

Stand Firm in the Grace of God

November 25, 2018

Live Different
GODLY LIVING IN AN UNGODLY WORLD

Open: What are your expectations as a Christian for blessing and persecution?

Read & Discuss: 1 Peter 5:6-14

1. What specifically would it look like to “humble [ourselves]” (v. 6) in situations like the ones Peter is addressing in his letter? How would such humility relate to recognizing the “mighty hand of God”? Given the phrases “therefore” and “so that,” what is meant to serve as our motivation for such behavior?
2. Verse 7 speaks of “casting [our] anxieties” on God. What reasons would the recipients of Peter’s letter have had to be anxious? What anxieties might we experience that could be similar? How does knowing God “cares for you” help you during times of anxiety?
3. In verses 8-9, Peter connects spiritual warfare with our suffering through trials. When we’re suffering through trials, what makes us more vulnerable to spiritual attack? During those times, what specific temptations might we face?
4. Peter identifies at least four tools in verses 8-9 which can help us fight against spiritual attacks in the midst of suffering. What are these tools? What does using these tools look like practically? What strategies have you found helpful in resisting Satan (v. 8)?
5. How is the hope presented in verse 10 meant to encourage us when we’re engaged in spiritual battle? How does Scripture indicate God will do each of the four things that He promises in verse 10, which are to “restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish” us?
6. Would you describe your motivation for obeying God as rooted more in immediate benefit or in eternal benefit? Explain. From what you have learned from studying 1 Peter, how might Peter answer this question?
7. In verse 12, Peter speaks of his “exhorting and declaring that this is the true grace of God.” What does Peter’s letter declare to be “the true grace of God”? What does it look like for us to “stand firm” in this grace?

Apply: Thinking back over our series in 1 Peter, what have you learned? What has encouraged you?

Pray: Pray that we would be people who stand firm in the grace of God through suffering.

1 Peter 5:6-14.

⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, ⁷ casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. ⁸ Be sober-minded; be watchful.

Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

¹² By Silvanus, a faithful brother as I regard him, I have written briefly to you, exhorting and declaring that this is the true grace of God. Stand firm in it. ¹³ She who is at Babylon, who is likewise chosen, sends you greetings, and so does Mark, my son. ¹⁴ Greet one another with the kiss of love.

Peace to all of you who are in Christ. (ESV)