

1 Peter 2

Jesus

Revelation 5:5 [Elder to John] Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, **has prevailed to open the scroll** and to loose its seven seals.

I. Lay Aside Sin Drink in God's Grace

1 Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking

- **Ch. 1 Peter reminds us;** We have been...
 1. Chosen ...by God the Father
 2. Set Apart ...by God the Spirit
 3. Cleansed ...by God the Son

1 Peter 1:19 [Redeemed] ... with the **precious blood of Christ**

- **Therefore, gird up your minds....**
 1. Be Sober Self-Disciplined
 2. Be Hopeful Eternal Perspective
 3. Be Holy Transformed. Love Good/Hate Evil
 4. Be Fervent Loving One Another...lit. stretch out

1 Peter 1:23 [We have] been born again... through the **word of God**

Ch. 2 Therefore...

Because we are Born Again to New Life...Separate from the Old Life

- | | | |
|--------------|-----------|---|
| 1. Lay aside | Malice | Desire to Injure |
| 2. Lay aside | Deceit | Trickery. rt. To bait/catch/snare. E.g. aha! |
| 3. Lay aside | Hypocrisy | Pretending/Make believing |
| 4. Lay aside | Envy | Spiteful Gossip |
| 5. Lay aside | Slander | Backbiting/Defamation/Speaking Evil |

Hebrews 12:1 [Free to move] ... let **us lay aside** every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, **2** looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith

- Lay aside the Old Life/Start living the New Life

2 ... as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, 3 if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

- **Newborn Babes:** Coming to Jesus in humility, simplicity, curiosity and wonder

Mark 10:15 ... whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as **a little child** will by no means enter it."

You tasted God's Grace at Salvation...and it was Good

Psalms 34:8 Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good; Blessed is the man who trusts in Him!

Tasted God's Grace at Salvation
Continue to Drink in His Grace: **Milk of the Word**

- **Milk of the Word:** Repentance/Faith/Baptism/ Resurrection/Judgment
- **Desire more...**after the Manna stops

Psalm 42:1 As the deer pants for the water brooks, So pants my soul for You, O God.

- **From Milk to Meat:** OT Typology/C.f.'s/Application/Jesus in OT, Interconnection etc.

In time God expects believing men, woman and youth to grow up in His Word...

1 Corinthians 3:2 I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able to receive it, and even now you are **still not able...**

Hebrews 5:12 ... **by this time** you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. 13 For everyone who partakes only of milk is **unskilled in the word** of righteousness, for he is a babe. 14 But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of [use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

Q. How do we grow up Spiritually? ... **A.** Gobble up God's Word. Milk to Meat
Nothing wrong with a baby on bottle/Old man on bottle is just...embarrassing

- **Christians will feel/act sickly if they...**
 1. Don't eat
 2. Only eat Junk

Babes ... Desire the pure **milk of the Word so you will grow**

SUMMARY Lay Aside Sin. Drink in God's Grace

II. Chosen Stone/Chosen Stones

4 Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God **and precious...**

- **Jesus the Rock**
 1. Cornerstone Psalm 118
 2. Stumbling Stone Isaiah 8
 3. Supernatural Stone Daniel 2
 4. Wilderness Stone 1 Cor 10
 5. **Foundation Stone** Isaiah 28

Isaiah 28:16 [Father of Jesus] "Behold, I lay in Zion a stone for a foundation, A tried stone, a precious cornerstone, **a sure foundation**

- **Jesus the first stone set:** True/Straight

Cornerstone: Jesus. Starting Place of two walls; i.e., **Jew and Gentile**

5 ... you also [Church], as **living stones**, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 6 Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture, "Behold, I lay in Zion A chief cornerstone, elect, precious, And he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame."

Church: Living Stones set straight/true hugging tight to the Cornerstone

- **Living Stones**

1. Spiritual House
2. Holy Priesthood offering...
3. Acceptable Sacrifices

Romans 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a **living sacrifice**, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

Why do people stumble on the Cornerstone?

Romans 9:32 Why? Because they **did not seek it by faith**, but as it were, by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that stumbling stone.

1 Corinthians 1:23 ... we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness...

- **Greeks** Too Smart to choose Jesus Pride
- **Jews** Too Religious to choose Jesus Self-Righteousness

His way or No way. Humility. As a child.
Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.

Luke 2:34 [Simeon of Jesus] Behold, this Child is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign which will be **spoken against...**

- **Jesus and the Cross:** Precious or Offensive

7 Therefore, to you who believe, **He is precious**; but to those who are disobedient, "The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone," 8 and "A stone of stumbling And a rock of offense."

- To know Jesus is to **consider Him precious...**

Is Jesus precious to your soul? Remember, on your answer to this question depends your condition. You believe, if he is precious to you, but if he is not precious, then you are not believers, and you are condemned already because you believe not on the Son of God. [Spurgeon]

- **Builders:** Jews who rejected Jesus...Why. Because it stopped being about them

Pride in Religion tripped them up...

8b... They [Jews] stumble, being disobedient to the word, to which they also

were appointed.

- **Jews**

1. God's Chosen/Elect People
2. Given Word through Prophets

Romans 3:1 What advantage then has the Jew...² Much in every way! Chiefly because to them were **committed the oracles [Scripture] of God.**

- Knew God's Word/Disregarded God's Word concerning Jesus

Desired Self-Righteous Religion rather than Relationship with Living God
Disobedient to the Word: Refused to Kiss the Son. Psalm 2

John 5:39 You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. **40** But you are not willing to **come to Me** that you may have life.

- **Today:** Isaiah 50-53 of Suffering Servant Jesus? They say Israel.

Isaiah 50:6 I gave My back to those who struck Me, And My cheeks to those who plucked out the beard; I did not hide My face from shame and spitting.

- **Jews** Blind to their need for Messiah to die on Cross
- **JW's** Blind to Bodily Resurrection of Jesus from dead

John 2:19 "...Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." **20** Then the Jews said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?" **21** But He was speaking of the temple of His body. **22** Therefore, when He had risen from the dead, His disciples remembered that He had said this to them; and they believed the Scripture and the word which Jesus had said.

2 Corinthians 4:3 But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, **4** whose minds the **god of this age has blinded**, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

- **God's Heart:** Remove Spiritual Blindness

Acts 26:18 [Paul sent to Gentiles...] to **open their eyes**, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins

- God will not force anyone into His kingdom: Pharaoh hardened 8x before God
- Jews stumbled/fell over Jesus and way of the Cross

Matthew 21:43 Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone. This was the Lord's doing, And it is marvelous in our eyes?' **43** "Therefore I say to you, **the kingdom of God will be taken from you** and given to a nation bearing the fruits of it. **44** And whoever falls on this stone will be broken; but on whomever it falls, it will grind him to powder."

- Peter now speaks to us...Drink in God's Grace...

9 But you are a **chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation,**

His own **special people...**

- Titles applying to Israel...So now **also** the Church
 1. Chosen Generation
 2. Royal Priesthood Offices of King/Priest together in Jesus
 3. Holy Nation Set Apart to God
 4. **Special People**

We are special because **we belong to God**. A museum may be filled with quite ordinary things: hats, canes, shoes, and so forth; but they may be significant because they once belonged to someone famous. God takes ordinary people; and **because He works in them, they are special**. [Guzik]

The description of the Church is systematic and exhaustive. It is a race, and this suggests its life principle. It is a priesthood, and so has right of access to God. It is a nation, and so is under His government. It is a possession, and so is actually indwelt by Him. [Morgan]

Chosen/Royal/Holy/Special...For What?

9b... that you may **proclaim the praises** of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light...

- **Chosen/Royal/Holy/Special...**Sent to run. Gird up loins of your mind....

Acts 26:16 [Jesus to Paul] ...rise and stand on your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to make you a minister and a witness both of the things which you have seen and of the things which I will yet reveal to you. [Paul sent to Gentiles] **...18** to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me.

- **Once darkness now light...**

Ephesians 5:8 ... you were **once darkness**, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light

2 Corinthians 4:6 ... God ...commanded light to shine out of darkness... has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

- From darkness to light to shine His light on the world

Proclaim the Praises of God to the Dark World. Light 'em up

10 [We] who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.

Once not a people but now the people of God?

1 John 3:1 Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called **children of God!**

- Everyone wants to feel like **they belong...**

1. Gang members
2. Low self-esteem
3. Abused/Betrayed/Outcasts all look to belong

In Christ we now belong...We have obtained mercy
 God saw our need and answered our cry for help...We are now family

Ephesians 2:19 ... you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the **household of God**, 20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the **chief cornerstone**, 21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, 22 in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

Jesus left us here to be Light
 We are the only light the world will see

Matthew 5:14 **You are the light of the world.** A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may **see your good works** and **glorify your Father** in heaven.

SUMMARY Chosen Stone/Chosen Stones

III. Living Before the World

11 Beloved, I beg you as **sojourners and pilgrims**, abstain from fleshly lusts which **war against the soul...**

I beg you as those knowing this is oppression/persecution is temporal...
 Abstain from sinful reactions to provocation...Instead **act** by the Holy Spirit

12 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.

- **Peter's day:** Christians likened to insects

1 Peter 2:21b... [Jesus left] us an example, that you should follow His steps: 22 "Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth"; 23 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

Q. What should be our response to being misunderstood/falsely accused/slandered?

A. Honorable: Beautiful, Handsome, Excellent, Choice, Surpassing, Precious, Useful, Suitable, Commendable, Admirable conduct

Romans 12:17 Repay no one **evil for evil.**

1 Peter 3:9 ... [Do not return] **evil for evil** or **reviling for reviling**, but on the contrary **blessing**, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing.

Matthew 5:39 [Do not] resist an evil person. But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also.

A Hell-bound world will test us/provoke us with unjust accusations/slander...
Then have the audacity to observe our response?

- **Q.** How do we continue to share w friends/family/coworkers?
- **A. Understand:**
 1. They don't deserve it ...but neither did you
 2. You are serving God...Their response is not personal

- **God wants to...**

1. Leave those who oppose w/no excuse at judgment
2. Bring them into the family of God...Light/Love/Life

Slanderers, Undeserving, Ungrateful...Those just like us before Jesus

1 Corinthians 6:9 Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. *11 And **such were some of you.** But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.*

SUMMARY Living Before the World

IV. Submission to Government

- Approx. 600BC. Nebuchadnezzar attacks Judah
- Remnant left fear Nebuchadnezzar will return
- God's people are looking for direction...

Choice? Stay in the Judah or run to Egypt

Jeremiah 42:1 Now all the captains of the forces, Johanan, the son of Kareah, Jezaniah the son of Hoshaiah, and all the people, from the least to the greatest, came near 2 and said to Jeremiah the prophet, "Please, let our petition be acceptable to you, and pray for us to the Lord your God, for all this remnant (since we are left but a few of many, as you can see), 3 that the Lord your God may **show us the way in which we should walk and the thing we should do.**" 4 Then Jeremiah the prophet said to them, "I have heard. Indeed, I will pray to the Lord your God according to your words, and it shall be, that whatever the Lord answers you, I will declare it to you. **I will keep nothing back from you.**"

- Sounds like they wanted to be like the **sons of Issachar**

...Understood the times...to know what Israel ought to do

Were they serious about seeking God's will? ... Are we serious about seeking God's will?

[Continued] ... 5 So they said to Jeremiah, "Let the Lord be a true and faithful witness between us, if we do not do according to everything which the Lord your God sends us by you. **6** Whether it is pleasing or displeasing, we will obey the voice of the Lord our God to

whom we send you, that it may be well with us when we obey the voice of the Lord our God." 7 And it happened after ten days that the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah. 8 Then he called Johanan the son of Kareah, all the captains of the forces which were with him, and all the people from the least even to the greatest, 9 and said to them, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, to whom you sent me to present your petition before Him: 10 **'If you will still remain in this land, then I will build you** and not pull you down, and I will plant you and not pluck you up. For I relent concerning the disaster that I have brought upon you. 11 Do not be afraid of the king of Babylon, of whom you are afraid; do not be afraid of him,' says the Lord, 'for I am with you, to save you and deliver you from his hand. 12 And **I will show you mercy**, that he may **have mercy on you** and cause you to return to your own land.'

God's Instructions Counterintuitive: Stay and Live or Flee to Egypt and die

13 "But if you say, 'We will not dwell in this land,' disobeying the voice of the Lord your God, 14 saying, 'No, but we will go to the land of Egypt where we shall see no war, nor hear the sound of the trumpet, nor be hungry for bread, and there we will dwell'— 15 Then hear now the word of the Lord, O remnant of Judah! Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: 'If you wholly set your faces to enter Egypt, and go to dwell there, 16 then it shall be that the sword which you feared shall overtake you there in the land of Egypt; the famine of which you were afraid shall follow close after you there in Egypt; and there you shall die. 17 So shall it be with all the men who set their faces to go to Egypt to dwell there. They shall die by the sword, by famine, and by pestilence. And none of them shall remain or escape from the disaster that I will bring upon them.'

18 "For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: 'As My anger and My fury have been poured out on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so will My fury be poured out on you when you enter Egypt. And you shall be an oath, an astonishment, a curse, and a reproach; and you shall see this place no more.' 19 "The Lord has said concerning you, O remnant of Judah, **'Do not go to Egypt!'** Know certainly that I have admonished you this day. 20 For **you were hypocrites in your hearts when you sent me to the Lord your God**, saying, 'Pray for us to the Lord our God, and according to all that the Lord your God says, so declare to us and we will do it.' 21 And I have this day declared it to you, but you have not obeyed the voice of the Lord your God, or anything which He has sent you by me. 22 Now therefore, know certainly that you shall die by the sword, by famine, and by pestilence in the place where you desire to go to dwell."

Jeremiah 43:1 Now it happened, when Jeremiah had stopped speaking to all the people all the words of the Lord their God, for which the Lord their God had sent him to them, all these words, 2 that Azariah the son of Hoshai, Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the proud men spoke, saying to Jeremiah, **"You speak falsely! The Lord our God has not sent you** to say, 'Do not go to Egypt to dwell there.'

- Went to Egypt/God sent Nebuchadnezzar to Egypt

They wanted Jeremiah to tell them **what they wanted to hear**

2 Timothy 4:3 ... the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers

- It was not logical to stay. We walk by faith not sight

Peter now gives clear instructions that may sound counterintuitive in the current

environment. Will we simply say no? Will we say yes and not do it? **Will we say yes, and do it?**

- Submit to all Government Ordinances
- Submit to your Employers
- Submit to your Husbands

1 Peter 3:10 [Be of one mind] For "He who would love life And see good days, Let him refrain his tongue from evil, And his lips from speaking deceit. 11 Let him turn away from evil and do good; Let him seek peace and pursue it. 12 For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, And His ears are open to their prayers; But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."

Key Verse Ch.'s 2 and 3

1 Peter 2:23 Jesus Committed Himself to Him who Judges Righteously

- **Time of Jeremiah:** Babylon is lurking
- **Time of Peter:** Caesar Nero is preparing
- **Such a Time as This:** Authoritarianism on the rise/Losing freedom by second

Sons of Issachar understood the times and how God's people should respond

13 Therefore **submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake**, whether to the king as supreme, 14 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.**

- **Satan's Scheme:** Eliminate black/white absolutes leaving only grey confusion
- God is not a God of confusion but order...

Desire peace not confusion? We must seek God's Word
Play by His rules and win or... cheat/cut corners and lose

2 Timothy 2:1 ... be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. **3b...** endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. 4 No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier. 5 And also if anyone competes in athletics, he is not crowned unless he **competes according to the rules.**

- Temptation during government overreach? **Fight like the world**
- Sometimes we don't like the ordinances of Government
- Should that influence our obedience?

v13 Submit for the Lord's Sake?

- **Submit yourself to every ordinance of man for the Lord**

Romans 13:1 Let every soul be **subject to the governing authorities.** For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. 2 Therefore **whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God**, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves. 3 For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. 4 For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; 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. 5 Therefore **you must be subject**, not only because of wrath but also for conscience' sake.

- **What if they are mean?** c.f. v. 18 for employers; Good, Gentle or Harsh

Submit to every Governmental Ordinance...Unless [full counsel of Word]
Contradicts the Word of God and/or **Exceeds their God-Given Authority**

1. **Proclamation Contradicts Word of God:** Do not preach the Word?

Acts 5:28... "Did we not strictly command you not to teach in this name? And look, you have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this Man's blood on us! 29 But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: **"We ought to obey God rather than men"**.

Hebrews 10:24 ... let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, 25 **not forsaking the assembling** of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

1. Proclamation Contradicts Word of God
2. **Proclamation Exceeds God-Given Authority**

Rom 13: Governments have God-given authority to **Keep Peace** and **Punish Evil**

Q. Where does God-given authority stop? **A.** At jurisdiction over our physical body.

Mark 12:17 ... "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."

- Physical bodies of believers **belong to Jesus not Caesar.** God-given autonomy

1 Corinthians 6:19 ... your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and **you are not your own?** 20 For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in **your body** and in your spirit, **which are God's.**

Those imposing laws beyond their God-given authority will be judged...Count on it
We are to Trust in Him who judges righteously...Creator of Earth and Sea

Job 38:8 [God said He] ...shut in the sea with doors... 10 When I fixed My limit for it, And set bars and doors; 11 When I said, 'This far you may come, **but no farther,** And here your proud waves must stop!

Submit ourselves to every ordinance of man *for the Lord's sake*
Never out of Fear of Man but in reverent Fear of a Good God

15 For this is the **will of God**, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men— 16 as free, yet not using liberty as a cloak for vice, but as bondservants of God.

Will of God: Silence fools by doing good

- **Doing Good:** Context...Following rules of the God-given government
- **Fools:** Those who look for every opportunity to condemn God's people

We are not to use our freedom in Christ to press boundaries/constantly question authority
 Instead, use our Freedom in Christ to serve Christ by serving those who need Christ

We don't belong to this World. We are free. Yet...

Matthew 17:24 When [the disciples] had come to Capernaum, those who received the temple tax came to Peter and said, "**Does your Teacher not pay the temple tax?**" 25 He said, "**Yes.**" And when he had come into the house, Jesus anticipated him, saying, "What do you think, Simon? From whom do the kings of the earth take customs or taxes, from their sons or from strangers?" 26 Peter said to Him, "From strangers." Jesus said to him, "Then the sons [of the Kingdom] are free. 27 Nevertheless, **lest we offend them**, go to the sea, cast in a hook, and take the fish that comes up first. And when you have opened its mouth, you will find a piece of money; take that and give it to them for Me and you."

Q. Was Jesus really worried about offending just because? **So...**

Q. Why was it important not to offend them in this relatively unimportant matter?

A. That the door might be opened to **one day see them saved**. Reason we are here.

- **Ace Card/Key to Obedience:** Humility

17 Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.

Galatians 5:1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage... **13** For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but **through love serve one another.**

- | | | |
|----------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| ▪ Honor | All men | Value all men |
| ▪ Love | Brotherhood | Agape |
| ▪ Fear | God | Beginning of Wisdom |
| ▪ Honor | The King | Good or Bad c.f. v18 |

Romans 13:4b [The King] is God's minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil. 5 Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience' sake.

Proverbs 24:21 My son, **fear the Lord and the king...**

Fearing the king does not mean fearing the man himself, but rather fearing the God who gave him temporary authority. Thus, rebelling against the king is rebellion against God and will be punished except when commanded by law to contradict God's Word...in which cases we are **commanded always to obey God**. [NJC]

A healthy fear of God empowers us to submit to men...even bad men

V. Submission to Masters

18 Servants, **be submissive** to your masters **with all fear**, not only to the **good and gentle**, but **also to the harsh**. 19 For this is commendable, if

because of conscience toward God one endures grief, suffering wrongfully.

- **Workers be submissive to Employer:** Good ones/Bad ones

Conscience toward God [Fear of God] allows us to endure grief/suffer wrongfully
It is the Lord who we are submitting to... It is the Lord who will reward us

Ephesians 6:5 Bondservants, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with **fear and trembling**, in sincerity of heart, as to Christ; 6 not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as **bondservants of Christ**, doing the **will of God** from the heart, 7 with goodwill doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men, 8 knowing that whatever good anyone does, he will **receive the same** from the Lord, whether he is a slave or free.

- Be Obedient to your Employer

Fear/Tremble/Sincere honest day's work...As to Christ

- Not eyeservice/Not as Men-pleasers
- Not as slaves/subjects to employer

Bondservants of Christ and doing the will of God from our changed Hearts

Do good to your employer...Jesus will do good to you

- **They don't deserve grace/mercy?** Neither did we
- **How do I do it?** Do it unto Jesus

20 For what credit is it if, when you are beaten for your faults, you take it patiently? But when you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently, this is commendable before God.

- **Not Commendable:** Do a bad job and suffer. Deserve it.
- **Commendable:** Do a good job and suffer for Jesus' sake

Boss doesn't like you simply because you follow Jesus?

Matthew 5:10 Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

- **Is this teaching further than we want to go in real life?... Probably**

Luke 6:32 ... if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For **even sinners love those who love them**. 33 And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. 34 And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive back, what credit is that to you? For even sinners lend to sinners to receive as much back.

We are called by God to suffer/respond in godly counterintuitive ways for the world to see

1 Peter 4:13 ... **rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings**, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy.

- Conformed through suffering/polished through our response

21 For **to this you were called**, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us **an example**, that you should follow His steps:

- **Package Deal:** If called to Salvation/Called to suffer...

1 Thessalonians 3:3 ... that no one should be shaken by these afflictions; for you yourselves know that **we are appointed to this**. 4 For, in fact, we told you before when we were with you that we would suffer tribulation, just as it happened, and you know.

- **Jesus our example:** Not to repay evil for evil

Hebrews 12:3 ... consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, **lest you become weary** and discouraged in your souls.

Matthew 16:24 ... If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and **follow Me**.

I thought we were Kings Kids?

1 Peter 2:9 ... you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you **may proclaim** the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light

Chosen, Royal, Priests, Holy, Special...Called to suffer righteously as He did
To this what were we called: To emulate Jesus' as He suffered unfairly

1 John 2:6 He who says he abides in [Jesus] ought himself also to walk just as He walked.

22 [Jesus]... "Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth"; 23 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**; 24 who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed.

- **Sinless:** No sin/No deceit

Hebrews 4:15 ... we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.

Hebrews 7:26 ...such a High Priest was fitting for us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens...

- **Sinless yet Reviled:** Heaped abuse upon

Jesus did not revile in return or threaten his accusers
Committed Himself to Him who judges righteously...To Him who would surely deal with it

- **Committed Himself to the Father:** Give into one's hands/give power over to

1 Peter 3:9 ... not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you **may inherit a blessing**.

Isaiah 53:7 He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth. 8 He was taken from prison and from judgment, And who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living; For the transgressions of My

people He was stricken. 9 And they made His grave with the wicked— But with the rich at His death, Because He had **done no violence**, Nor was any deceit in His mouth.

Jesus bore our ugly sins in His beautiful body on the cross

2 Corinthians 5:21 [God the Father] made Him [Jesus] who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God...

Bore our sins in His body that we would live for righteousness
...by Jesus stripes we are healed

- **Why did we need healing?** We are born mortally wounded. Wandering aimlessly

25 For you were like sheep going astray, but have now **returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.**

- **Good Shepherd:** Individuals and families

Isaiah 40:11 He will feed His flock like a shepherd; He will gather the lambs with His arm, And carry them in His bosom, And gently lead those who are with young.

We cannot lose sight of the goal...Salvation of Souls

- Peter gives us clear instructions that may sound/feel counterintuitive
 1. Submit to all Government Ordinances
 2. Submit to your Employers
 3. Submit to Husbands Ch. 3

Will we simply say no? Will we say yes and not do it? Will we say yes, **and do it?**
Jesus committed Himself to Him who judges righteously