ARMED AND DANGEROUS

1 Peter 4:1-11



WE ARE TO BE ARMED WITH CHRIST'S MIND

Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same way of thinking, 1 PETER 4:1

Christ's mindset toward suffering should become our weapon against sin and worldliness.

Christ's mind saw suffering not as meaningless pain, but as purposeful preparation.

WE ARE TO BE ARMED WITH CHRIST'S MIND



for whoever has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin,

1 PETER 4:1

When we suffer with Christ's mindset, we break free from sin's control over us.



- WE FIND THAT GOD'S GRACE IS SUFFICIENT.
- WE LEARN THAT JOY DOESN'T DEPEND ON CIRCUMSTANCES.
- WE REALIZE THAT OUR IDENTITY ISN'T TIED TO COMFORT.

OUR NEW LIFE IS DANGEROUS TO OUR OLD LIFE

so as to live for the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for human passions but for the will of God. For the time that is past suffices for doing what the Gentiles want to do, living in sensuality, passions, drunkenness, orgies, drinking parties, and lawless idolatry.

1 PETER 4:2-3

When we're armed with Christ's mind, we become dangerous to these old patterns of living.

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1 PETER 4:2-3

Sensuality - Aselgeia - unbridled indulgence, living without moral restraint
Drunkenness - Methus - being controlled by substances
Drinking parties - Potos - social gatherings centered in excess
Lawless idolatry - Athemitos Eidololatria - unlawful worship of false gods

Human passions drive us to find life, meaning, and satisfaction in created things rather than in our Creator.



With respect to this they are surprised when you do not join them in the same flood of debauchery, and they malign you;

1 PETER 4:4

There's a higher court than public opinion, a great authority than cultural pressure.

WE ARE TO BE ARMED FOR LOVE

The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins.

1 PETER 4:7-8

God's ultimate purposes are being worked out, history is moving toward its climax, and in light of this reality, we need to live differently.

WE ARE TO BE ARMED FOR LOVE

The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins.

1 PETER 4:7-8

Your best efforts of correction will come through affection, not calculations, estimations, or condemnation.

GOD'S WORD IMPLORES US TO BE ARMED FOR SERVICE

Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies — in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

1 PETER 4:9-11

The word "hospitality" here is "philoxenos" - literally "love of strangers".

God's grace comes to us in many different forms, and He expects us to pass it on in many different ways.

SPEAKING GIFTS AND SERVING GIFTS

SPEAKING GIFTS

Speak "as one who speaks oracles of God"

Oracles - "Logia" - the very words of God

Our words are to carry the weight and authority of God's truth.

SERVING GIFTS

Serve "by the strength that God supplies"

Strength - "Ischus" - power, might, the ability to accomplish something

We're not serving in our own power, we're serving in God's power.

WHAT'S THE GOAL?

"In order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ."

To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. 1 PETER 4:11

The world wants to arm you with outrage, materialism, frustration, and self-protection.

But God wants to arm you with Christ's mind, His love, and His power.