

1



2

THE BOOK OF 1 PETER

MAJOR THEMES

1. Responding to **Suffering**
2. **Hope** for the future
3. Christian **Identity**
4. Christians and **Culture**
5. **Holiness**

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WEDNESDAYS • 6:30PM


3

REMBRANDT, ST. PETER, 17TH C.

SUFFERING FOR CHRIST

- “But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is **commendable** before God.” **1 Pet 2:20**
- “But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are **blessed.**” **1 Pet. 3:14**
- “But **rejoice** inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed.” **1 Pet 4:13**

4



REMBRANDT, ST. PETER, 17TH C.


SUFFERING FOR CHRIST

- Random Suffering vs. Purposeful Adversity.
- The storms we go through have a **disciplining** effect on us.
- Shape, direction, perseverance.

5

1 PETER 4:1-3 (NIV)


Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because whoever suffers in the body is done with sin. 2 **As a result, they do not live the rest of their earthly lives for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God.** 3 For you have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do—living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry.



6

1 PETER 4:4-6 (NIV)

4 They are surprised that you do not join them in their reckless, wild living, and they heap abuse on you. 5 But they will have to give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. 6 For this is the reason the gospel was preached even to those who are now dead, so that they might be judged according to human standards in regard to the body, but live according to God in regard to the spirit.



7



8

**HUMAN DESIRES
(LUST,
PASSIONS)**

GALATIANS 5:16-17
 “So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. **They are in conflict with each other,** so that you are not to do whatever you want.” (NIV)

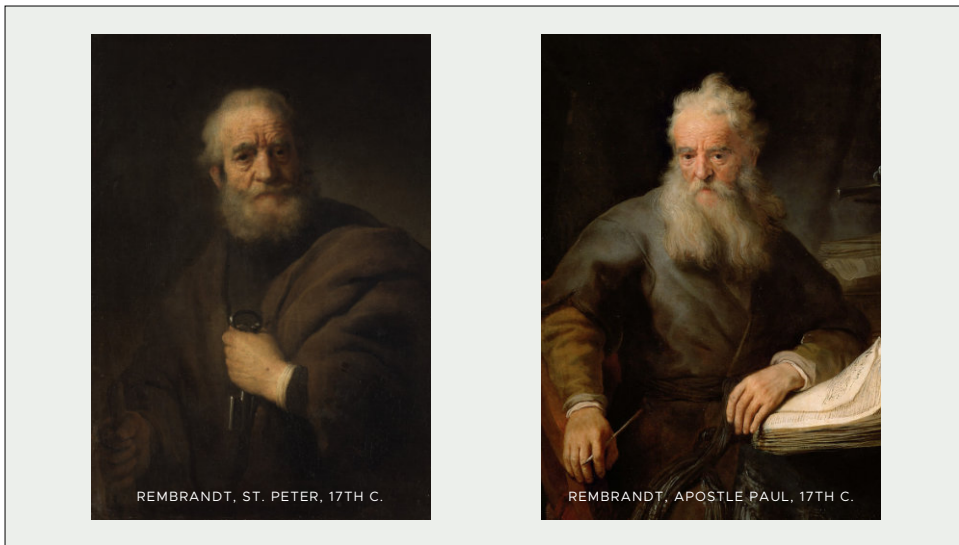
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WILL OF GOD
 “THE RULE BY WHICH
 THE CHRISTIAN
 ORDERS HIS LIFE”
 -RAYMOND KELCY

1 JOHN 2:17
 “The world and its desires pass away, but **whoever does the will of God lives forever.**”

MATTHEW 7:21
 “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, **but only the one who does the will of my Father** who is in heaven.”

10



11

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 Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, **arm** yourselves also with the same attitude, because whoever suffers in the **body** is done with sin. 2 As a result, they do not live the rest of their earthly lives for evil human **desires**, but rather for the will of God. 3 For you have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do—living in debauchery, **lust**, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry.

ROMANS 13:11-14 (NIV)
 “So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the **armor** of light. 13 Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. 14 Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the **desires** of the **flesh.**”

12

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2 As a result, they do not live the rest of their earthly lives for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God.
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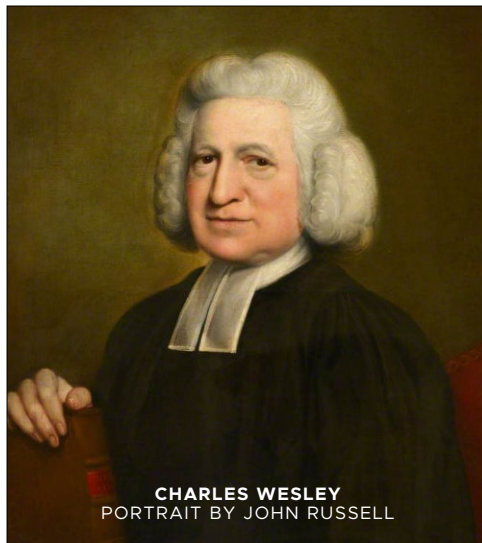
13



2 COR. 10:3-4 (NIV)

“3 For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. 4 The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.”

14



CHARLES WESLEY
PORTRAIT BY JOHN RUSSELL

“SOLDIERS OF CHRIST ARISE”

Stand then in His great might,
With all His strength endued;
And take, to arm you for the fight, The panoply of God,
That, having all things done,
And all your conflicts past,
Ye may o’ercome through
Christ alone,
And stand complete at last.

15



EPHESIANS 6:10-12

“10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on the full armor (**panoply**) of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.”

16

PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

PAST

“For you have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do...” 4:3

PRESENT

“They are surprised that you do not join them in their reckless, wild living...” 4:4

FUTURE

“But they will have to give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead.” 4:5

17

TO BE SURPRISED = TO THINK IT'S *STRANGE*

PAGANS:

“They are **surprised** that you do not join them in their reckless, wild living...” 4:4

PETER:

“Dear friends, do not be **surprised** at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you...” 4:12

BECAUSE:

“I urge you, as **foreigners** and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires” 42:11

18

FOLLOWING JESUS

“3:18 For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit...”

“4:1 Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because whoever suffers in the body is done with sin.”



19

1 PETER 4:7-9 (NIV)

7 The end of all things is near. Therefore be alert and of sober mind so that you may pray.
8 Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.
9 Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling.



20



21

1 PETER 4:10-11 (NIV)

10 Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

11 If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.



22



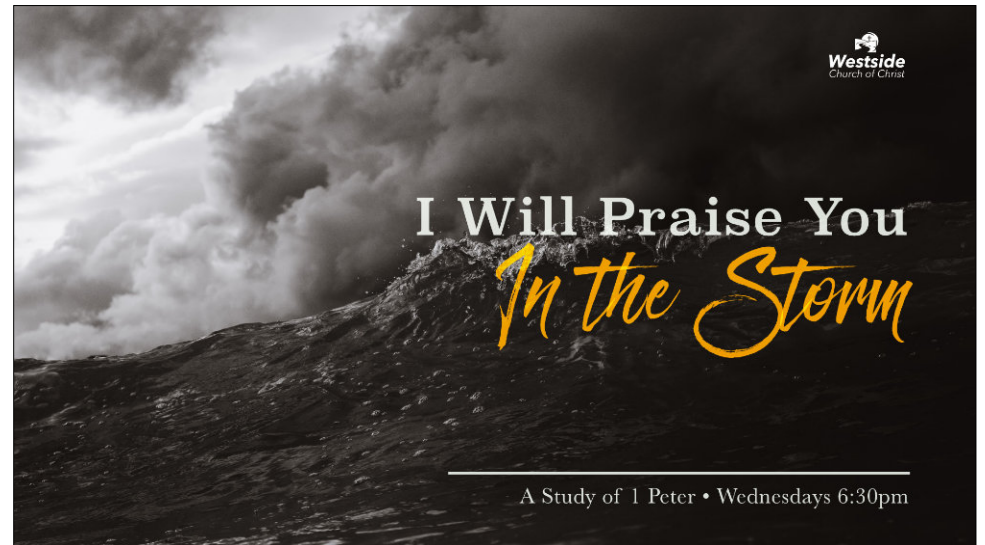
APPLICATION

1. Pray for the right heart / **attitude**.
2. Leave the **past** in the past.
3. Use your **gifts** to be a blessing to others.

Next week: 1 Peter 5



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