

1Peter Week 4 Class Notes

1Peter 1:13-25

Let's begin by reading **1Peter 1:1-12**. Peter begins this letter to the churches with identity truth.

1. Our Heavenly Father is abundant in mercy. -vs.3
2. He has begotten us to a living hope.-vs.3
3. We have been given an eternal inheritance that is reserved in heaven.-vs.4
4. We are kept by the power of God.-vs.5
5. God is using trials to strengthen our faith.-vs.6-7
6. Our salvation will culminate with the receiving of our future glorification.-vs.9-11

1Peter 1:13-15

“THEREFORE” Peter tells us we are to do 3 things; *“gird up the loins of your mind”*, *“be sober”*, *“rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ”*.

“Gird up the loins of your mind”

We know that in the time when Peter was writing this letter to the churches, that culturally, people wore long flowy garments. They didn't wear tight pants and shorts like we do today. If someone was going to participate in a sport, work, or battle that required their ability to exert maximum strength and effort, they had to gird up their garment around their loins.

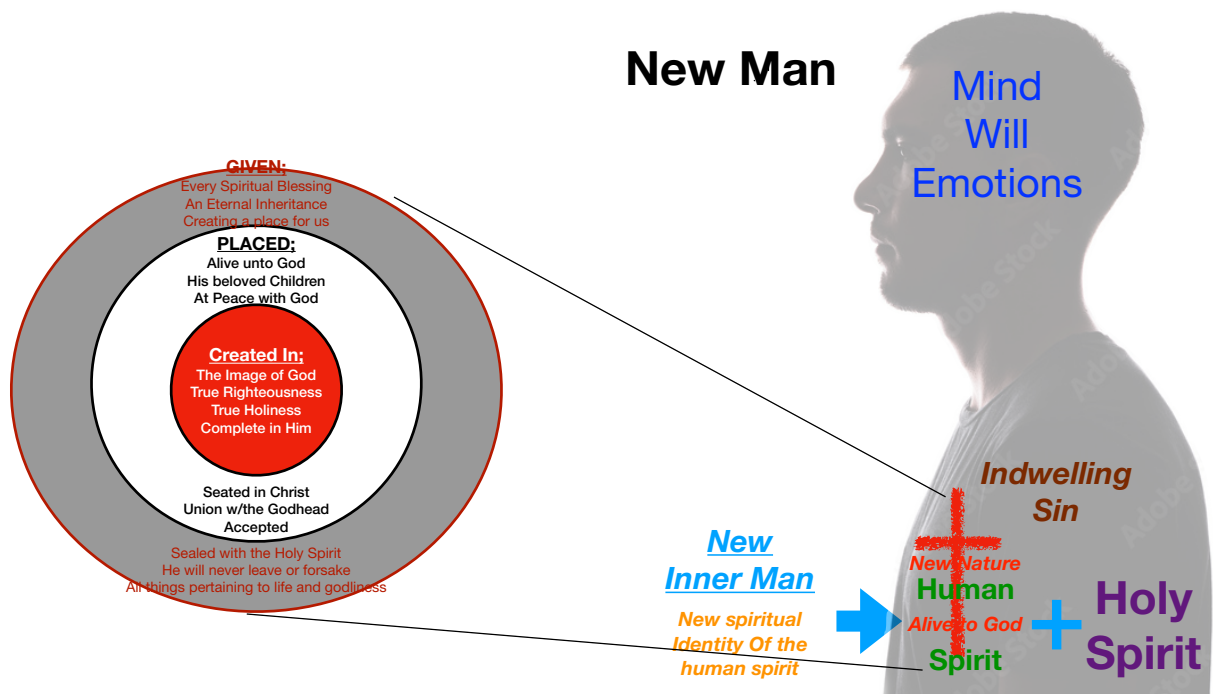
Paul tells us to do the same thing in **Eph.6:14**, when he says, ***“having girded your waist with truth”***.

- Paul actually tells us what it is that we are to gird or girt ourselves with - **“Truth”**. *Truth as evidenced in relation to facts, therefore, alētheia denotes the reality clearly lying before our eyes as opposed to a mere appearance, without reality.*

It’s interesting to note that Paul’s context for making this statement in Ephesians is exactly the same as Peter’s in 1Peter.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

This chart gives us a blow up of the identification truths that both Peter and Paul calls us to “girt up our minds” with.



“Be Sober”

This means to be “sober minded, watchful, or circumspect”. It means to not become intoxicated.

Again, I think it’s helpful for us to consider what Paul wrote to the Ephesian church in ***Eph.5:18***
- And don’t be drunk with wine, which is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit.

1. ***Jn.16:14-15***
2. ***Rom.8:15-17***
3. ***1Cor.2:11-12***
4. ***Gal.4:4-7***

“Rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ”.

The result of the Holy Spirit so convincing us of the reality of the facts of our justification and sanctification (new spiritual identity) will be to “rest our hope fully upon the grace that will be brought” when we actually receive our future glorification.

All humans of every age, regardless of the details of our circumstances have 3 things in common.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Vs.14-15 - Peter’s statement in vs.14-15 - “as obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance, but as He which has called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation”.

1Peter 1:16

Because it is written, be holy for I am holy.

Here, in an effort to support what he is saying in vs.15, Peter quotes **Leviticus 11:44-45; 19:2; 20:7**. Originally this command was given to the Jews (in the preparation stage), but here Peter is applying it to Christians who are living in the results of the fulfilled plan stage.

*****This is why the Meta Narrative is so important and will affect your interpretation of this passage.***

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- If you have the wrong view of this big picture context and think that the Christian life is all about us making ourselves acceptable to God through obedience and faithfulness, then God's command to be holy because He is holy, will cause distance and separation from Him and not closeness and oneness.

1Peter 1:17-21

Vs.17 - "and if you call on the Father"... Is in the present tense, indicative mood, and middle voice. This means that it's not something hypothetical, but was something that Peter's hearers (and we) were continuing to do.

In order to accurately understand what Peter is meaning here in vs. 17, it must be seen in the context of the progression that he lays out in vs.13-16.

1. If you have "girded up the loins of your mind with what is true of you" - vs.13
2. And your thinking and grasp of what is true of you is not being impaired by the flesh - vs.13
3. And you have set your hope fully on the promised future glorification that is to come - vs.13
4. God's design, is that faith in these facts that comes from the ministry of the Holy Spirit will motivate and enable you to live as "obedient children" and not "in your former lusts that you walked in your ignorance".vs.14
5. God's order and design is to change our spiritual identity first (by the blood of Christ and His power), thereby enabling us to walk in light of who we are. We can manifest His holiness and righteousness in our daily lives, but only because He used His power, love, grace, mercy, holiness, and righteousness to make us holy and acceptable unto Himself. Vs.15-16
6. And since He is our Father and we are His true children, because of this relationship and Who He is, He will faithfully "call us out" just as any loving father would do, in regards to any area of our daily lives that are not in line with the new spiritual identity that He has recreated us with.

Vs.18-21 - Peter is now seeking to help all believers value who they are, what they have been given, and the relationship that we all have with God the Father by reminding us of the way in which it all came about.

1Peter 1:22-25

Here in vs.22 we once again see God's order for living out the Christian life, of, identity/positional truth first, action/daily living second. How we act is always determined by who we are.