

Shepherd The Flock of God

| 1 Peter 5:1–3 (ESV)

¹ So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: ² shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; ³ not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock.

- Peter is coming off of 1 Peter 1-4 where he is encouraging us to embrace the suffering in life and count it as joy
- Peter is teaching us that we are going to suffer either way, but having God makes the difference
- Now he is addressing the leaders of the church; pastors, elders, ministry leaders, christian influencers, content creators and podcasters, etc
- He continues, as someone who will also be a part of the glory that is going to be revealed
 - In other words the revelation of Christ in the clouds as we are transformed and given new bodies
 - Colossians 3:4 "4 When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory."
- Shepherd those around you and under you
- be willing and open to disciple those around you
- be a spiritual leader others can come to with questions
- DO NOT do it for selfish gain
- be excited and anxious to help others grow in their faith

- DO NOT be jerks about it; DO NOT be bossy about leading those around you
- Be good examples as you teach, disciple, and lead, that they may also do the same as they grow in their faith

Scripture tends to give us instruction, and then tells us why it is important to follow it

In this case,

| 1 Peter 5:4 (ESV)

| ⁴ And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

Peter is reiterating what he meant in the beginning verses about the glory to be revealed as he echoed Paul's verse in Colossians 3:4

| Colossians 3:4 (ESV)

| ⁴ When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

This means that when we receive our new bodies we will receive a crown of glory. I wonder what that will look like. Don't get too attached though

| Revelation 4:10 (ESV)

| ¹⁰ the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne,

This is a representation of the church. There are 5 crowns we can receive, but because those crowns are based on the finished work of Christ on the cross, the completed renewal of your mind unto salvation by the Holy Spirit, and the good work the Father completed in your life, the crowns all belong to God anyway.

1. The Imperishable Crown (1 Corinthians 9:24-25)
2. The Crown of Rejoicing (1 Thessalonians 2:19)
3. The Crown of Righteousness (2 Timothy 4:8)
4. The Crown of Glory (1 Peter 5:4)

5. The Crown of Life (Revelation 2:10)

| 1 Peter 5:5 (ESV)

| ⁵ Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

- If you are young in the faith subject yourself to your elders in the faith
 - this does not mean believe blindly
 - this is a great opportunity to be like the Bereans
 - Acts 17:11 "11 Now these Jews (Bereans) were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so."
 - The contrast here is that the Thessalonians forgot and did not search and study the scriptures to verify the false letters claiming they were already in the tribulation.
 - The Bereans listened, then verified
 - They had a biblical worldview and scripture was their standard for measuring everything
 - **We should strive to be like Bereans!!**
- We should ALL clothe ourselves with humility
 - Humility should be our nickname or middle name
 - We should exercise humility 24/7
 - Humility - tapeinophrosune (tap-i-nof-ros-oo-nay) literally means to humiliate your mind
 - How does that happen?
 - we think we are bigger and greater than we are, so we make ourselves lesser than we are
 - we make others greater than we are
 - humbling yourself means to not think too much of yourself

- DO NOT be proud, God opposes the proud
- Be humble, God gives grace to the humble

| 1 Peter 5:6 (ESV)

| ⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you,

- Humility pays off, not just here on earth, but with God as He gives you grace, but also exalts you

| 1 Peter 5:7 (ESV)

| ⁷ casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

- bring it all to Jesus
- Matthew 11:29–30 “29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.””

| 1 Peter 5:8 (ESV)

| ⁸ Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

- Do not get high or drunk
 - this is where we become vulnerable and susceptible to sin
 - when we do not have a sober mind, we are grieving or getting ready to grieve the Holy Spirit
- The devil is waiting for you to slip so he can devour you with sin and dishonor
 - the devil is a liar and will tempt you, especially when you are vulnerable

| 1 Peter 5:9 (ESV)

| ⁹ Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.

- Resist the devil by remaining sober minded

- firm in your faith
- in fellowship
- in discipleship
- in prayer
- in worship

| 1 Peter 5:10–11 (ESV)

| ¹⁰ And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

- after all the suffering life will bring you (life is short)
- God, who is a promise keeper
- Will call you to his eternal glory
 - give you a new body
 - you will live with him forever
- He will restore you
- He will confirm you
- He will strengthen you
- He will establish you

Have you ever won a race?

Have you ever lost a race and felt like you won in a way because you finished it?

This will be that. You will win the race just by finishing it, because in finishing it, you will have finished it not by your own effort, but by the grace of God.

- To God be the dominion and glory forever and ever. Amen.

| 1 Peter 5:12–14 (ESV)

¹² By Silvanus, a faithful brother as I regard him, I have written briefly to you, exhorting and declaring that this is the true grace of God. Stand firm in it. ¹³ She who is at Babylon, who is likewise chosen, sends you greetings, and so does Mark, my son. ¹⁴ Greet one another with the kiss of love.

Peace to all of you who are in Christ.

This is a personal greeting, but we might read it this way to end our study of 1 Peter for all of our listeners;

“By this podcast we have spoken briefly to you, exhorting and declaring that this we have studied is the true grace of God. Stand firm in it. She who is a co-host, but not here, sends you all greetings, and so do my daughters. Greet one another with the kiss of love. Peace to all of you who are in Christ.

John 3:16–17 (ESV)

¹⁶ “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

John 14:6 (ESV)

⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.