

NHBC BIBLE STUDY INSTITUTE

REV. JEFFERY D. BELL SR., PASTOR

***"FROM GRACE TO GLORY"***

**I PETER 5 VS 5-14**

PETER KNEW THAT THE ***"FIERY TRIAL"*** WAS ABOUT TO OCCUR , AND HE WANTED THE ENTIRE CHURCH TO BE PREPARED. AS HE CLOSES THIS LETTER, PETER GAVE THE CHURCH THREE ADMONITIONS TO OBEY IF THEY WERE TO GLORIFY GOD IN THIS DIFFICULT EXPERIENCE.

I. **BE HUMBLE** - HE HAS ALREADY ADMONISHED THE SAINTS TO BE SUBMISSIVE TO GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES (*I PETER 2 VS 13-17*), THE SLAVES TO SUBMIT TO THEIR MASTERS (*I PETER 2 VS 18-25*), AND THE WIVES TO SUBMIT TO THEIR HUSBANDS (*I PETER 3 VS 1-7*). NOW HE COMMANDED ALL BELEIVERS TO SUBMIT TO GOD AND TO EACH OTHER. THE YOUNGER BELEIVERS SHOULD SUBMIT TO THE OLDER BELEIVERS, NOT ONLY OUT OF RESPECT FOR THEIR AGE BUT THEIR SPIRITUAL MATURITY. NOT EVERY SENIOR SAINT IS A MATURE CHRISTIAN. THIS IS NOT TO SUGGEST THAT THE OLDER MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH ***"RUN THE CHURCH"*** AND NEVER LISTEN TO THE YOUNG MEMBERS! TO OFTEN THERE IS A WAR BETWEEN THE YOUNG AND THE OLD IN THE CHURCH.

THE SOLUTION IS TWO FOLD **1.** ALL BELEIVERS, YOUNG AND OLD, SHOULD SUBMIT TO EACH OTHER **2.** ALL SHOULD SUBMIT TO GOD. ***"BE CLOTHED WITH HUMILITY"*** IS THE ANSWER TO THE PROBLEM.

**EXAMPLE:** JESUS LAYING ASIDE HIS GARMENTS-

TRUE HUMILITY – *PHIL 2 VS 11* ..... TRUE HUMILITY IS NOT DEMEANING OURSELVES AND THINKING POORLY OF OURSELVES, BUT IT IS ***"SIMPLY NOT THINKING OF OURSELVES AT ALL "***

WE CAN NEVER BE SUBMISSIVE TO EACH OTHER UNTIL WE ARE FIRST SUBMISSIVE TO GOD. PETER QUOTED FROM *PROVERBS 3 VS 34* TO DEFEND HIS POINT – SO IT TAKES GRACE TO SUBMIT TO ANOTHER BELEIVER, BUT GOD CAN GIVE US THAT GRACE IF WE HUMBLE OURSELVES BEFORE HIM.

GOD RESIST THE PROUD BECAUSE HE HATES THE SIN OF PRIDE (*PROV 6 VS 16 – 17; 8 VS 13*) IT WAS PRIDE THAT TURNED LUCIFER INTO SATAN (*ISA 14 VS 12 – 15*). IT WAS PRIDE – A DESIRE TO BE LIKE GOD – THAT STIRRED EVE TO TAKE THE FORBIDDEN FRUIT. THE ***"PRIDE OF LIFE"*** IS AN EVIDENCE OF WORDLINESS (*I JOHN 2 VS 16*). THE ANTIDOTE FOR PRIDE IS:

**THE GRACE OF GOD** - AND WE RECEIVE IT WHEN WE YEILD OURSELVES TO HIM

**EVIDENCE OF IT** – IS WHEN WE YEILD OURSELVES ONE TO ANOTHER

## **WHAT IS SUBMISSION?**

**AN ACT OF FAITH** - WE ARE TRUSTING GOD TO DIRECT IN OUR LIVES AND TO WORK OUT HIS PURPOSES IN HIS TIME. AFTER ALL THERE IS A DANGER IN SUBMITTING TO OTHERS-THEY MIGHT TAKE ADVANTAGE OF US- BUT NOT IF WE TRUST GOD AND ARE SUBMITTED TO ONE ANOTHER! A PERSON WHO IS TRULY YEILDED TO GOD, AND WHO WANTS TO SERVE HIS FELLOW CHRISTIANS WOULD NOT EVEN THINK OF TAKING ADVANTAGE OF SOMEONE ELSE, SAVED OR UNSAVED. THE MIGHTY HAND OD GOD THAT DIRECTS OUR LIVES CAN ALSO DIRECT IN THE LIVES OF OTHERS.

THE KEY, OF COURSE, IS THE PHRASE ***"IN DUE SEASON "***. GOD NEVER EXALTS ANYONE UNTIL THE PERSON IS READY FOR IT. WATCH THE PATTERN

**CROSS** THEN **CROWN**

**SUFFERING** THEN **GLORY**

### ***EXAMPLES***

**MOSES** 40 YEARS UNDER GODS HAND BEFORE HE WAS SENT TO EGYPT

**JOSEPH** AT LEAST 13 YEARS UNDER GODS HAND BEFORE GOD LIFTED HIM TO HIS THRONE

**CONSIDER THIS** - ONE OF THE EVIDENCES OF OUR ***PRIDE*** IS OUR ***IMPATIENCE*** WITH GOD, ONE REASON FOR ***SUFFERING*** IS THAT WE MIGHT LEARN ***PATIENCE ( JAMES 1 VS 1-6) HERE*** PETER WAS REFERRING TO WORDS HE HEARD HIS MASTER SAY: ***"FOR WHOSEVER EXALTETH HIMSELF SHALL BE ABASED; AND HE THAT HUMBLETH HIMSELF SHALL BE EXALTED "( LUKE 14 VS 11 ).***

## **BENEFIT OF THIS KIND OF RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD**

**PRIVILEGE OF LETTING HIM TAKE CARE OF** – UNLESS WE MEET THE CONDITIONS LAID DOWN IN ***I PETER 5 VS 5-6***, WE CAN NOT CLAIM THE WONDERFUL PROMISES OF LAID DOWN IN ***I PETER 5 VS7***.

THE WORD TRANSLATED ***"CARE"*** MEANS ***"ANXIETY "***, THE STATE OF BEING PULLED APART. WHEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES ARE DIFFICULT, IT IS EASY TO BE ***ANXIOUS*** AND ***WORRIED***, BUT IF WE ARE WE WILL ***MISS GODS BLESSINGS*** AND BECOME ***POOR WITNESSESS*** TO THE LOST. WE NEED HIS INNER PEACE IF WE ARE GOING TO TRIUMPH IN THE FIERY TRIAL AND BRING GLORY TO HIS NAME.

ACCORDING TO ***I PETER 5 VS 7***, WE MUST ONCE AND FOR ALL GIVE ALL OF OUR CARES: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE – TO THE LORD. WE MUST NOT HAND HIM WHAT WE WANT TO , KEEPING THOSE THAT WE THINK WE CAN HANDLE OURSELVES, THEY WILL SOON BECOME BIG PROBLEMS !EACH TIME A NEW BURDEN ARISES, WE MUST BY FAITH REMIND THE LORD ( AND OURSELVES ) THAT WE HAVE ALREADY TURNED IT OVER TO HIM.

## **HOW GOD SHOWED PETER HE CARED FOR HIM**

IF ANYBODY KNEW FROM EXPERIENCE THAT GOD CARES FOR HIS OWN – IT WAS PETER – LOOK HOW GOD CARED FOR PETER:

**MARK 1 VS 29-31**     **HEALED HIS MOTHER IN LAW**

**LUKE 5 VS 1-11**     **GAVE HIM A GREAT CATCH OF FISH**

**MAT 17 VS 24 -27**   **HELPED HIM PAY HIS TEMPLE TAX**

**MAT 14 VS 22-33**    **HELPED HIM WALK ON WATER**

**LUKE 22 VS 50-51**   **REPAIRED THE DAMAGE HE DID TO THE EAR OF MALCHUS**

**ACTS 12**             **DELIVERED PEOPLE FROM PRISON**

## **HOW DOES GOD SHOW US HIS LOVE AND CARE FOR US WHEN WE GIVE OUR CARES TO HIM**

1. **HE GIVES US THE COURAGE TO FACE OUR CARES HONESTLY AND NOT RUN AWAY (ISA 4 VS 10)**
2. **GIVES US THE WISDOM TO UNDERSTAND THE SITUATION( JAMES 1 VS 5 )**
3. **HE GIVES US STRENGTH TO DO WHAT WE MUST DO (PHIL 4 VS 13)**
4. **HE GIVES US THE FAITH TO TRUST HIM TO DO THE REST (PS 37 VS 5 )**

**NOTE:** SOME PEOPLE GIVE GOD THEIR BURDENS AND EXPECT HIM TO DO EVERYTHING! IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE LET HIM WORK IN US AS WELL AS WORK FOR US, SO THAT WE WILL BE PREPARED WHEN THE ANSWER COMES. ***“CAST THY BURDEN UPON THE LORD, AND HE SHALL SUSTAIN THEE” ( PS 55 VS 22 ).***

