

8.22.21 ~ 1Peter 5:5-14, Humility: An Attitude of Gratitude

Read **1Peter 5:5...** Peter exhorts church members to submit to their elders. The phrase "to be subject to" is a military term meaning, "to line up under."

1Thessalonians 5:12-13, "But we request of you, brethren, that you appreciate those who diligently labor among you, and have charge over you in the Lord and give you instruction, and that you esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Live in peace with one another."

Christians are to submit to both government and civil authorities, but also to the leadership in the Church (**Ephesians 4:11-12**), "And He [Christ] gave some... as pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ."

Believers are to show humility toward one another because (**1Peter 5:5c**), "God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

Read **1Peter 5:6-7...** Christians should be servants, following the example of our Lord (see **John 13:3-17**).

Mark 10:45, "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

See **Philippians 2:3-11...**

2Timothy 3:12, "Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted," but God will lift you up at the proper time.

Read **1Peter 5:8-9...** We must remain self-controlled, as the devil is seeking to destroy our witness by silencing, disabling, and destroying us.

1John 2:15-17, "Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. The world is passing away, and *also* its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever."

We must not fall victim to the devil's schemes and temptations, like most of the world that rejects the Word of God and the gospel of Christ.

2Corinthians 4:3-6, "And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not preach ourselves but Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your bond-servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, "Light shall shine out of darkness," is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ."

Look again at **1Peter 5:9**. We must hold firm to our faith (**Jude 3**), "the faith which was once for all handed down to the saints," (**2Timothy 3:16**) "All Scripture is *inspired by God* and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness."

Our fellow Christians around the world are suffering attacks from the devil and those who serve him. We must all trust wholly in God and His sovereign Word.

Colossians 2:8-10, "See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ. For in Him all

the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form, and in Him you have been made complete, and He is the head over all rule and authority.”

Read **1Peter 5:10...** God allows some of His children suffer, even to the point of death, for the sake of Christ. The world hates us, we will be persecuted, but God will comfort us, so that we may comfort others.

2Corinthians 1:3-5, “Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction so that we will be able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. For just as the sufferings of Christ are ours in abundance, so also our comfort is abundant through Christ.”

Hebrews 10:23-25, “For He who promised is faithful; and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging *one another*; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.”

In Christ we fear nothing!

John 14:11, “I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep. **27-30**, “My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand. I and the Father are one.”

Romans 8:35-39, “Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? Just as it is written, ‘For Your sake we are being put to death all day long; We were considered as sheep to be slaughtered.’ But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

1John 3:2, “Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is.”

2Corinthians 4:7-11, “We have this treasure in earthen vessels, so that the surpassing greatness of the power will be of God and not from ourselves; *we are* afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. For we who live are constantly being delivered over to death for Jesus’ sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.”

2Corinthians 4:16-18, “Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day. For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison, while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.”

Read **1Peter 5:11...** “To Him be dominion forever and ever. Amen.”

Revelation 7:11-12, "All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures; and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying, 'Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might, be to our God forever and ever. Amen.'"

Read **1Peter 5:12-14**... Peter mentions Silvanus [Silas] who traveled with Paul (cf. **Acts 15:40; 16:25; 1Thessalonians 1:1**), but now is delivering Peter's letter to believers throughout the Roman Empire (**1Peter 1:1**), "To those who reside as aliens, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia."

Peter exhorts the believers to hold firm by the grace of God, to "Stand firm in it!" Then, speaking to the believers in Rome, he says (**1Peter 5:13**), "She who is in Babylon [Rome]." Peter uses an alias, so as not to put the church in Rome in any more danger than it already is; for it was being heavily persecuted at that time.

Peter wrote this letter from Rome to the believers scattered throughout the Roman Empire. He sends greetings from his son (in the faith) Mark (John Mark, cf. **Acts 12:12**), the author of the Gospel According to Mark, who had traveled with Paul to Antioch and Cypress, and later helped Paul in Rome (cf. **2Timothy 4:11**).

Peter signs off, encouraging believers to greet one another with a holy kiss, after which he says (**1Peter 5:14**), "Peace be to all of you who are in Christ."

Peter had been outspoken and impetuous; but found himself humbled, by the Lord Himself. In **1Peter 5:5-6**, under the inspiration of God's Holy Spirit, he wrote "clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble. Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time."

Godly humility should be expressed by all those who are in Christ, those who have repented of their sins, confessing Christ as Lord, and believing in Him as Savior; those who read and study God's Word, being changed to become more like Jesus, living for Him on this earth, looking forward to eternity in heaven, with Him.

Considering all we have been given in and through Christ, although we deserve God's wrath, should keep us humble.

I want to close with the words from **1Peter 5:14; 2Peter 3:18**, "Peace be to all of you who are in Christ." [And may you] "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory for now and forever, Amen."

Pastor Mike Hale