of their salvation (that’s Jesus) _____ through _____.”

3-4 For **we have spent ENOUGH of our PAST LIFETIME in doing the WILL of the GENTILES** – when we walked in licentiousness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries. In regard to these, **they think it STRANGE that you do NOT RUN with THEM in the same flood of DISSIPATION**, speaking evil of you.

● **Romans 6:1-2** “What shall we say then? Shall we _____ in _____ that grace may abound? Certainly _____! How shall we who _____ to sin live any longer in it?”

● **Ephesians 2:3** “Among whom also we all _____ ourselves in the _____ of our _____, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the _____; and were by nature the _____ of _____, just as the others.”

• **Romans 6:15** “What then? Shall we _____ because we are not under law, but under _____? Certainly _____!”

• **I Peter 1:13-17** “Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be _____, and rest your hope fully upon the _____ that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; as _____ children, not _____ yourselves to the _____ lusts, as in your ignorance; but as He who called you is holy, you also be _____ in all your _____.”

Definition: “Spent ENOUGH of our PAST LIFETIME in doing the WILL of the GENTILES” – In this context, “Gentiles” means unbelievers. In other places in Scripture, “Gentiles” means all the people who are not Jews, but here it just means any old unbeliever. Before we came to Christ and started walking in obedience to Him, our lives were spent in “doing the will of unbelievers” and NOT in doing God’s will. Peter says here that **we have WASTED ENOUGH TIME in living in disobedience to God**, and then goes on to name a lot of the evil, sinful things we all used to do and be involved in. In Ephesians 2:1-2, we see how our past lifestyle was actually in accordance with Satan and his system of this wicked world.

• **Ephesians 2:1-2** “And you *He made alive*, who were _____ in your trespasses and sins, in which you _____ according to the course (system) of this _____, according to the _____ of the _____ of the air, the _____ who now works in the sons (children) of _____.”

• **Ephesians 5:17-18** “Therefore do not be _____, but _____ what the _____ of the _____ is. And do not be _____ with wine, in which is _____; but be _____ with the _____.”

• **Galatians 5:16** “I say then, ‘_____ in the _____, and you shall not fulfill the _____ of the _____ (the “old man”, your sinful nature).”

• **Romans 13:12-13** “The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of _____, and let us put on the armor of _____. Let us WALK (conduct our lives) properly, as in the day, _____ in _____ and _____, not in licentiousness and lewdness, not in strife and envy, but put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its _____.”

Definition: “They think it STRANGE that you do NOT RUN with THEM in the same flood of DISSIPATION” – The “they” are your old UNSAVED friends and relatives, maybe your old drug or drinking buddies. They don’t understand how you can stop doing the old destructive habits, because they don’t understand that you are a NEW CREATION in Christ Jesus. They want you to RUN WITH THEM in all the old ways of DISSIPATION. “DISSIPATION” means “to use up foolishly”, being WASTEFUL, aimless living, “extravagant pursuit of pleasure”, which is NOT a WISE use of our time here on earth. REVELRIES means WILD PARTYING and sexual immoralities, such as orgies.

Definition: “LICENTIOUSNESS” – Not obeying the rules, “lacking or deficient in discipline; without restraint, LAWLESSNESS”; “doing whatever feels good at the time.”

Definition: “SONS of DISOBEDIENCE” – According to Ephesians 2:2, the “sons of disobedience” are UNBELIEVERS; those who are still under Satan’s control, and have not been born again. In Ephesians 2:3 they are also called “children of WRATH.” Since they have NOT accepted God’s way of forgiveness for their sins, they have nothing to look forward to except the WRATH OF GOD and eternity in HELL.

• **John 3:18** “He who believes in Him (Jesus) is NOT _____; but he who does not believe is _____, because he has NOT believed

in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”

Definition: “ABOMINABLE IDOLATRIES” — An ABOMINATION is something that is detestable, DISGUSTING, hateful to God. We know from the Old Testament Scriptures especially, that IDOLATRY is disgusting to God. Whether we make idols of wood, gold or silver, or just putting other things and worldly possessions in place of God, it is all IDOLATRY and SIN in God’s eyes.