

CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST
POINTING PEOPLE TO JESUS

STRANGER PEOPLE

A STUDY OF 1 PETER

STRANGE ALLEGIANCE
1 PETER 3:18-22

MARCH 08, 2026

WELCOME

We're Glad You're Here!

We know visiting a church for the first time can feel intimidating. **Our goal** is to help you feel at home and **point you to Jesus**. Here's **what to expect** in our worship today:

We sing acappella (voices only), take the Lord's Supper, offer prayers, and listen to a message from the Bible. **You are welcome to participate** with us as much as you are comfortable.

After worship concludes, we offer **Bible classes for all ages**. You're welcome to stay and join whichever class fits you best.

central
KIDS

Before the sermon, **children ages 2–7** are invited to a special time called **Wee Worship**, where they can enjoy Bible stories, songs, and age-appropriate activities in a safe, welcoming environment.

March 8: Telling Others About Jesus.
Lesson Text: Matthew 4:18-23

For those 8 years old and above, complete the **fill in blanks** in this handout and show the preacher or one of the elders for a special treat or **TWO Bible Bucks** to spend at Central Park.

ORDER OF SERVICE

MARCH 08, 2026

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| Call to Worship | Vince Boling |
| We Have Heard The Joyful Sound | Ross Jordan |
| I've Been Redeemed | Ross Jordan |
| Prayer | Sam Lewis |
| At Calvary | Ross Jordan |
| Prepare For Communion | |
| We Shall Assemble | John Cox |
| Communion Prayers | Randy Bronson |
| Battle Belongs To The Lord | Aidan Smith |
| Children's Chat | Josh & Aidan |
| Scripture Reading - 1 Peter 3:18-22 | Tony Stanley |
| Our God, He Is Alive | John Cox |
| Sermon | Shane Robinson |
| Nothing But The Blood | John Cox |
| Shepherd's Moment | Steve Griggs |

GREETERS

Lisa Evans, Carol Griggs, Canitha Jordan, & Sherrie Blalock

NURSERY ATTENDANTS

Hilda Brock & April Stanley

WEE WORSHIP

Hannah Kresser, Noah Robinson, Amanda & Grace Shannon

SERVE COMMUNION IN FEBRUARY

Noah Robinson, Chris Akers, Mark Stanley, Carter Pendley, Chris Smith, Danny Smith, Rhett Stanley, Leslie Waycaster

SCRIPTURE

1 Peter 3:18-22, NKJV

18 For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit, 19 by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison, 20 who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water. 21 There is also an antitype which now saves us—baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, 22 who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him.

The New King James Version. Thomas Nelson, 1982.

THE SPIRITUAL REALM AND 1 PETER 3:18 - 22

1. There is a **co-existing** spiritual world.
(3:19 - He went)
2. There are **convicts** in this spiritual realm.
(3:19 - spirits in prison)
3. There was **communication** to this unseen realm.
(3:19 - He preached)
4. There was a **conquest** over this invisible world.
(3:18 - made alive; 3:22 - having been made subject)
5. There is a **connection** for us today.
(3:21 - baptism as spiritual warfare)

STRANGE ALLEGIANCE

1 PETER 3:18-22

TEXTUAL QUESTIONS

According to 3:18, why did Christ suffer?

Who are the “spirits in prison” mentioned in 3:19–20?

What does Peter say baptism is not (3:21)?

According to 4:2, what should believers no longer live for?

What behaviors does Peter list as part of the former life in 4:3?

How does the world react when Christians stop participating in these behaviors (4:4)?

PRACTICAL QUESTIONS

How does Christ’s authority over angels and powers affect the way we view spiritual opposition today?

In what ways does baptism represent a break with our former way of life?

Which of the behaviors listed in 4:3 still characterize our culture today?

How does remembering God’s future judgment help Christians remain faithful in the present?

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STRANGE ALLEGIANCE
1 PETER 3:18 - 22

A VICTORIOUS SAVIOR

VICTORY OVER SPIRITUAL POWERS

- Jesus suffered for our sins to _____ us to God (3:18). Jesus' death was substitutionary and final (Heb. 9:23-28).
- Jesus proclaimed victory _____ imprisoned spirits (3:19-20). Any power aligned against God will not win (Col. 2:15).
- Jesus now reigns over _____ authority in heaven or on earth (3:22). The same is true even today (Mt. 28:18-20).

A VISUAL SEPARATION (3:21)

BAPTISM MARKS A TRANSFER OF LOYALTY

- Baptism is the moment when we _____ the powers of darkness that they are still defeated (Col. 2:10-15).
- Baptism is the point where we _____ our loyalty and proclaim whose side we are on (Lk. 15:7, 10, 32-33).
- Baptism is the place where we _____ to God to save us through Jesus' completed work (Rom. 6:3-4).

A VISIBLE SHIFT (4:1-6)

A VISIBLE BREAK WITH THE OLD LIFE

- **A shift from _____ (4:1).** To arm ourselves with the mind of Christ is to make a decisive break with sin. We've pledged our loyalty and condemned darkness. Continuing in rebellion against God and His will is not how this works.
- **A shift in _____ (4:2-3).** We no longer live to fulfill our own lusts but for the will of God. We are no longer living in self-indulgence but with restraint and self-control.
- **A shift in _____ (4:4-6).** When we stop running with the same crowds, relationships automatically change. Our actions show that we believe we will stand before the God of heaven and give an account.



DIFFICULT PASSAGES

(STUDY GUIDE FOR 1 PETER 3:18-22)

Immediate Context: Christian suffering (cp. 3:13-17)

Remote Context: spiritual rebellion (2 Pet. 2:4; Jude 6-7)

Canonical Context: unusual relations and abnormal offspring (Gen. 6:1-5; 19:5)

Historical Context: 2nd Temple Judaism (200 BC to 100 AD)

Extra-biblical Context: ancient Greek texts that mention angels who rebelled, corrupted humanity, and were imprisoned until judgment (1 Enoch 6-15).

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Mental Wellness Seminar

Sat & Sun, March 14-15

Life Line Screening

Fri, March 27 @ 9 AM

Men's Leadership Conf.

Sat, March 21 @ 8:30 AM

Church Spring Cleaning

Sat, March 28 @ 8 AM

Young @ Heart Fellowship

Sat, March 21 @ 5 PM

Easter Egg Hunt

Sun, March 29 @ 2 PM

Assembly Times

AM Worship

Sundays @ 9:30 AM

Wed Night Meal

Wednesdays @ 5:45 PM

Sun Bible Classes

Immediately After Worship

Wed Bible Classes

Wednesdays @ 6:30 PM

Reoccurring Events

Ladies Bible Class

Tuesday @ 10:30 AM

Food & Clothing

Tues & Thurs 10 AM-12 PM

(Go to office area)

LIFE Groups

Various times & locations



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