

STUDYING 1 PETER 5

(1) In your group read aloud the chapter (1 Peter 5) that you are about to study in a translation of your choice. As a group discuss the general content of that chapter.

(2) Read and Discuss each verse or verses in the *King James Version* and *The Simplified King James Versions* (as well as additional translations of your choice) marked by: ::::::::::> READ THE FOLLOWING: and <::::::::: STOP, DISCUSS OR COMMENT.

(3) Answer the Study Questions by going to the appropriate Scriptures. Then discuss with your group. (An 'Answer Key' to the Questions can be found at the end of each chapter).

THE SIMPLIFIED KING JAMES VERSION AND DISCIPLESHIP PROGRAM

I PETER CHAPTER 5

1 PETER CHAPTER 5 VERSES 1-2

::::::::> READ THE FOLLOWING:

1PE 5:[1] The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: **[2]** Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; **(King James Version)**

1PE 5:[1] The elders [those who presided over the assemblies or churches] which are among you I exhort [address], who am also an elder [Christian leader], and a witness [one who can give a firsthand account of something seen] of the sufferings [to feel pain or distress; injury, harm, or punishment] of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: [and I will share in his glory that is to be revealed]. **[2]** Feed the flock of God which is among [in your midst] you, taking the oversight [watchful care or management; supervision] thereof, not by constraint [not because you are forced], but willingly [eagerly]; not for filthy lucre [not for financial gain], but of a ready mind [willingly]; **(The Simplified King James Version – literal text)**

1PE 5: [1] To the elders that preside over the Christian assemblies, I address you, who am also a Christian leader, a firsthand witness of the sufferings of *the* Christ, and also one who shall share in his glory that is to be revealed. **[2]** Feed the flock of God which is in your midst, taking watchful care and management thereof, not because you are forced, but eagerly; not for financial gain, but willingly; **(The Simplified King James Version – paraphrased)**

In addition to the King James and Simplified King James Versions you may also read this verse (s) in a **translation (s) of your choice**. Then stop and discuss.

<:::::::::: STOP, DISCUSS OR COMMENT.

ANSWER THE STUDY QUESTIONS BY GOING TO THE APPROPRIATE SCRIPTURES. SOME QUESTIONS MAY HAVE MORE THAN ONE ANSWER. AN ANSWER KEY IS SUPPLIED AT THE END OF EACH CHAPTER.

1. Read 1 Peter 5:1-2. In these verses the apostle Peter is addressing the elders, the Christian leaders in the congregation. True or False.

2. Read 1 Peter 5:2. Pastors in the Christian congregation are to: a. Feed the flock of God. b. take watchful care for the people of God. c. manage well. d. serve willingly. e. try to gain wealth from their position.

1 PETER CHAPTER 5 VERSES 3-4

::::::::::> READ THE FOLLOWING:

1PE 5: [3] Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being examples to the flock. **[4]** And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away. **(King James Version)**

1PE 5: [3] Neither as being lords [dictators] over God's heritage [inheritance], but being examples to the flock [a group of Christ's disciples]. [4] And when the chief Shepherd [Christ the head of the church] shall appear, ye shall receive [future tense] a crown of glory that fadeth not away. (The Simplified King James Version – literal text)

1PE 5: [3] Neither lording over God's people as dictators do, but being examples to the congregation. **[4]** And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you shall receive a crown of glory that does not fade away. **(The Simplified King James Version – paraphrased)**

In addition to the King James and Simplified King James Versions you may also read this verse (s) in a **translation (s) of your choice**. Then stop and discuss.

<:::::::::: STOP, DISCUSS OR COMMENT.

3. Read 1 Peter 5:3-4. Pastors are to lord over God's people. True or False.

4. Read 1 Peter 5:3-4. Pastors must be an example to the congregation. True or False.

1 PETER CHAPTER 5 VERSES 5-7

::::::::::::> READ THE FOLLOWING:

1PE 5: [5] Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for **GOD RESISTETH THE PROUD, AND GIVETH GRACE TO THE HUMBLE. PROVERBS 3:34 [6]** Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: **[7]** Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you. **(King James Version)**

1PE 5: [5] Likewise [Also], ye younger [you younger], submit yourselves [be subordinate] unto the elder [to those who are older]. Yea [Yes], all of you be subject one to another [all of you be submissive to one another], and be clothed with humility [lowliness of mind]: for **GOD RESISTETH** [opposes] **THE PROUD** [haughty], **AND GIVETH GRACE** [loving-kindness and favor] **TO THE HUMBLE** [lowly]. **PROVERBS 3:34 [6]** Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God [take a low place under the mighty hand of God's leading, Last Days N.T.], that he may exalt you in due time [that he might lift you up and exalt you in the proper time]: **[7]** Casting all your care upon him [Throw and place all your care and anxiety upon Him]; for he careth [present tense] for you. **(The Simplified King James Version – literal text)**

1PE 5: [5] Also, you younger, be subordinate to those who are older. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with lowliness of mind: for **GOD OPPOSES THE PROUD AND HAUGHTY, BUT GIVETH GRACE, LOVING-KINDNESS AND FAVOR TO THOSE WHO ARE LOWLY. [6]** Take a low place under the mighty hand of God's leading, that he might lift you up and exalt you in the proper time: **[7]** Throw and place all your care and anxiety upon Him; for he cares and continues to care for you. **(The Simplified King James Version – paraphrased)**

In addition to the King James and Simplified King James Versions you may also read this verse (s) in a translation (s) of your choice. Then stop and discuss.

<:::::::::::: STOP, DISCUSS OR COMMENT.

5. Read 1 Peter 5:5. The New Testament and Old Testament elders were men who were older, full of wisdom from life's experiences, who walked in the way of righteousness. Peter now tells the younger people to learn from these men. True or False.

6. **Read 1 Peter 5:5.** God opposes the proud and haughty, but gives grace to the lowly and humble. True or False.

7. **Read 1 Peter 5:6.** We are to humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God, for He is our Lord. True or False.

8. **Read 1 Peter 5:7.** We are to throw and place all our cares and anxiety upon the Lord, for He cares and continues to care for us. True or False.

1 PETER CHAPTER 5 VERSES 8-9

.....> **READ THE FOLLOWING:**

1PE 5: [8] Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: **[9]** Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world. **(King James Version)**

1PE 5: [8] Be sober [steadfast, self-controlled, with clarity of mind, and moral decisiveness], be vigilant [on alert and watchful]; because your adversary [enemy] the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking [to locate and discover] whom he may devour [destroy and consume]: **[9]** Whom resist [to set one's self against, oppose] stedfast [steady and constant] in the faith [concerning every teaching of the Christian faith], knowing that the same afflictions [that which one suffers or has suffered] are accomplished [to impose upon] in your brethren that are in the world. **(The Simplified King James Version – literal text)**

1PE 5: [8] As a Christian you are to be sober, in charge of your priorities and not intoxicated with the allurements of this world. Be alert and watchful; because your enemy the devil, as a roaring lion, walks about, trying to locate and discover whom he may devour, destroy and consume. **[9]** Remain unyielding in resisting *the devil*. Remain steadfast and firm in every teaching of the Christian faith. Remember, your brethren in this world are experiencing the same kind of sufferings that you are. **(The Simplified King James Version – paraphrased)**

In addition to the King James and Simplified King James Versions you may also read this verse (s) in a translation (s) of your choice. Then stop and discuss.

<..... **STOP, DISCUSS OR COMMENT.**

9. **Read 1 Peter 5:8.** As Christians we are to: a. be sober. b. be steadfast. c. be self-controlled. d. have clarity of mind. e. have moral decisiveness.

10. Read 1 Peter 5:8. Our enemy the devil, seeks to locate and discover: a. whom he may devour. b. whom he may destroy. c. whom he may consume. d. all of the above.

11. Read 1 Peter 5:9. We are to remain unyielding in resisting: a. our mother-in-law. b. our wife. c. our husband. d. the devil.

12. Read 1 Peter 5:9, Acts 2:42. Christians are to remain steadfast and firm in every teaching of the Apostle's. True or False.

13. Read 1 Peter 5:9, Matt. 5:10, 2 Tim. 3:12-13. Christians will experience suffering in this world for righteousness sake. True or False.

1 PETER CHAPTER 5 **VERSES 10-11**

.....> **READ THE FOLLOWING:**

1PE 5: [10] But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you. **[11]** To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. **(King James Version)**

1PE 5: [10] But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while [for a short time], make you perfect [will Himself perfect you], stablish [strengthen and make you stable], strengthen [make you strong], settle you [firm and unwavering]. **[11]** To him be glory and dominion [supremacy over all] for ever and ever. Amen [so be it, may it be fulfilled]. **(The Simplified King James Version – literal text)**

1PE 5: [10] You will suffer for a while, but the God of all grace, who has called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, will Himself make you perfect, stable, strong, firm and unwavering. **[11]** To Him be glory and supremacy over all, forever and ever. Amen, so be it, may it be fulfilled. **(The Simplified King James Version – paraphrased)**

In addition to the King James and Simplified King James Versions you may also read this verse (s) in **a translation (s) of your choice**. Then stop and discuss.

<.....: **STOP, DISCUSS OR COMMENT**

14. Read 1 Peter 5:10. After we have suffered for a while, God will perfect, confirm, strengthen, establish and call us into His eternal glory by Christ Jesus. True or False.

15. Read 1 Peter 5:11. To God belongs, glory, dominion (supremacy over all) forever and ever. True or False.

1 PETER CHAPTER 5
VERSE 12

.....> **READ THE FOLLOWING:**

1PE 5: [12] By Silvanus, a faithful brother unto you, as I suppose, I have written briefly, exhorting, and testifying that this is the true grace of God wherein ye stand. **(King James Version)**

1PE 5: [12] By Silvanus [Silas], a faithful brother unto you, as I suppose, I have written briefly [this short letter], exhorting [making an urgent appeal], and testifying [and establishing by testimony] that this is the true grace of God wherein ye stand [stand fast in it]. **(The Simplified King James Version – literal text)**

1PE 5: [12] By Silas, a faithful brother as I consider him, I have written this short letter, making an urgent appeal, and testifying that these words represent the true grace of God. Stand fast and strong in it. **(The Simplified King James Version – paraphrased)**

In addition to the King James and Simplified King James Versions you may also read this verse (s) in a **translation (s) of your choice**. Then stop and discuss.

<.....: **STOP, DISCUSS OR COMMENT.**

16. Read 1 Peter 5:12. Peter writing with the help of Silas, testifies that what he has written is a revelation of: a. the apostle's creed. b. missing letters to the church. c. the true grace of God.

1 PETER CHAPTER 5
VERSES 13-14

.....> **READ THE FOLLOWING:**

1PE 5: [13] The church that is at Babylon, elected together with you, saluteth you; and so doth Marcus my son. **[14]** Greet ye one another with a kiss of charity. Peace be with you all that are in Christ Jesus. Amen. **(King James Version)**

1PE 5: [13] The church that is at Babylon [the territory of Babylonia, allegorically of Rome], elected together with you [chosen by God], saluteth you [greet you]; and so doth Marcus [Mark] my son. **[14]** Greet ye one another with a kiss of charity [a symbol of Christian love]. Peace be with you all that are in Christ Jesus. Amen [So be it!]. **(The Simplified King James Version – literal text)**

1PE 5: [13] The church that is at Babylon, chosen by God, greets you; and so does Mark my son. **[14]** Greet one another with a kiss of charity, the symbol of Christian

love. Peace be with you all that are in Christ Jesus. Amen. **(The Simplified King James Version – paraphrased)**

In addition to the King James and Simplified King James Versions you may also read this verse (s) in a **translation (s) of your choice**. Then stop and discuss.

<:::::::::: **STOP, DISCUSS OR COMMENT.**

Again, read this chapter (1 Peter 5) in a translation of your choice (or in the Simplified King James Version – Paraphrased, at the end of this book) and as a group discuss its contents.

ANSWER KEY

(1 Peter Chapter 5)

Discover the answers by going to the appropriate Scriptures.

- 1. Read 1 Peter 5:1-2.** In these verses the apostle Peter is addressing the elders, the Christian leaders in the congregation. True or False.
- 2. Read 1 Peter 5:2.** Pastors in the Christian congregation are to: a. Feed the flock of God. b. take watchful care for the people of God. c. manage well. d. serve willingly. e. try to gain wealth from their position.
- 3. Read 1 Peter 5:3-4.** Pastors are to lord over God's people. True or False.
- 4. Read 1 Peter 5:3-4.** Pastors must be an example to the congregation. True or False.
- 5. Read 1 Peter 5:5.** The New Testament and Old Testament elders were men who were older, full of wisdom from life's experiences, who walked in the way of righteousness. Peter now tells the younger people to learn from these men. True or False.
- 6. Read 1 Peter 5:5.** God opposes the proud and haughty, but gives grace to the lowly and humble. True or False.
- 7. Read 1 Peter 5:6.** We are to humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God, for He is our Lord. True or False.
- 8. Read 1 Peter 5:7.** We are to throw and place all our cares and anxiety upon the Lord, for He cares and continues to care for us. True or False.
- 9. Read 1 Peter 5:8.** As Christians we are to: a. be sober. b. be steadfast. c. be self-controlled. d. have clarity of mind. e. have moral decisiveness.

10. Read 1 Peter 5:8. Our enemy the devil, seeks to locate and discover: a. whom he may devour. b. whom he may destroy. c. whom he may consume. d. all of the above.

11. Read 1 Peter 5:9. We are to remain unyielding in resisting: a. our mother-in-law. b. our wife. c. our husband. d. the devil.

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13. Read 1 Peter 5:9, Matt. 5:10, 2 Tim. 3:12-13. Christians will experience suffering in this world for righteousness sake. True or False.

14. Read 1 Peter 5:10. After we have suffered for a while, God will perfect, confirm, strengthen, establish and call us into His eternal glory by Christ Jesus. True or False.

15. Read 1 Peter 5:11. To God belongs, glory, dominion (supremacy over all) forever and ever. True or False.

16. Read 1 Peter 5:12. Peter writing with the help of Silas, testifies that what he has written is a revelation of: a. the apostle's creed. b. missing letters to the church. c. the true grace of God.

- FOR STUDY PURPOSES - THE SIMPLIFIED KING JAMES VERSION - LITERAL TEXT

1 PETER CHAPTER 1

THE SIMPLIFIED KING JAMES VERSION - LITERAL TEXT

CONSIDER THE CONTEXT

The context is the information which proceeds or follows each verse or set of verses. It contains the unit of thought that surrounds each verse or verses. It must be considered in order to come to a proper interpretation of a verse or verses.

¹Peter [one of the 12 disciples of Jesus], **an apostle** [an ambassador] **of Jesus Christ** [the Anointed King and Messiah], **to the strangers scattered** [people away from their homes, living as foreigners in a land not their own, usually under persecution by being driven out of their land] **throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and**

Bithynia, [Asia Minor, now part of modern Turkey] ²**Elect** [chosen] **according to the foreknowledge of God the Father** [God the Father knew them intimately], **through sanctification of the Spirit** [sanctified by the Spirit, that is, made holy and set apart unto God] **unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ**: [The reference is probably to the making of the covenant in Ex. 24:7-8, where the blood of the sacrifice was sprinkled on the people after they had promised obedience to the Lord. In this verse it is obedience to Jesus Christ, also called repentance toward God and faith toward the Lord Jesus – See Acts 20:21] **Grace unto you** [God's free and undeserved love], **and peace** [prosperity and well-being], **be multiplied**.

³**Blessed** [praise] **be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy** [kindness and good will] **hath begotten us again** [we are born anew] **unto a lively hope** [a living expectation] **by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead**, ⁴**To an inheritance** [what is given to one as a possession] **incorruptible** [not liable to corruption or decay, immortal], **and undefiled** [unsoiled], **and that fadeth not away** [eternal], **reserved in heaven for you**, ⁵**Who are kept by the power of God through faith** [by the means of faith] **unto** [until] **salvation ready to be revealed in the last time** [at the Last Day, the end of time – Christians of NT times lived in expectation of the Day (that is the time) when the present world with all its evil and wickedness would be brought to an end and Jesus would return to earth to judge all mankind, inaugurate a new age of peace, a new heaven and earth, an enter upon his Lordship over the whole world. The idea of the two ages had its origins in the OT. See Heb. 9:28; Matt. 13:36-43]. ⁶**Wherein ye greatly rejoice** [in what is waiting for you], **though now for a season** [a short time], **if need be, ye are in heaviness** [to throw into sorrow and grief] **through manifold temptations** [various trials]: ⁷**That the trial of your faith** [the proving or testing], **being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found** [proved genuine] **unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing** [manifestation or appearance] **of Jesus Christ**: ⁸**Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing** [to place confidence in], **ye rejoice** [in triumph] **with joy** [gladness] **unspeakable** [beyond expression] **and full of glory** [praise and celebration]: ⁹**Receiving the end of your faith** [the end result of your faith], **even the salvation of your souls** [here, as in most places where the word is used, the biblical writer means "yourselves" or "your person"]].

¹⁰**Of which salvation** [Messianic salvation] **the prophets** [OT prophets] **have enquired and searched diligently** [to search out and investigate thoroughly], **who prophesied** [foretold] **of the grace** [the merciful kindness] **that should come unto you**: ¹¹**Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify** [seeking to know what person or time the Spirit of Christ within them was indicating], **when it testified beforehand** [predicted] **the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow** [the suffering and then glorified Messiah] [Messiah means 'The Anointed One', because He would be anointed as Prophet, Priest and King. Messiah is a Hebrew word. The Greeks translated it as Christos, which was then shortened in English to Christ. It was used first as a title – Jesus the Christ]. ¹²**Unto whom it was revealed** [made known], **that not unto themselves** [the prophets], **but unto us** [the saints] **they did minister** [inform us of] **the** [these] **things, which are now reported** [proclaimed and announced] **unto you by them that have preached the**

gospel [the good news and glad tidings] **unto you with** [or through] **the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into** [to inspect curiously].

¹³**Wherefore gird up** [prepare] **the loins of your mind** [your way of thinking], **be sober** [lit., to be free from the influence of intoxicants, that is, exercise self-control and free your minds of encumbrances] , **and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought** [set your hope on the grace that is coming] **unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ** [when Jesus Christ is revealed]; ¹⁴**As obedient children** [following the commands or guidance of God], **not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts** [the desires of the flesh before your salvation] **in your ignorance** [lack of knowledge of divine things and moral blindness]: ¹⁵**But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy** [set apart from sin to Him] **in all manner of conversation** [behavior and lifestyle]; ¹⁶**Because it is written, BE YE HOLY; FOR I AM HOLY** [spiritually pure, moral perfection and perfect goodness] (**Leviticus 11:44-45; 19:2**).

¹⁷**And if ye call on** [appeal unto] **the Father, who without respect of persons** [who is impartial] **judgeth** [to give an authoritative opinion and sentence] **according to every man's work** [deeds], **pass the time of your sojourning** [dwelling in a land not your own] **here in fear** [with reverence for God]: ¹⁸**Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed** [to liberate, to deliver from evils of every kind] **with corruptible things** [perishing things], **as silver and gold, from your vain conversation** [a manner of life without purpose] **received by tradition from your fathers** [handed down from one's ancestors]; ¹⁹**But with the precious** [of a great price] **blood** [shed blood] **of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot** [a sacrifice without spot or blemish]: ²⁰**Who verily was foreordained** [to decree before] **before the foundation of the world** [the universe, & the inhabiting of the earth], **but was manifest** [made known] **in these last times** [last days] **for you,** ²¹**Who by** [means of] **him** [the Messiah – Jesus] **do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory** [praise, honor, glory & majesty]; **that your faith and hope** [expectation of good] **might be in God.**

²²**Seeing ye have purified** [cleansed] **your souls** [hearts] **in obeying** [in obedience to] **the truth through** [or by] **the Spirit unto unfeigned** [sincere] **love of the brethren** [brothers and sisters], **see that ye love** [Gk. agapao] **one another with a pure** [clean & pure] **heart** [the center of all spiritual life] **fervently** [earnestly & intensely]: ²³**Being** [present tense] **born again** [metaph. To have one's heart changed so that he lives a new life and one conformed to the will of God], **not of corruptible** [perishing] **seed, but of incorruptible** [immortal], **by the word of God** [sayings of God], **which liveth and abideth** [to remain] **for ever.**

²⁴**FOR ALL FLESH** [all people] **IS AS GRASS, AND ALL THE GLORY** [splendor, greatness & honor] **OF MAN AS THE FLOWER OF GRASS. THE GRASS WITHERETH** [turns brown & dies], **AND THE FLOWER THEREOF FALLETH AWAY** [falls to the ground & perishes, See 1 Jn. 2:17]: ²⁵**BUT THE WORD OF THE LORD** [that which is uttered, See Mt. 4:4] **ENDURETH FOR EVER** [remains & abides forever] (**Isaiah 40:6-8**). **And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.** [The fundamental idea is the telling of good news to people who have not heard. The content of this message was fixed in Apostolic teaching. It was the message and meaning of salvation brought about in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ]

summed up as follows: 'The age of fulfillment has dawned; this has taken place through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus; Jesus, as Messiah, has been exalted to God's right hand; the Holy Spirit in the Church is the evidence of Christ's power and presence; Christ will return and bring in the New Age; therefore repent, receive forgiveness and the Holy Spirit and the promise of salvation.' (C.H. Dodd). These ideas are usually present whenever 'preaching' is spoken of in the apostolic writings.]

1 PETER CHAPTER 2

THE SIMPLIFIED KING JAMES VERSION – LITERAL TEXT

[1] Wherefore [Therefore] **laying aside** [to put off, aside, or away] **all** [any and every form of] **malice** [malicious behavior and wickedness], **and all** [any and every form of] **guile** [deceit], **and hypocrisies** [pretending to be something you're not], **and envies** [jealousy and wanting what others have] , **and all evil speaking** [hurtful talk and slander], **[2] As newborn** [just born] **babes** [infants], **desire** [crave] **the sincere** [pure] **milk** [simple teaching] **of the word** [God's Word], **that ye may grow** [spiritually] **thereby** [by that means or because of that]: **[3] If so be ye** [If so be that you] **have tasted** [experienced and enjoyed] **that the Lord is gracious** [kind].

[4] To whom coming [present tense, keep coming], **as unto a living stone** [the living cornerstone of God's spiritual temple (his people)], **disallowed indeed of men** [disapproved and rejected by men], **but chosen of God** [picked out and selected by God], **and precious** [held in honor and prized], **[5] Ye also** [you also], **as lively stones** [as living building stones], **are built up a spiritual house** [are erecting a spiritual house – *a house in which God lives*], **an holy priesthood** [to be holy priest], **to offer up spiritual sacrifices** [to offer up spiritual sacrifices, *gifts and offerings to God*], **acceptable to God by Jesus Christ** [satisfactory to God by Jesus Christ]. **[6] Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture** [In the Scripture it says], **BEHOLD** [See] , **I LAY** [place] **IN ZION** [Jerusalem] **A CHIEF CORNER STONE** [a corner foundation stone - *which is Jesus*], **ELECT** [chosen and picked out *by God*], **PRECIOUS** [valuable]: **AND HE THAT BELIEVETH ON HIM** [present tense - and he that believeth and continues to believe on Him] **SHALL NOT BE CONFOUNDED** [ashamed because some hope has deceived]. **(ISAIAH 28:16) [7] Unto you therefore which believe he is precious** [*This foundation stone – Jesus – is precious and valuable to you who believe*]: **but unto them which be disobedient** [to refuse belief and obedience, not to comply with], **THE STONE** [Jesus the Christ] **WHICH THE BUILDERS DISALLOWED** [disapproved, rejected, and repudiated], **THE SAME** [this] **IS MADE** [become] **THE HEAD OF THE CORNER**, [the chief and supreme corner (foundation) stone] **(PSALM 118:22) [8] And A STONE OF STUMBLING** [a stumbling block – an obstacle that causes one to stumble and fall], **AND A ROCK OF OFFENCE**, [a rock that offends] **(ISAIAH 8:14) even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient** [they stumble because they don't believe and obey God's word]: **whereunto also they were appointed** [this is what God planned to happen to unbelieving people – that they will fall].

[9] But ye are A CHOSEN GENERATION [But you are God's chosen family], **A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD** [a kingly office of priest], **AN HOLY NATION** [a holy

race], **A PECULIAR PEOPLE** [God's own possession]; **that ye should show forth the praises of him** [so that you can sing God's praises] **who hath called you out of darkness** [spiritual blindness] **into his marvellous light: [10] Which in time past** [Formerly] **were NOT A PEOPLE** [you were not God's people], **BUT ARE NOW THE PEOPLE OF GOD: WHICH HAD NOT OBTAINED MERCY** [, **BUT NOW HAVE OBTAINED MERCY.** [once you were outside of God's mercy, now you have it.]

[11] Dearly beloved [Dear brothers and sisters], **I beseech you** [I appeal to you] **as strangers** [foreigners] **and pilgrims** [temporary residents], **abstain from** [refrain from] **fleshly lusts** [carnal desires], **which war** [which battle and fight] **against the soul;** [your heart and soul] **[12] Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles:** [Always keep your behavior godly among the unbelievers] **that, whereas** [while at the same time] **they speak against you as evildoers** [doing evil], **they may by your good works, which they shall behold** [see], **glorify God in the day of visitation.**

[13] Submit yourselves [Be subordinate] **to every ordinance of man** [to human authority – *national, state and local ordinances and laws*] **for the Lord's sake** [for the Lord wants you to]: **whether it be to the king** [the lord of the land], **as supreme** [superior]; **[14] Or unto governors** [leaders of any kind], **as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well.** [they are sent to enforce the law by punishing those who do wrong and praising those who do what's right] **[15] For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men** [For this is the will of God, to silence the ignorance of foolish people by doing good]: **[16] As free** [one who is not a slave], **and not using your liberty** [freedom] **for a cloak** [a covering] **of maliciousness** [wickedness], **but as the servants** [slaves] **of God. [17] Honour all men** [everyone]. **Love** [Gk. *agapao*] **the brotherhood. Fear God** [present tense – continue to have reverent fear for God]. **Honour the king** [the governmental authorities].

[18] Servants [a household servant or slave], **be subject** [be subordinate] **to your masters** [a master or lord] **with all fear** [reverence]; **not only to the good and gentle, but also to the forward** [obstinate & harsh]. **[19] For this is thankworthy** [For this is worthy of praise], **if a man for conscience toward God** [if a man because he is conscious of God] **endure** [undergoes] **grief** [sorrow, pain, grief, annoyance, or affliction] , **suffering** [to feel pain or distress] **wrongfully** [unjustly an undeserved]. **[20] For what glory** [praise] **is it, if, when ye** [you] **be buffeted** [punished] **for your faults** [sins or trespasses], **ye** [you] **shall take it patiently** [bearing or enduring the pain]? **but if, when ye do well** [good], **and suffer** [be vexed] **for it, ye** [you] **take it patiently** [you endure], **this is acceptable** [Gk. *charis*, grace] **with** [from or of] **God** [this is do to the spiritual condition of one governed by the power of divine grace and definitely pleasing to God]. **[21] For even hereunto were ye called** [This is what you were called to]: **because Christ also suffered for us** [on our behalf], **leaving us an example** [a model and pattern], **that ye should follow his steps** [footprints, metaph. Of imitating his example]: **[22] WHO DID NO SIN, NEITHER WAS GUILE** [craft and deceit] **FOUND IN HIS MOUTH: (ISAIAH 53:9) [23] Who, when he was reviled** [reproached, railed on, and abused], **reviled not again** [in return]; **when he suffered, he threatened not** [he did not say that bad things would happen to them]; **but**

committed himself to him that judgeth righteously [but gave himself into the hands of the One who judges fairly]: **[24] Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree** [Christ Himself carried on his own person our sins on the cross], **that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness** [so that we would be dead to sins and live for what is right and pure]: **by whose stripes ye were healed** [by whose wounds you have been made whole - the suffering He bore has healed you]. **[25] For ye were as sheep going astray** [Gk. present tense - For you were like sheep, straying and continually straying]; **but are now** [at this time] **returned** [to come back] **unto the Shepherd** [one who cares for and guides] **and Bishop** [a guardian or overseer] **of your souls** [your heart and life, your very person].

1 PETER CHAPTER 3

THE SIMPLIFIED KING JAMES VERSION – LITERAL TEXT

[1] Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; [Wives, in the same way, accept the authority of your own husbands] **that, if any obey not the word** [if any obey not the teachings of the Lord], **they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives;** [they also may be won to the Lord by the godly conduct, behavior, or manner of life their wife displays] **[2] While they behold** [look upon] **your chaste** [pure] **conversation** [behavior and lifestyle] **coupled with fear** [reverence and respect for God and their husband]. **[3] Whose adorning** [beauty] **let it not be that outward adorning** [beauty] **of plaiting the hair** [braiding your hair], **and of wearing of gold** [gold jewelry], **or of putting on of apparel** [fancy clothes]; **[4] But let it be the hidden man of the heart** [your beauty should come from your heart], **in that which is not corruptible** [a beauty not subject to corruption or decay], **even the ornament** [the adorning] **of a meek** [gentle] **and quiet** [peaceable] **spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price** [which is very precious in God's sight]. **[5] For after this manner** [For in this manner] **in the old time** [in times past] **the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves** [made themselves beautiful with honor], **being in subjection unto their own husbands: [6] Even as Sarah obeyed** [harkened unto] **Abraham, calling him lord** [master]: **whose daughters ye** [you] **are, as long as ye do well** [what is right], **and are not afraid** [fearful] **with any amazement** [or terror].

[7] Likewise [In the same way], **ye** [you] **husbands, dwell with them** [live with your wife] **according to knowledge** [in a considerate understanding way], **giving honour** [great respect] **unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel** [physically weaker], **and as being heirs together** [equal heirs or joint participants] **of the grace of life** [of the gracious gift of life]; **that your prayers be not hindered** [then your prayers will not be hindered].

[8] Finally [To sum up], **be ye all of one mind** [be of one mind and purpose], **having compassion one of another** [have deep awareness of the suffering of one another and do your best to relieve it], **love as brethren** [Gk. philadelphos, love one another like a brother and sister], **be pitiful** [be compassionate and tender hearted], **be courteous** [be friendly and kind]: **[9] Not rendering evil for evil** [don't give in return evil for evil], **or railing for railing** [or speak reproachfully against those that insult you]: **but contrariwise blessing** [but on the contrary, speak back with kind words]; **knowing**

that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing [knowing that you were called for the very purpose of inheriting a blessing *by doing so*]. **[10] For HE THAT WILL LOVE LIFE** [enjoy life], **AND SEE GOOD DAYS, LET HIM REFRAIN HIS TONGUE FROM EVIL** [say nothing evil or harmful to others], **AND HIS LIPS THAT THEY SPEAK NO GUILF** [deceit or lies]: **[11] LET HIM ESCHEW EVIL** [turn aside from evil], **AND DO GOOD; LET HIM SEEK PEACE, AND ENSUE IT** [pursue it]. **[12] FOR THE EYES OF THE LORD ARE OVER THE RIGHTEOUS** [those whose heart is right with Him], **AND HIS EARS ARE OPEN UNTO THEIR PRAYERS: BUT THE FACE OF THE LORD IS AGAINST THEM THAT DO EVIL** [Gk. present tense - practice evil]. **(PSALM 34:12-16)**

[13] And who is he that will harm you, if ye be followers of that which is good? [Who will do you any harm if they see you are eager to do them only good?] **[14] But and if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy are ye** [If you suffer for doing right, you will be blessed *by God*]: **and BE NOT AFRAID OF THEIR TERROR** [threats], **NEITHER BE TROUBLED** [or upset]; **(ISAIAH 8:12)** **[15] But sanctify** [or set apart] **the Lord** [the sovereign and Master] **God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you** [always be ready to explain and defend the Christian hope that is in you, to every person who may ask] **with meekness** [mildness of disposition and gentleness of spirit] **and fear** [respectfully] : **[16] Having a good conscience** [Gk. present tense – Having and continuing to have a good conscience]; **that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed** [disgraced] **that falsely accuse your good conversation** [good manner of life and conduct] **in Christ .**

[17] For it is better [best], **if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well doing** [doing good], **than for evil doing** [wrong doing]. **[18] For Christ also hath once suffered for sins** [For Christ suffered for sins once for all *time*], **the just** [the righteous] **for the unjust** [for the unrighteous], **that he might bring us to God** [that He might take and bring us with Himself to God], **being put to death in the flesh** [in *his* body], **but quickened by the Spirit** [but made alive again by the Spirit]: **[19] By which also he went and preached** [proclaimed] **unto the spirits in prison** [*human* spirits or *imprisoned souls*]; **[20] Which sometime** [in time past or formerly] **were disobedient** [or unbelieving], **when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah** [when once the slowness of God to avenge wrongs remained in the days of Noah before the flood], **while the ark was a-preparing** [being built], **wherein few** [a small number], **that is, eight souls** [people] **were saved by** [or through] **water** [or flood]. **[21] The like figure** [This resembles] **whereunto even baptism doth also now save us** [baptism that now saves us] **(not the putting away of the filth of the flesh** [not the removal of dirt from the flesh], **but the answer of a good conscience toward God** [but the appeal to God for a clear conscience] ,) **by the resurrection of Jesus Christ** [through the resurrection of Jesus Christ]: **[22] Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him** [in submission to Him].

1 PETER CHAPTER 4

THE SIMPLIFIED KING JAMES VERSION – LITERAL TEXT

[1] Forasmuch then as [Since] **Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh** [in his human body], **arm yourselves likewise with the same mind** [take on the same mind and arm yourselves with the same resolution]: **for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin** [for if you suffer in your body for the cause of Christ, you have obviously cut yourself off from a life of sin]; **[2] That he no longer should live** [spend life] **the rest of his time** [his remaining time] **in the flesh to the lusts of men** [controlled by evil longings], **but to the will of God.** **[3] For the time past of our life may suffice** [is sufficient enough] **us to have wrought** [for us to have performed] **the will of the Gentiles** [the heathen], **when we walked** [lived] **in lasciviousness** [unbridled lust], **lusts** [evil longings], **excess of wine** [drunkenness], **revellings** [rioting], **banqueting** [carousing and wild parties], **and abominable** [unlawful] **idolatries** [idolatry]: **[4] Wherein they think it strange that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot** [Now your old friends think it strange that you no longer join them in the same excess of loose living], **speaking evil of you** [speaking reproachful and harsh words about you]: **[5] Who shall give account to him that is ready to judge the quick and the dead** [But they must give account of *themselves* to God, who will judge those who are alive and those who have died *when Christ returns*]. **[6] For for this cause** [For this cause] **was the gospel** [good news] **preached also to them that are dead, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh** [that they might be judged as men in their bodies], **but live according to God in the spirit.**

[7] But the end of all things is at hand [But the termination of all things is near]: **be ye therefore sober** [therefore exercise self control], **and watch unto prayer** [and look in anticipation and pray]. **[8] And above all things have** [present tense – and continue to have] **fervent** [sincere] **charity** [Gk. *agape* love] **among yourselves: for charity** [*agape* love] **shall cover** [hide and veil] **the multitude of sins.** **[9] Use hospitality** [Offer your homes and be generous to guests] **one to another without grudging** [without murmuring and complaining]. **[10] As** [In proportion and according as] **every man hath received the gift** [the free gift], **even so minister the same one to another** [administer and serve one another], **as good stewards** [as good managers] **of the manifold grace of God** [the many and various forms of the grace of God]. **[11] If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God** [the words and utterances of God]; **if any man minister** [serves], **let him do it as of the ability which God giveth** [supplies]: **that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever** [power and glory belong to Him forever and ever]. **Amen.**

[12] Beloved, think it not strange [to be shocked, surprised or astonished] **concerning the fiery trial which is to try you** [concerning the calamities or trials that test you], **as though some strange thing happened unto you** [as though something strange, abnormal, or unusual were happening unto you]: **[13] But rejoice, inasmuch as ye** [because of the fact that you] **are partakers** [participants] **of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed** [manifested], **ye** [you] **may be glad also with exceeding joy.** **[14] If ye be reproached for the name of Christ** [If you are criticized, shamed or disgraced because you follow Christ] **happy are ye** [you are fortunate]; **for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of** [those people speak evil of Christ], **but on your part he is glorified** [but your life glorifies Him]. **[15] But let none of you suffer** [If you should suffer, it should not be] **as**

a murderer, or as a thief [that is, stealing], or as an evildoer [or doing evil], or as a busybody in other men's matters [or being a meddler in other men's affairs]. [16] Yet if any man suffer as a Christian [a follower of Christ], let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf [but let him glorify God that he suffers for that name].

[17] For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God [with God's own family] (See Heb. 12:7): and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? [what shall be the outcome of those that do not obey the gospel of God? (See Matt. 25:31-34, 41, 46) [18] And if the righteous scarcely [Gk. *molis*, not easily, with difficulty] be saved [present tense], where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear? [future tense] [19] Wherefore let them that suffer [present tense] according to the will of God commit [entrust] the keeping of their souls [themselves] to him in well doing [in doing right], as unto a faithful Creator.

1 PETER CHAPTER 5

THE SIMPLIFIED KING JAMES VERSION – LITERAL TEXT

1PE 5:[1] The elders [those who presided over the assemblies or churches] which are among you I exhort [address], who am also an elder [Christian leader], and a witness [one who can give a firsthand account of something seen] of the sufferings [to feel pain or distress; injury, harm, or punishment] of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: [and I will share in his glory that is to be revealed]. [2] Feed the flock of God which is among [in your midst] you, taking the oversight [watchful care or management; supervision] thereof, not by constraint [not because you are forced], but willingly [eagerly]; not for filthy lucre [not for financial gain], but of a ready mind [willingly]; [3] Neither as being lords [dictators] over God's heritage [inheritance], but being examples to the flock [a group of Christ's disciples]. [4] And when the chief Shepherd [Christ the head of the church] shall appear, ye shall receive [future tense] a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

[5] Likewise [Also], ye younger [you younger], submit yourselves [be subordinate] unto the elder [to those who are older]. Yea [Yes], all of you be subject one to another [all of you be submissive to one another], and be clothed with humility [lowliness of mind]: for GOD RESISTETH [opposes] THE PROUD [haughty], AND GIVETH GRACE [loving-kindness and favor] TO THE HUMBLE [lowly]. PROVERBS 3:34 [6] Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God [take a low place under the mighty hand of God's leading, Last Days N.T.], that he may exalt you in due time [that he might lift you up and exalt you in the proper time]: [7] Casting all your care upon him [Throw and place all your care and anxiety upon Him]; for he careth [present tense] for you.

[8] Be sober [steadfast, self-controlled, with clarity of mind, and moral decisiveness], be vigilant [on alert and watchful]; because your adversary [enemy] the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking [to locate and discover] whom he may devour [destroy and consume]: [9] Whom resist [to set one's self against, oppose] steadfast [steady and constant] in the faith [concerning every teaching of the

Christian faith], **knowing that the same afflictions** [that which one suffers or has suffered] **are accomplished** [to impose upon] **in your brethren that are in the world.** [10] **But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while** [for a short time], **make you perfect** [will Himself perfect you], **stablish** [strengthen and make you stable], **strengthen** [make you strong], **settle you** [firm and unwavering]. [11] **To him be glory and dominion** [supremacy over all] **for ever and ever. Amen** [so be it, may it be fulfilled].

[12] **By Silvanus** [Silas], **a faithful brother unto you, as I suppose, I have written briefly** [this short letter], **exhorting** [making an urgent appeal], **and testifying** [and establishing by testimony] **that this is the true grace of God wherein ye stand** [stand fast in it]. [13] **The church that is at Babylon** [the territory of Babylonia, allegorically of Rome], **elected together with you** [chosen by God], **saluteth you** [greet you]; **and so doth Marcus** [Mark] **my son.** [14] **Greet ye one another with a kiss of charity** [a symbol of Christian love]. **Peace be with you all that are in Christ Jesus. Amen** [So be it!].

- FOR EASY READING -

THE SIMPLIFIED KING JAMES VERSION -

PARAPHRASED

1 PETER CHAPTER 1

THE SIMPLIFIED KING JAMES VERSION - PARAPHRASED

CONSIDER THE CONTEXT

The context is the information which proceeds or follows each verse or set of verses. It contains the unit of thought that surrounds each verse or verses. It must be considered in order to come to a proper interpretation of a verse or verses.

1 Peter, *one of the 12 disciples of Jesus*, an apostle, an ambassador of Jesus the Christ (*God's anointed King*), to *God's* people away from their homes, living as foreigners in a land not their own, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia (*now part of modern Turkey*), **2** Chosen long ago by God, sanctified, made holy and set apart to God by his Spirit, in obedience to Jesus Christ and the sprinkling by his blood. *God's* free and undeserved love, peace, prosperity and well-being be multiplied *unto you*.

3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy, kindness and goodwill, hath given us a new birth, a living hope and expectation by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, **4** To an inheritance given us as a possession, not liable to corruption or decay, immortal, undefiled, and eternal, reserved in heaven for you, **5** who are kept by the power of God through the means of faith, until *we receive* the salvation that is ready to be revealed at the end of

this present evil age. **6** Wherein you greatly rejoice in what is waiting for you, though now for a short time, it may be necessary *that you endure* various trials, sorrow, and grief: **7** *Knowing this*, that the proving and testing of your faith, is much more precious than of gold that perishes, though it be tested with fire. May it be found and proved genuine, unto *the* praise, honor and glory of Jesus Christ at his appearing. **8** Although you have never seen *Jesus*, you love *him*; though now you see him not, yet believing and placing confidence in him, you rejoice in triumph, with unspeakable joy, gladness, praise and celebration - full of glory.: **9** The end result of your faith, is the salvation of your soul.

10 Of which salvation the prophets of old searched out and investigated thoroughly. They prophesied of the grace that should come unto you. **11** Seeking to know what person or time the Spirit of Christ within them was indicating. It was predicted and foretold that the Messiah must suffer and his glory should follow. **12** It was revealed and made known that this information was not for their time but for ours. It has been proclaimed and announced unto you by those who have preached the gospel with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; the angels curiously desire to inspect and look into these matters.

13 Therefore prepare the way of your thinking, exercise self-control and free your minds of encumbrances, set your hope on the grace that is coming when Jesus Christ is revealed. **14** As obedient children, follow the commands and guidance of God, not fashioning yourselves with the desires of the flesh as before you were saved, for then you were in ignorance. **15** But as He which hath called you is holy, so set yourselves apart from sin unto Him. Let it reflect in all manner of lifestyle and behavior. **16** Because it is written, **BE YE HOLY; FOR I AM HOLY. (LEVITICUS 11:44-45; 19:2).**

17 If you call on the Father, who impartially judges according to each man's deeds, conduct yourselves here on earth with reverent fear for God. **18** Knowing this, you were not liberated and delivered from evil with perishing things as silver and gold. Your vain manner of life that had no purpose was handed down from your ancestors. **19** *Remember this, your redemption was* with the precious shed blood of Christ, as a lamb sacrificed without spot or blemish: **20** God chose him for this *redeeming* task long before the creation of the world. He was made known in these last days to you. **21** By means of Him, the Messiah Jesus, you have believed in God that raised him from the dead and gave him glory, praise and honor. Now your faith, hope and expectation of good are in God.

22 Seeing that your souls have been cleansed by obeying the truth by the Spirit's *help*, have a sincere love for your Christian brothers and sisters. Love one another with God's love that springs from a clean and pure heart. Love earnestly and intensely. **23** You have been born again, received a new heart and life that conforms you to the will of God. This was not by a perishing seed, but an immortal seed, the word of God that lives and remains forever.

24 **FOR ALL PEOPLE ARE AS GRASS, AND ALL THE SPLENDOR, GREATNESS AND HONOR OF MAN IS AS A FLOWER IN THE GRASS. THE GRASS WILL SOON TURN BROWN AND DIE; THE FLOWER WILL FALL TO THE GROUND AND PERISH. 25 BUT THE WORD OF THE LORD REMAINS AND ABIDES FOREVER. (ISAIAH 40:6-8)** The Word referred to is the good news that was preached and proclaimed to you.

1 PETER CHAPTER 2

THE SIMPLIFIED KING JAMES VERSION - PARAPHRASED

1PE 2:[1] Therefore, put off any and every form of malicious behavior and wickedness. All deceit, *the* pretending to be something you're not, jealousy, wanting what others have, hurtful and slanderous talk, all *must go*. **[2]** As new born babies, desire and crave the pure and simple teaching of God's Word. *By this means* you may grow spiritually [*the NU text adds: into the fullness of salvation.*] **[3]** Now that you have experienced and enjoyed the gracious kindness of the Lord.

[4] So come to Jesus and keep coming, as the living cornerstone of God's spiritual temple, disapproved and rejected by men, but picked out and selected by God, held in highest honor and prized. **[5]** You also, as living building stones, are erecting a spiritual house *in which God lives*, to be holy priest, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, *gifts and offering to God*, satisfactory and accepted by God through Jesus Christ. **[6]** In Scripture it says, "See, I place in Zion a chief corner foundation stone, *which is Jesus*. He is chosen and picked out *by God*. Precious and valuable *is He*, and those that believe and continue to believe on Him shall not be ashamed because of some false hope." (Isaiah 28:16) **[7]** *This foundation stone – Jesus –* is precious and valuable to you who believe. To those that refuse obedient faith, Jesus the Christ is disapproved, rejected and repudiated. Yet Jesus is *God's* chief and supreme cornerstone. (Psalm 118:22) **[8]** A rock that trips, a stone that offends (Isaiah 8:14), to them that are disobedient to God's Message: of which it was appointed for unbelieving people that they should stumble and fall.

[9] But you are God's chosen family, a kingly office of priest, a holy race, God's own possession. Now you can sing God's praises, for He has called you out of spiritual blindness into His marvelous light. **[10]** Formerly you were not God's people, but you are now the people of God. Once you were outside of God's mercy, but now God's mercy is yours.

[11] Dear brothers and sisters, I appeal to you as foreigners and temporary residents here, refrain from carnal desires which battle and fight against your heart and soul. **[12]** Always keep your behavior godly among the unbelievers, while at the same time they speak against you and claim you are doing wrong. By your good works that they behold, they may *end up being included among those* that glorify God at Christ's return.

[13] Be subordinate to human authority – *national, state and local ordinances and laws* – for the Lord wants you to do this. Whether it is the king or lord of the land; **[14]** Or leaders of any kind, they are sent to enforce the law by punishing those who do wrong and praising those who do what is right. **[15]** For this is the will of God, to silence the ignorance of foolish people by doing good. **[16]** You are free, not slaves, but still God's servants. Use not your freedom as a cover-up for doing wrong. **[17]** Show honor and respect for all. Show God's kind of love to your brothers in Christ. Continue to have reverent fear for God. Honor the emperor.

[18] Servants and slaves be subordinate to your masters authority with all proper respect; not only to the kind and gentle, but also to the obstinate and harsh. **[19]** For this is worthy of praise, if a man because he is conscious of God endures

sorrow, pain, grief or affliction, suffering unjustly and undeserved. [20] For what praise or credit is there in being punished for your faults, even if you bear or endure the pain? If you do good and suffer patiently, this is due to the spiritual condition of one governed by the power of divine grace, and this is definitely pleasing to God. [21] This is what you were called to do, Christ suffered on our behalf, leaving us a model and pattern, that you should follow his footprints, imitating his example: [22] **“WHO DID NO SIN, NEITHER WAS CRAFT AND DECEIT FOUND IN HIS MOUTH:” (ISAIAH 53:9)** [23] Who, when he was reproached, railed on, and abused, reviled not in return; when he suffered, he did not say that bad things would happen to them; but gave himself into the hands of the One who judges fairly. [24] Christ Himself carried on his own person our sins on the cross, so that we would be dead to sins and live for what is right and pure: by His wounds you have been made whole – the suffering He bore has healed you! [25] For you were like sheep, straying and continually straying; but have now come back to *the One* who cares for, guides and guards your very heart and life.

1 PETER CHAPTER 3

THE SIMPLIFIED KING JAMES VERSION - PARAPHRASED

1PE 3:[1] Wives, in the same way, accept the authority of your own husbands, that if any obey not the teachings of the Lord, they also may be won to the Lord by your godly conduct, behavior, and manner of life. [2] While they see your godly lives coupled with reverence and respect *for God and husband*. [3] The wives beauty should not center on hairstyles, gold jewelry and fancy clothes. [4] Their beauty should come from their hearts, a beauty not subject to corruption or decay, the adorning of a gentle and peaceable spirit, which is very precious in God’s sight. [5] For in this manner in times past the holy women who trusted in God made themselves beautiful by being subject to their own husbands. [6] Even Sarah harkened unto Abraham by calling him master. You women are children of Sarah if you do what is right and don’t allow circumstances to control you or get you in fear.

[7] In the same way, you husbands, live with your wife in a considerate and understanding way, giving great honor and respect unto the wife as being physically weaker but equal heirs and joint participants of the gracious gift of life; then your prayers will not be hindered.

[8] Summing up: Be of one mind and purpose, have deep awareness of the suffering of others and do your best to relieve it, love one another like a brother and sister, be compassionate and tender hearted, friendly and kind: [9] Don’t give in return evil for evil, or speak reproachfully against those that insult you: but on the contrary, speak back with kind words; knowing that you were called for the very purpose of inheriting a blessing *by doing so*. [10] For **“HE THAT WILL ENJOY LIFE, AND SEE GOOD DAYS, LET HIM SAY NOTHING EVIL OR HARMFUL TO OTHERS, AND HIS LIPS SPEAK NO DECEIT OR LIES: [11] LET HIM TURN ASIDE FROM EVIL, AND DO GOOD; LET HIM SEEK PEACE, AND PURSUE IT. [12] FOR THE EYES OF THE LORD ARE OVER THE RIGHTEOUS [those whose heart is right with Him], AND HIS EARS ARE OPEN UNTO THEIR PRAYERS: BUT THE FACE OF THE LORD IS AGAINST THOSE THAT PRACTICE EVIL”** (Psalm 34:12-16).

[13] And who will do you any harm if they see you are eager to do them only good? [14] But and if you suffer for doing right, you will be blessed *by God*: and **BE NOT AFRAID OF THEIR THREATS, NEITHER BE TROUBLED OR UPSET; (ISAIAH 8:12)** [15] Instead, in your hearts set apart and do homage to God [and Christ] as your only Lord. Always be ready to explain and defend the Christian hope that is in you, to every person who may ask, with mildness of disposition, gentleness of spirit and respect. [16] Make sure your conscience is and stays perfectly clear, so that if you are slandered as an evil doer, those who falsely accuse your good behavior will be put to shame and disgrace.

[17] It is better, *to obey* God and suffer for it, than to suffer for wrong doing. [18] For Christ suffered for sins once for all *time*, the righteous for the unrighteous, that He might take and bring us with Himself to God. He was put to death in *his* body, but made alive again by the Spirit: [19] By which also He went and proclaimed unto the human spirits and imprisoned souls; [20] Which in time past were disobedient and unbelieving, when once the slowness of God to avenge wrongs remained in Noah's days [*before the flood*]. *At that time* the ark was being built, wherein a small number, that is, eight people were saved by and through the water. [21] This resembles baptism that now saves us, not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but the appeal to God for a clear conscience through the resurrection of Jesus Christ: [22] Who is *now* gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God with angels, authorities and powers being in submission to Him.

1 PETER CHAPTER 4

THE SIMPLIFIED KING JAMES VERSION – PARAPHRASED

1PE 4:[1] Since Christ hath suffered for us in his human body, take on the same mind and arm yourselves with the same resolution: for if you suffer in your flesh *for the cause of Christ*, you have obviously cut yourself off from a life of sin. [2] *That person* has shown that he intends to live the rest of his life for the will of God rather than fulfilling the evil desires of men. [3] You have spent enough time in the past doing what the heathen do, living in unbridled lust, evil longings, drunkenness, rioting, carousing, wild parties, and unlawful idolatry. [4] Now your old friends think it strange that you no longer join them in the same excess of loose living, speaking reproachful and harsh words about you: [5] But they must give account *of themselves* to God, who will judge those who are alive and those who have died *when Christ returns*. [6] For this cause was the gospel preached [*to those who believed and later died, that they might have eternal life with God*] or (“For this is why the good news (the Gospel) was preached [in their lifetime] even to the dead, that though judged in fleshly bodies as men are, they might live in the spirit as God does.” - Amp. Translation)

[7] Now the termination of all things is near: therefore exercise self control, and look in anticipation and pray. [8] And above all things have and continue to have sincere agape love among yourselves: for agape love shall cover, hide and veil the multitude of sins. [9] Offer your homes to one another and be generous to your guests. *Do this* without murmuring and complaining. [10] In proportion and according as everyone has received a special grace gift, administer and serve these gifts to one another, as good managers of the many and various forms of the grace of God. [11] If

any person speaks, let them speak the words and utterances of God; if anyone serves, let them serve out of the ability that God supplies: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ. Power and glory belong to Him forever and ever. Amen.

[12] Beloved, do not be surprised or astonished concerning the calamities or trials that test you, as though something strange, or abnormal were happening unto you:

[13] But rejoice, because of the fact that you are partakers [*to some degree*] of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be manifested and revealed, you may be glad [for sharing in his glory] with exceeding joy. [See Rom. 8:17-18] **[14]** If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified. **[15]** But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters. **[16]** Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf.

[17] For the time is come that judgment must begin with God's own family (See Heb. 12:7): and if it first begins with us, what shall be the outcome of those who do not obey the gospel of God? (See Matt. 25:31-34, 41, 46) **[18] IF IT IS VERY HARD FOR A RIGHTEOUS PERSON TO BE SAVED, WHAT IS IN STORE FOR THE UNGODLY AND SINNER? PROV. 11:31.** **[19]** So when you suffer for doing the will of God, entrust yourselves to the Faithful Creator, and persevere in doing right.

1 PETER CHAPTER 5

THE SIMPLIFIED KING JAMES VERSION – PARAPHRASED

1PE 5: [1] To the elders that preside over the Christian assemblies, I address you, who am also a Christian leader, a firsthand witness of the sufferings of *the* Christ, and also one who shall share in his glory that is to be revealed. **[2]** Feed the flock of God which is in your midst, taking watchful care and management thereof, not because you are forced, but eagerly; not for financial gain, but willingly; **[3]** Neither lording over God's people as dictators do, but being examples to the congregation. **[4]** And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you shall receive a crown of glory that does not fade away.

[5] Also, you younger, be subordinate to those who are older. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with lowliness of mind: for **GOD OPPOSES THE PROUD AND HAUGHTY, BUT GIVETH GRACE, LOVING-KINDNESS AND FAVOR TO THOSE WHO ARE LOWLY.** **[6]** Take a low place under the mighty hand of God's leading, that he might lift you up and exalt you in the proper time: **[7]** Throw and place all your care and anxiety upon Him; for he cares and continues to care for you.

[8] *As a Christian you are to be sober, in charge of your priorities and not intoxicated with the allurements of this world. Be alert and watchful; because your enemy the devil, as a roaring lion, walks about, trying to locate and discover whom he may devour, destroy and consume.* **[9]** Remain unyielding in resisting *the devil*. Remain steadfast and firm in every teaching of the Christian faith. *Remember, your brethren in this world are experiencing the same kind of sufferings that you are.* **[10]** You will suffer for a while, but the God of all grace, who has called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, will Himself make you perfect, stable, strong, firm and

unwavering. **[11]** To Him be glory and supremacy over all, forever and ever. Amen, so be it, may it be fulfilled.

[12] By Silas, a faithful brother as I consider him, I have written this short letter, making an urgent appeal, and testifying that these words represent the true grace of God. Stand fast and strong in it. **[13]** The church that is at Babylon, chosen by God, greets you; and so does Mark my son. **[14]** Greet one another with a kiss of charity, the symbol of Christian love. Peace be with you all that are in Christ Jesus. Amen.

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