
Young Adults

1st Peter 3:8-22



Chapter 3:8-22

8 Finally, all *of you be* of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, *be* tenderhearted, *be* courteous; **9** not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing.

10 For “He who would love life

And see good days,

Let him refrain his tongue from evil,

And his lips from speaking deceit.

11 Let him turn away from evil and do good;

Let him seek peace and pursue it.

12 For the eyes of the Lord *are* on the righteous,

And His ears *are open* to their prayers;

But the face of the Lord *is* against those who do evil.”

13 And who *is* he who will harm you if you become followers of what is good?

14 But even if you should suffer for righteousness’ sake, *you are* blessed. “And do not be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled.”

15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always *be* ready to *give* a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;

16 having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed.

17 For *it is* better, if it is the will of God, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.

18 For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit,

19 by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison, **20** who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while *the* ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water.

21 There is also an antitype which now saves us—baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

22 who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him.

Observations

Using a highlighter pen highlight the following in the Biblical text (make the highlight large enough to see):

The word **suffer, suffers, suffering & suffered** every time it appears in this section of Scripture.

The word **good** every time it appears in this section of scripture.

The word **evil** every time it appears in this section of scripture.

The word **fear, fears, afraid.**

Study Notes:

1) In the space below make two lists; in one list include everything in this section of Scripture that Peter tells you **not to do**; in the second list include everything he tells you **to do**:

2) How does the godly behavior you listed above effect the people around you? Specifically, how does godly behavior affect the unbelievers in your life?

3) What spirits are being referred to in verse 19?

4) Where are they? When did Christ make proclamation to them? Where? Why?

5) Does verse 21 teach that baptism is necessary for salvation? Compare your answer with Paul's commentary on baptism in 1Cor. 1:14-17; does your view on baptism reconcile with the apostle Paul's?

6) Why is it important for Christians to “always *be* ready to *give* a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you” (vs. 15)? Are you ready?

7) Which essential doctrine of the Christian faith is supported by vs. 22? Explain your answer.

The list of essential* Christian doctrines that emerge from the early creeds and councils includes:

- (1) Human depravity
- (2) Christ's virgin birth
- (3) Christ's sinlessness
- (4) Christ's deity
- (5) Christ's humanity
- (6) God's unity
- (7) God's Triunity
- (8) The necessity of God's grace
- (9) The necessity of faith
- (10) Christ's atoning death
- (11) Christ's bodily resurrection
- (12) Christ's bodily ascension
- (13) Christ's present high priestly service
- (14) Christ second coming, final judgment (heaven and hell), and reign.

*These doctrines define the historic evangelical Christian faith. To reject or deny any of these is to move from orthodoxy to heresy. Do some research on **Scientology** and list below the doctrines that they deny.