

# “Love Lifted Me Recovery Ministries”

## First Peter Bible Study — I Peter 2:11-15 Lesson #8

11-12 Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, **ABSTAIN from FLESHLY LUSTS which WAR against the SOUL**, having your **CONDUCT honorable** among the Gentiles that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, **by your GOOD WORKS which they OBSERVE, GLORIFY God** in the day of visitation.”

• **Matthew 5:16** “Let your \_\_\_\_\_ so shine before \_\_\_\_\_, that they may \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_ in heaven.”

• **Galatians 5:16-17** “I say then: ‘Walk in the \_\_\_\_\_, and you shall \_\_\_\_\_ fulfill the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_. For the flesh \_\_\_\_\_ against the \_\_\_\_\_, and the Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.’”

• **Romans 7:23** “But I see another law in my members \_\_\_\_\_ the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my \_\_\_\_\_.”

• **Romans 6:13** “And do not \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_ as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but \_\_\_\_\_ yourselves to \_\_\_\_\_ as being alive from the dead, and your \_\_\_\_\_ as \_\_\_\_\_ of righteousness to \_\_\_\_\_.”

• **James 4:1-2** “Where do \_\_\_\_\_ and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ that \_\_\_\_\_ in your members? You lust and do not have. You \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and cannot obtain. You \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. Yet you do not have because you do not ask.”

• **James 3:11-13** “Does a spring send forth fresh water and bitter from the same opening? Can a fig tree, my brethren, bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Thus no spring can yield both salt water and fresh. Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ that his \_\_\_\_\_ are done in the meekness of wisdom.”

**Definition: “Your DESIRES for PLEASURE that WAR”** – We are too quick to blame the devil for our problems many times, **rather than examining ourselves to see what EVIL still LURKS in our own SOULS and in our FLESH - the MEMBERS of our physical body.** When James speaks about the **“DESIRES for PLEASURE that WAR in your members”** he is speaking about leftovers and hangovers from our old sin nature that still reside in our fleshly body, and in our minds, if we do not renew our minds with the word of God. It is a **constant BATTLE or WAR** to keep the flesh from being in control. Yes, the devil certainly does know our weak points and what “buttons to push” in order to tempt us, and sometimes it is the “fiery darts of the evil one” (Eph. 6:16), and we must extinguish them by putting up the “shield of faith.” Other times, it is just that **we are ALLOWING our CARNAL MIND and fleshly emotions to carry us away** (see Isaiah 64:6 - “our iniquities, like the wind, CARRY US AWAY”). Iniquity means **DOING OUR OWN WILL, or GOING OUR OWN WAY** (see Isaiah 53:6). **The way to fight this is to SUBMIT your mind, will and emotions to God, and present your BODY to Him** as a living sacrifice. **The transformation in your life** will come as your mind is renewed with the word of God, and your body is surrendered to the Lord completely.

• **II Corinthians 10:3-5** “For though we walk in the \_\_\_\_\_, we do not \_\_\_\_\_ according to the flesh. For the weapons of our \_\_\_\_\_ are not carnal (merely human), but \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ for pulling down of strongholds; casting down

arguments (imagination), and every high thing that exalts itself \_\_\_\_\_ the knowledge of God, bringing every \_\_\_\_\_ into captivity (taking control of) to the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.”

• **Romans 12:1-2** “I beseech you (beg you) therefore brethren, by the mercies of God, that you \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_ as a \_\_\_\_\_ sacrifice, \_\_\_\_\_ and acceptable to \_\_\_\_\_, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world, but be transformed by the \_\_\_\_\_ of your \_\_\_\_\_ that you may prove what is that \_\_\_\_\_ and acceptable and \_\_\_\_\_ will of God.”

**Definition: “As SOJOURNERS and PILGRIMS, abstain from FLESHLY LUSTS”** – A sojourner is **one who is only here for a temporary visit.** Pilgrim is a person who travels about; a wanderer. By calling us “sojourners and pilgrims” it means we are not going to be on this earth forever in our fleshly bodies, but are just passing through, on our way to God’s eternal kingdom. To “**abstain from FLESHLY LUSTS**” means to **STAY AWAY (abstain) from the sins of the flesh, and the things our old nature liked to do before we were born again.** Is it possible for a Christian to fall back into those old fleshly lusts? Of course it is possible, but **it should NOT be where we LIVE and STAY**, because we are only passing through temporarily, and God has better things for us. If you find you have fallen back into some old sins of the flesh, repent, confess it to God (I John 1:9), and He will cleanse and restore you. **•Psalm 39:12**

“Hear my prayer, O Lord, and give ear to my cry; do not be silent at my tears; for I am a \_\_\_\_\_ with You, a \_\_\_\_\_, as all my fathers were.”

**Definition: “Let him SHOW by GOOD CONDUCT”** – Just as “a spring does not send forth fresh water and bitter from the same opening”, or a “fig tree cannot bear olives”, or “a grapevine can’t bear figs”, so a Christian **should not** engage in conduct that is confusing to the world - **worldly and sinful one minute, and spouting off the Bible the next minute.** We should live a consistent life, and **our CONDUCT and behavior** should always be godly and Christlike. When you make mistakes or fall into sin temporarily, get up and brush yourself off, confess it to God, and confess it to whoever saw you committing that sin or was offended by something you did. This “good conduct” or “good works” that we do are the **PRODUCT** of our salvation, and a **testimony** to unbelievers to **SHOW** them that we belong to the Lord. God also uses us, as we do “good deeds” and acts of charity (love) to help meet the **needs** of His people in the church body. We are saved by **GRACE through our FAITH** (Eph. 2:8-9), and **NOT** by our works or by keeping the Old Testament Law, but that does **NOT** give us **LICENSE** to **SIN** or to live any old way that we please. We **SHOULD** do good works and be **OBEDIENT** to what we know God wants us to do, but as Christians, we are **NOT** to put ourselves back under the Old Testament Law or **any other form of LEGALISM, performing RITUALS or keeping ORDINANCES.** No **SYSTEM** of **LAWS** or **RULES** can make a person **HOLY.** Being “under grace” means we are to serve God out of the **motivation of LOVE and GRATITUDE,** and **by the POWER of the HOLY SPIRIT!**

• **Ephesians 2:8-10** “For by \_\_\_\_\_ you have been saved through \_\_\_\_\_, and that \_\_\_\_\_ of yourselves, it is the \_\_\_\_\_ of God; \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ lest anyone should boast. For we are His \_\_\_\_\_, created in Christ Jesus for \_\_\_\_\_, which God has \_\_\_\_\_ beforehand that we \_\_\_\_\_ walk in them.”

• **Titus 3:8 & 14** “This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have \_\_\_\_\_ in God \_\_\_\_\_ be careful to maintain \_\_\_\_\_ . These things are good and profitable to men.” “And let our people also \_\_\_\_\_ to maintain \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ urgent

\_\_\_\_\_, that they may not be unfruitful.”

• **Titus 2:7-8** “In all things \_\_\_\_\_ yourself to be a pattern of \_\_\_\_\_; in doctrine \_\_\_\_\_ integrity, reverence, incorruptibility, sound \_\_\_\_\_ that cannot be condemned, that the one who is an opponent may be ashamed, having \_\_\_\_\_ evil to say about you.”

• **Colossians 1:10** “That you may have a walk worthy of the Lord, fully \_\_\_\_\_ Him, being \_\_\_\_\_ in every \_\_\_\_\_.”

13-15 Therefore **SUBMIT yourselves to every ORDINANCE of man for the Lord’s sake**, whether to the king as supreme, or to governors, as to those who are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do good. For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men.

• **Matthew 5:16** “Let your light so shine before \_\_\_\_\_, that they may \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_ and glorify your Father in heaven.”

• **Romans 13:1-7** “Let every soul (person) be \_\_\_\_\_ to the governing \_\_\_\_\_, for there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is \_\_\_\_\_, and you will have \_\_\_\_\_ from the same. For he is God’s minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be \_\_\_\_\_; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God’s minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil. Therefore you must be \_\_\_\_\_, not only because of wrath but also for conscience’ sake. For because of this you also \_\_\_\_\_, for they are God’s ministers attending continually to this very thing. Render therefore to all their due: \_\_\_\_\_ to whom taxes are due, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor.”

**Definition: “SUBMIT yourselves to every ORDINANCE” – To “SUBMIT” or “be SUBJECT to” the laws and ordinances means to OBEY them and put yourself under their authority.** As Christians, we are commanded to obey the laws of the land, the laws and ordinances of our communities, cities, and our country. In Romans 13:1-7, we are also told to give “honor to whom honor is due”, which means we respect and honor our rulers, governors and police officers. Yes, **God is the ONLY One we are to WORSHIP**, but we can still **SHOW RESPECT for our governing leaders**, and it’s okay to call a judge “Your Honor” or salute the flag, or to do our civic duty in any way. We are also told to pay our taxes and be good citizens, because that is the way God has set up human society (He calls these leaders His “ministers” which means servants). **If and when there are EVIL rulers, we are to pray for peace**, and we are given the option of not obeying them **ONLY if what they are asking us to do violates God’s commandments**, such as killing another person. We don’t get the option of just not wanting to obey because we feel like it, but only if something goes against what God’s word teaches us (such as in Acts 5:17-29, when the Jewish rulers told the apostles to stop preaching about Jesus).

• **I Timothy 2:1-2** “Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, \_\_\_\_\_, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ who are in \_\_\_\_\_, that we may \_\_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ life in all godliness and reverence.”

• **Acts 5:17-20 & 27-29** “Then the high \_\_\_\_\_ rose up, and all those who were with him (which is the sect of the Sadducees) , and they were filled with indignation (anger), and laid their hands on the \_\_\_\_\_ and put them in the common \_\_\_\_\_. But at night an \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ opened the prison doors and brought them

out, and said, \_\_\_\_\_, stand in the temple and \_\_\_\_\_ to the people \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of this life.” (Verses 27-29) “And when they had brought them, they set them before the \_\_\_\_\_. And the high priest asked them, saying, ‘Did we not strictly \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ in this \_\_\_\_\_?’ And look, you have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine (teaching), and intend to bring this Man’s blood on us!’ Then Peter and the other \_\_\_\_\_ answered and said, ‘We ought to \_\_\_\_\_ rather than \_\_\_\_\_.’”

•**Matthew 22:16-21** “And they (the Jewish leaders) sent to Him (Jesus) their disciples with the Herodians, saying, ‘Teacher, we know that You are true, and \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ in truth; nor do You care about anyone, for You do not regard the person of men. Tell us, therefore, what do You think? Is it lawful to \_\_\_\_\_ to Caesar or not?’ But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, ‘Why do you test Me, you hypocrites? Show Me the tax \_\_\_\_\_.’ So they brought Him a denarius (Roman coin). And He said to them, ‘Whose image and inscription is this?’ They said to Him, ‘Caesar’s.’ and He said to them, ‘Render (give) to Caesar the \_\_\_\_\_ that are \_\_\_\_\_, and to \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ that are \_\_\_\_\_.’”

**Definition: “Render to Caesar the THINGS that are CAESAR’S, and to GOD the THINGS that are GOD’S”** – Caesar was the Roman emperor, the highest leader in the known world which was under Rome’s control. Since the money the people used had Caesar’s face and name printed on it, Jesus said to give back to Caesar what was his, thus showing us that paying our taxes is right and good, because it helps support our government and society that we live in. We are to give to God what belongs to Him, and that would be **our hearts (our LOVE and obedience to Him)**, our minds, our worship and devotion, and things like that.

•**Matthew 22:36-40** “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?’ Jesus said to him, ‘You shall \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_ with all your \_\_\_\_\_, with all your \_\_\_\_\_, and with all your \_\_\_\_\_. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_ as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.’”

•**John 13:34-35** “A new commandment I give to you, that you \_\_\_\_\_ one another, even as I have loved you, that you also \_\_\_\_\_ one another. By this all men will know that you are \_\_\_\_\_ disciples, if you have \_\_\_\_\_ for one another.”

•**John 15:8-10** “By this My \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_, that you \_\_\_\_\_ much \_\_\_\_\_; so you will *prove* to be My \_\_\_\_\_. As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My \_\_\_\_\_. If you \_\_\_\_\_ My commandments, you will abide in My \_\_\_\_\_, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love.”

**Definition: “For there is NO AUTHORITY except from GOD”** – God allows certain earthly kings, rulers, governments and societies to exist on earth, and He can remove them, change them or cause them to be destroyed at any time. He can and does use earthly kingdoms and rulers for His own purposes, although we often don’t see it at the time.

•**Daniel 2:20-21** “Daniel answered and said, ‘Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, for wisdom and might are His. And He \_\_\_\_\_ the times and the seasons; He removes \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ up \_\_\_\_\_; He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding.’”

•**Daniel 4:24-25** “This is the interpretation, O king, and this is the decree of the Most High, which has come upon my lord the king: they shall drive you from men, your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field, and they shall make you eat grass like oxen. They shall wet you with the dew of heaven, and seven times shall pass over you, till you know that the Most High

\_\_\_\_\_ in the kingdom of \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ it to \_\_\_\_\_ He  
\_\_\_\_\_.”

•**Proverbs 21:1** “The \_\_\_\_\_ heart is in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the  
\_\_\_\_\_, like the rivers of water; He \_\_\_\_\_ it wherever He  
\_\_\_\_\_.”