

## 1Peter 4

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### Introduction

- As we have been reading and studying through the book of 1Peter, one of the main words that jumps out from each chapter is “perspective”. When you are living in the “results of the fulfilled plan” stage, in which “all things pertaining to life and godliness”, in which “every spiritual blessing in the heavenlies” has already been granted to us because Jesus has fulfilled the eternal plan of redemption....then perspective is everything!!! And that’s what we see Peter seeking to do with his letter to the churches. To give them a proper perspective of all of the trials and suffering that they were enduring, in light of the eternal hope and promises that is their’s and will be their’s for all of eternity.

- *Chapter 1* -

- *Chapter 2* - vs.1-12

- *Vs.13-25*

- *Chapter 3* - Peter begins by focusing on husband and wife relationships as this is another context in a fallen world where every couple experiences trials, pain, and suffering.

- Beginning then in vs.8 to the end of the chapter, Peter is contrasting two different types of suffering, as well as two different responses to suffering.
  
- And when suffering unjustly, we can either respond to that in the flesh and feel justified in retaliating, or we can die to self and take it patiently because of our relationship and trust in the Lord.
  
- Peter seeks to give the correct perspective by highlighting the “blessing” that we will experience within our own souls because of the depth of knowing God and resting in Him that has to be in place in order to have such a response when being unjustly treated.
  
- *Chapter 4 -*

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### **1Peter 4:1-7**

- Vs. 1- “Suffered for us” = subjected to evil. “Arm yourselves” = prepare/equip yourselves. “Same mind” = with the same purpose, the same mindset
  
- “For he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin” = To have “suffered in the flesh”
  
- “Hath ceased from sin” - Is in the Indicative mood, Passive voice, and Perfect tense.
  
- This is a positional verse that is intended to affect our daily condition or how we are living our lives.

- Vs.2 - Here Peter is giving the result that will come from us having faith in the facts of who we are and what we've been given because Jesus fulfilled the eternal plan of redemption.
- Vs.3-7 then, Peter is seeking to show the absurdity for a believer to continue to live in the flesh by giving the perspective of how unworthy or unfitting that fleshly living is in light of who we are in Christ.

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### **1Peter 4:8-11**

- Vs.8-11 - Peter then instructs us as to how we are to live and function as a corporate body, while we, together wait for His return and the bringing about of the final culmination of all things.

- Vs.8, **ABOVE ALL THINGS**, have fervent love for one another. WHY? Because love covers a multitude of sins.

- His instruction is NOT “above all things strive to be obedient in order to prevent a multitude of sins”.... But, it’s to fervently love as a covering for sin.
- In order for us to clearly understand what Peter is saying here, we need to understand the big picture.

- Vs. 10-11 - Then the last instruction he gives for how we are live and function as a body that is waiting for His return and the culmination of all things, is that we are all to function in the various spiritual gifts that we have been given for the building up and edification of the whole body.