

The Example of Jesus

1 Peter 2:20-25 *But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. ²¹ To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.*

²² *“He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.”*

²³ *When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴ “He himself bore our sins” in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; “by his wounds you have been healed.”*

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

Introduction

1. Peter’s Letter

- 1.1 Very practical – Christians scattered and facing persecution
- 1.2 Three key issues
 - a) Salvation
 - b) Suffering
 - c) Submission

2. Jesus Left Us an Example

- 2.1 Greek word *Hupogrammos*: The headline of a copy book given to learners, which contained all the characters that they had to learn by copying
- 2.2 Greek word *Hupodeigma*: A demonstration lesson (John 13:15)

The Suffering of Christ

1. Unjustified

- 1.1 Redemptive
- 1.2 Sacrifice
- 1.3 Substitute

2. Application

- 2.1 Ancient servants
- 2.2 Believers today

The Statements of Christ

1. The Seven Sayings

- 1.1 Forgiveness - Father forgive them (Lk.23:24)

- 1.2 Hope - Today... in paradise (Lk.23:43)
- 1.3 Care - Mary and John (John 19:26-27)
- 1.4 Loneliness and rejection - Why forsaken? (Matt 27:46)
- 1.5 Suffering - I thirst (John 19:28)
- 1.6 Triumph – It is finished (John 19:30)
- 1.7 Surrender – Father into your hands (Lk 23:46)

2. His Silence (Matt 27:14)

- 2.1 On trial
- 2.2 On the cross
 - a) No retaliation or threat
 - b) No cursing or blame

The Surrender of Christ

1. Continual Surrender to God

- 1.1 His life and ministry
- 1.2 His passion
 - a) Gethsemane
 - b) Before Pilate
 - c) The crowd at the cross

2. His Final Prayer

Conclusion

- 1. What is in your heart?
- 2. Is Jesus the centre of your life?

Ron's Quote:

*“The Christian life is to be a crucified life, not an indulged life;
A surrendered life – a life given to Jesus and His purposes”*

*“Fortunate is the man or woman whose heart
is not cluttered with the non-essentials
of this materialistic generation”*