



I Peter Lesson 4

I PETER 3

Peter makes it clear that our response to a hostile world should not be to hide, deny, complain or rebel against authorities. Our first response should be to become more established in the truths of the promises of our future hope because of who God is and what Christ has done for us. We also need to use the suffering that comes as an opportunity to have our faith strengthened, and to bring unity and

strength into the body of Christ by sincere love and support of each other. Peter now turns to another extremely important response to hostility in our world. Instead of returning evil for evil and justifying it by the bad treatment we receive, Peter begins his thorough explanation of how sanctified living is the only way to push back the darkness of evil in a corrupt world.

READ 1 PETER 3

1 Peter 3:8-9 (NAS)

8) "To sum up, let all be _____, _____, _____, _____, and _____ in spirit; 9) not _____ for evil, or _____ for insult, but giving a _____ instead, for you were called for the very purpose that you might inherit a blessing.

Look up and record other passages where the word or its base are used. You can shorten the passage to get the main phrase.

Word study 1

Harmonious-homophron-homos means one and the same; phren means mind or understanding. Of the same mind or understanding

Romans 12:16

Word study 2

Sympathetic-sun means together and pathos means suffering or misfortune. Compassionate sympathizing

*Hebrews 4:15
10:34*

Word study 3

Brotherly-philadelphos-philos means loved, dear or befriended and delphos means brother. Loving one's brother, brotherly affection. In the Christian sense it means loving as brothers.

John 13:34

Romans 12:10

Heb. 13:1

*1 Peter 1:22
2:17*

Word study 4

Kindhearted-eusplagchnos-eu means well and splagchnon means bowels. Tenderhearted, full of compassion; pity

Eph. 4:32

Word study 5

Humble in spirit-philaphron-philos loving, friend, and phroneo to think, to have a mindset. Friendly and courteous.

Word study 6

Not returning evil for evil- apodidomi means to give and kakos means bad or worthless externally; evil or wicked. To not give back evil when evil has been given

*Romans 12:17
12:21
13:10*

1 Cor. 13:5

1 Thess. 5:15

Word study 7

***Insult-louderia-to revile; reproach.
Do not return a reproach with a reproach***

1 Timothy 5:14

Proverbs 20:3

Word study 8

***Blessing-eulogeo-eu means good or well and logos means word.
To bless; to speak well of***

1 Cor. 4:12-13

1. *The word “submission” means to place in order or to place under in an orderly fashion. We are all equal before God though we have different gifts, functions, and responsibilities; therefore, submission is for the purpose of working in harmony to accomplish a common goal. That common goal is to present to a sinful world the love and supremacy of Christ through the way we love and submit to one another. List some beliefs and attitudes that must be present in any person to willingly and humbly place themselves under another person’s authority.*

2. *What qualities does Peter say are admirable in a woman? 1 Peter 3:2-6*

3. *What does our culture teach us is admirable in a woman?*

4. *Describe what you think a husband’s behavior would be in a practical way if they were to live out Peter’s desire for them in 1 Peter 3:7.*

5. *How do verses 8-9 sum up the true ideal and attitude of submission all believers?*

6. *Peter believes that the attitudes of love, humility and submission and the behavior they produce will reduce the desire of others to do harm to Christians (verse 13). But he also knows that there will always be those who oppose us even when we try to do good to them (verse 14). What is Peter's instruction to us in those circumstances? 1 Peter 3:15-17; See also 1 Peter 2:21-23.*

Though Peter's example in the next verses seem strange and confusing, he is simply using Jesus once more as a model of suffering for doing right. It is clear in those verses that Christ suffered, descended to the spirits in prison to make a declaration of His success in conquering death, and then rose again to life. Peter's statements about the spirits in prison or the extent of what Christ proclaimed to them is not the point of the passage. Therefore, we will not speculate as to all the possible explanations for those statements. He simply wants his readers to comprehend that He overcame the suffering of sin and death and arose to newness of life, and therefore, so can His people who suffer in the flesh for His name. Just as Noah and his family were able to be rescued in the ark from the penalty of sin on their world, we too can escape the judgment for sin when we are baptized into the death of Christ and raised again to a new life.

7. *Why is it important to know Christ died for sins "once and for all"? 1 Peter 3:18; Hebrews 7:26-28 and Hebrews 9:24-28*

8. *From this chapter, how is Peter telling us to defend the gospel through the way we live?*

Prayer requests:

Group time notes:
