

“Love Lifted Me Recovery Ministries”

First Peter Bible Study — I Peter 2:16-25 Lesson #9

**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.

16-17 **As FREE, yet NOT using your LIBERTY as a cloak for VICE**, but as servants of God. **Honor ALL people. LOVE the brotherhood. FEAR God. Honor the KING.**

•**Galatians 5:13** “For you, brethren, have been called to _____; only do not use _____ as an opportunity for the flesh (to SIN), but through _____ one another.”

•**II Corinthians 3:17** “Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the _____ of the _____ is, there is _____.”

•**Titus 3:1** “Remind them to be _____ to _____ and _____, to _____, to be ready for every good work, to speak evil of no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing all _____ to _____ men.”

Definition: “As FREE, yet NOT using your LIBERTY as a cloak for VICE” – Peter continues his exhortation to the Believers in how they should conduct their lives as children of God and members of Christ’s church. **We have FREEDOM in Christ**, but we are not supposed to use that freedom for selfish reasons or to conduct our lives in a sinful manner. Paul says the same thing in Galatians when he says, **“Do not use liberty (your FREEDOM) as an opportunity for the flesh (to SIN), but through LOVE serve one another.”** Because we are under grace and not under the law, it does not mean we can live our lives any way we please, disregarding God’s moral laws. The Apostle Paul dealt with the same question when he asked, “What shall we say then? Shall we **continue in sin** that grace may abound? Certainly not! How shall we who **died to sin live any longer** in it?” (Romans 6:1-2) and “What then? Shall we sin because **we are not under law, but under grace**? Certainly not!” (Romans 6:15). So then, if Christians are not bound to keep the Old Testament law, then what is our standard by which we know that we are pleasing God and being obedient to Him? We see that not only Jesus in His teachings while on earth (Matthew 5:21-48), but also the entire New Testament, holds us as followers of Christ to a much higher standard in many areas of conduct than any Old Testament laws, including the Ten Commandments. Not only is it a higher standard, but the method in which we “keep the commandments” is entirely different. **The New Testament tells us we are to “bear FRUIT” by the power of the HOLY SPIRIT who dwells within us**, and the most important “fruit” is love. The New Testament tells us that **if we WALK in LOVE** we will automatically obey all the commandments, because “love does no harm to another” and God’s love in us is our motive and source of power (Romans 5:5). **Jesus said we are to “BEAR FRUIT to GOD.”** In this context “fruit” means product, RESULTS, outcome. The OUTCOME of our lives should be to DO God’s will and live a life that is pleasing to Him.

•**John 15:8** “By this My Father is glorified, that you _____ much _____; so you will be My _____.”

•**Galatians 5:18** “But if you are _____ by the _____, you are _____ under the _____.”

•**Galatians 5:22-23** “But the _____ of the _____ is _____, joy, _____, longsuffering (patience), kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.”

•**Colossians 1:10** “That you may have a walk (lifestyle) worthy of the _____, fully _____ Him, being _____ in every _____ work and _____”

increasing in the knowledge of God.”

Definition: “Honor ALL people. LOVE the brotherhood. FEAR God. Honor the KING” – God makes a distinction between “the brotherhood”, meaning all Christians, and “all people”, meaning the rest of the people in the world (non-Christians, unbelievers). We are to **“Honor ALL people” but “LOVE the brotherhood.”** There is also a distinction in the way we “honor” our earthly rulers, when he says, **“Honor the KING”, but we are to put GOD in a much higher place, as we are to “FEAR God” as the ULTIMATE RULER of all things. To “fear God” means to give Him the highest REVERENCE and AWE, and to be TOTALLY OBEDIENT to Him.** Just because God gets the HIGHEST reverence and honor, though, doesn’t mean we as Christians have the right to disobey our earthly rulers and their laws and ordinances.

• **Peter 2:13-15** “Therefore _____ yourselves to every _____ of man for the Lord’s sake, whether to the _____ as supreme, or to _____, 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 _____ 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 _____ 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, _____ to whom _____.”

18-23 **Servants, be submissive to your masters with all fear**, not only to the good and gentle, but also to the harsh. For this is commendable, if **because of conscience toward God one endures grief, suffering wrongfully.** For what credit is it if, when you are **BEATEN for your FAULTS, you take it patiently?** But when you do good and suffer for it, if you take it patiently, this is commendable before God. For to this you were called, because **Christ also SUFFERED for us, leaving us an example**, that you should follow His steps: ‘Who committed no sin, nor was guile found in His mouth,’ who, **when He was REVILED, did not REVILE in RETURN;** when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously;

• **Ephesians 6:5-6** “_____, be _____ to those who are your _____ according to the flesh, with _____ and trembling, in sincerity of heart, as to Christ; not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as _____ of _____, doing the will of God from the heart.”

• **Colossians 3:22-25** “Servants, _____ in _____ your _____ according to the flesh, not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but in _____ of heart, fearing _____. And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the _____ and not to _____, knowing that from the _____ you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.”

Definition: “Eyeservice, as men-pleasers” — Doing what is right, or working hard ONLY when someone is WATCHING. Jesus talked about this kind of thing in the Sermon on the Mount, saying that we should not be like the hypocrites who only do “good works” in front of other people when someone is watching them.

•**Matthew 6:5** “And when you pray, you shall not be like the _____. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be _____ by _____. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward [*this is their ONLY reward*].”

Definition: “Masters according to the flesh” — Your earthly “master”, or EMPLOYER. These scriptural principles APPLY TO US today in our EMPLOYEE/EMPLOYER relationships. Again, even though it says we are to “FEAR God”, there is also a lesser fear or reverence we are to give to our earthly masters, rulers and employers, as it says, “**Servants, be submissive to your masters with all fear.**”

•**Titus 2:9-10** “Exhort _____ to be _____ to their own _____, to be well pleasing in all things, not answering back (no “back talk”), not pilfering (stealing), but showing all good fidelity (faithfulness), that they may adorn the doctrine of _____ our _____ in all things.”

Definition: “Because of conscience toward God one ENDURES GRIEF, suffering WRONGFULLY” – In Bible times, in the days of the early church, many servants or slaves would end up suffering for their faith in Jesus Christ. Peter says, “this is commendable” when the suffering is “wrongful” or unjust, meaning NOT because you disobeyed your master for selfish reasons, or were lazy, or misbehaved in some way. Peter goes on to say, “**What credit is it if, when you are BEATEN for your FAULTS, you take it patiently?**” This means we are not ‘suffering for Christ’ if we are being punished for our own wrong-doings or sins. If we are doing what we are supposed to do, whether on the job or in the community, and yet are still being persecuted or mistreated because of our being Christians, then it is “suffering for Christ.”

•**I Peter 3:14** “But even if you should _____ for _____ sake, you are _____. ‘And do not be _____ of their threats, nor be troubled.’”

•**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 _____ for My _____. _____ and be exceedingly _____, for great is your _____ in heaven, for so they _____ the prophets who were before you.”

•**Acts 5:41** “So they departed from the presence of the council, _____ that they were counted worthy to _____ shame for His _____.”

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

24-25 Who **Himself bore (carried) our sins in His own BODY on the tree** (cross), that we, having died to sins, **might LIVE for RIGHTEOUSNESS — by whose stripes (wounds) you were healed.** For you were like sheep going astray, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

•**John 1:29** “The next day John saw _____ coming toward him, and he said, “Behold! The _____ of _____ who _____”

the _____ of the world!”

• **John 3:5** “And you know that He was manifested to _____ our _____, and in Him there is no _____.”

• **Isaiah 53:5-6** “But He was _____ for _____ transgressions, He was bruised for _____ iniquities (sins); the chastisement (punishment) for _____ peace was upon _____, and _____ His _____ we are _____. All we like _____ have gone _____; we have turned, every one, to his own way; and the Lord has _____ on _____ the iniquity (sin) of us _____.”

Definition: “WHO TAKES AWAY the SIN of the WORLD” — Under the New Covenant (New Testament), **our sins are completely TAKEN AWAY (remitted, BORN AWAY) and WASHED AWAY** in the BLOOD of JESUS. In the Old Testament (under the Old Covenant), their sins were only COVERED TEMPORARILY until the Messiah, God’s Lamb, would come to die and PAY THE PENALTY for the sins of the world. Every year, they would have the Day of Atonement to remind them that God’s Lamb was not yet come, and **continual sacrifices and sin offerings** during the year. (See Exodus 30:10, Leviticus 16:30). The literal meaning of the word **“atonement” is covering** (“kapporah” in Hebrew, as in Yom Kippur). Now, when we believe in Jesus, and accept His sacrifice on the cross, **our sins are NOT just covered**, they are **REMITTED and TAKEN AWAY COMPLETELY** (REMIT - to release from the guilt or penalty of).

• **Luke 22:20** “Likewise He also took the cup after supper saying, ‘This cup is the new _____ in My _____, which is shed for you.’”

• **Matthew 26:28** “For this is My _____ of the new _____, which is shed for many for the _____ of sins.”

• **II Corinthians 5:21** “For He made Him (Jesus) who knew no sin to be _____ for _____, that we might be made the _____ of _____ in Him.”

• **Hebrews 10:1** “For the _____, having a shadow of the good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can _____ with these same _____, which they offer year by year, make those who approach _____.”

Definition: “By whose STRIPES you were HEALED” – “Stripes” means the wounds on Jesus’ body from the scourging He received before He was crucified. Scourging was much more than just a “whipping.” It was commonly referred to as the “half-way death,” and many died just from the scourging. The weapon for this “whipping” was a flagellum, an instrument made of a short wooden handle to which were attached long strips of leather with bits of sharp bone and metal sewn to the tips. The victim was stripped of all his clothing and bent over a low stone column, where he was tied with his face toward the floor. The normal sentence was 40 “stripes”, minus one for humanitarian purposes. I believe Jesus took all forty of them as He took upon Himself the punishment for OUR SINS. **By His wounds** that He received from the whole crucifixion process, we can receive HEALING, both spiritually and physically.

• **John 19:1** “So then Pilate took _____ and _____ Him.”

• **Matthew 27:26** “Then he released _____ to them; and when he had _____ Jesus, he delivered Him to be _____.”

• **Isaiah 53:5** “But He was _____ for our transgressions, He was _____ for our iniquities; the _____ of our _____ was upon Him, and by His _____ we are healed.”

• **Matthew 8:17** “That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying, ‘He _____ took our infirmities (weaknesses) and _____ our _____.’”