

1 Peter 2:18-25
“Hope In A Hostile World”

AS YOU SETTLE IN...

- Turn to the book of **(1 Peter 2:18-25) NKJV**

~ LET'S PRAY ~

NOTE TAKERS...

- I titled today's message: **“The Master's Agenda”**

~ INTRO ~

TODAY...

- We're going to start with a broad-spectrum of Biblical truth...
 - AND then drop into the point our text...
 - And conclude with personal application for everyone.

OK... GOD HAS A PLAN...

- For every one of your lives!
 - He has a **“Master Agenda!”**

AND... THE DISCOVERY...

- Of who He IS... along with the relationship He wants with us...
 - Is revealed in scripture.

DO YOU BELIEVE THAT?

LIFE IS DIFFICULT...

- And we all get stuck from time-to-time.
 - Church it's ok to have problems...
 - But it's never ok to stay there!

(2 Tim 3:16-17) NKJV

- **Doctrine** = Tells us what is right...
 - By revealing both God & His will to us.
- **Reproof** = Tells us what's NOT right.
 - This speaks about our behavior... our habits in life!

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- **Correction** = Tells us how to get right.
 - God’s word restores us to a proper condition...
 - When we sin AND get off track.
- **Instruction** = Tells us how to stay right.
 - This is the cultivation of our mind & morals!
 - The flavor of the language is encased around...
 - Simple steps for training a child!

SO... ONCE AGAIN...

- Please remember what God has revealed to us thru Peter’s letter.

(CHP# 1) **EXHORTS** THE CHURCH:

- 1) **Why** we’re to live different? – Ransomed / cleansed / born again.
 - (I’m an new person in Christ).
 - The old life has passed away... FORGET IT!!!
- 2) **How** we’re to live different – Our actions & attitudes represent Him.

IN (CHP# 2)...

- 3) The **privilege** of being able to live different.
 - Because Christ is our *Cornerstone*...
 - Our foundation & source of strength for a different life!
- 4) The **purpose** behind living differently.
 - (2:9) NLT “*show others*” (*Ex – Ang – El’ – Lo*)
 - Christian’s are the living examples of God’s love on earth.

~ STUDY ~

NOW TODAY...

- We move forward into the second-topic of *submission to authority*:

SUB - MISSION...

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- The recognition of God’s authority IN & OVER our lives!
 - I’m to live on MISSION... under >>> (sub) >>> God’s will.

HERE’S WHAT THE TEXT SAYS:

- (1 Peter 2:18-25) NKJV

IDEA #1 – “BASIC DUTY” (vv.18-20) NKJV

(v.18) *Servants / slaves*...

- The common Greek term for slave is (*Doulos*)...
- However... the word here is different – (*oy-k-tase*).
 - **Meaning:** Household or domestic servant.
- This is a person who is low-skilled & does routine work.
 - Primarily... in the area of household chores.

NOW... IT’S HELPFUL TO UNDERSTAND...

- The culture at that time!
- ROME was divided into rich & poor classes.
 - The poor class made up about 40% + of the Roman Empire.
 - (This was NOT a race-issue!!!)

TODAY’S COMMENTATORS...

- Attempt to make...
 - Employee / employer relationships a like kind here.
- BUT it’s NOT an accurate fit!
 - Because the people in Peter’s day... didn’t have any choice.
 - They were property that was owned & could not leave.

AND THIS IS WHERE THE ISSUE STARTS!

- Peter is giving a remedy to a **heart issue** that traps a person...
 - AND destroys generations far beyond the actual situation.
 - With bitterness / hatred / revenge!

ALL THE STUFF WE SEE...

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- Being played out in our streets right now.

AND...

- Politicians / movie stars / rich / famous / etc....
 - Are interlacing with the BLM movement...
 - Because they are bound by the issue Peter talks about.
- It's NOT because they're suffering in the moment...
 - It's because they are literally “Sin Sick”...
 - And bound by bitterness to the core!
- And the only thing that will ever allow them to live a free life...
 - Does not come in the form of money (rep-a-rations)!

GOD PROVIDES THE REMEDY TO OVERCOME...

- **Harsh treatment OR the history of harsh treatment...**

(v.19) “For this is commendable before God”

- *Charis* (grace) = Allowing God to change your heart!

WATCH...

- Peter is saying the way to have HOPE in an impossible situation...
 - (Where you're surrounded by hostility)...
 - Is to submit & let God insulate your heart from the...
 - Long lasting scars of bitterness that enslaves souls!

WE CAN ALL RELATE TO THAT!

YET...

- Understand that God is STILL speaking to those bitter-souls...
 - Prostituting a 21st Century narrative of racism / abuse!

YOU CAN FIGHT IT – IF YOU WANT TO!?!)

- But the simple reality is...
 - There's only one way to be whole... It's thru God's grace!

➤ **No amount of reparation will nurture a human soul!**

- **Money is NEVER the answer!**

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IDEA #2 – "EXAMPLE TO FOLLOW" (vv.21-25) NLT

IN THESE FINAL VERSES...

- Peter gives us the example of the suffering servant – Christ.

WHEN JESUS WALKED THE EARTH...

- He modeled how to overcome wrong.

PAUL SAYS... (Rom 12:21) NLT

"Don't let evil conquer you, but conquer evil by doing good."

SIDE NOTE:

Forgiveness does NOT mean access back into your life.

- That's a TRUST issue, which is earned slowly...
 - And sometimes it's lost forever!
- Forgiveness is a heart issue...
 - That protects a person from being destroyed by bitterness...
 - From a long & unforgiving memory! (Phil 2:13) NKJV

~ IN CLOSING ~

FOR ALL OF YOU... WHO HAVE SUFFERED...

- From a history of bitterness & wrong doings...
 - JESUS invites you to lay the trauma down...
 - Right now & never pick it up again!
- That thing you've carried since you were a kid!
 - That things that haunts as a negging thought!

GOD WANTS TO...

- Exchange your devastating scar for peace.
 - Exchange your memories of wrong doings for rest.

BUT THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY IT CAN HAPPEN...

- (Matt. 6:14-15) NKJV

~ LET'S PRAY ~