

1 PETER: YOUNG AND OLD AND ALL

Living Hope Series #6, 1 Peter 4:19–5:11

July 12, 2020

So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.

To the elders among you . . . be shepherds of God's flock . . .

Young men, in the same way be submissive to those who are older . . .

All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another . . .

1 Peter 4:19–5:14

Dear friends (but ask, whose friends?)

Dear friends, I urge you as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires which war against your soul. Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

1 Peter 2:11

Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice that you share in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed.

1 Peter 4:12-13



What Peter has been saying about suffering

Praise be to the God and Father of our lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has [caused us to be born again] into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that your faith – of greater worth than gold, which perished even though refined by fire – may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

1 Peter 1:3-12

Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy and slander of every kind. Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

1 Peter 2:1-3

Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because he who has suffered in his body is done with sin. As a result, he does not live the rest of his earthly life for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God.

1 Peter 4:1-2

The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray. Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality without grumbling. Each one should whatever gift he has received to serve others

1 Peter 4:7-10

So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.

1 Peter 4:19

1) Peter is committed to equipping a church prepared for suffering

2) We are committed to God's goodness from creation to new creation to even newer creation

3) Doug suggests that Peter writes with these Scriptures (and his Luke 24 learning!) open:

Genesis: God is the author of creation and new creation, and Abraham is archetypal sojourner

Proverbs: Walking in wisdom is Peter's Old Testament model for walking in the Spirit

The Sermon on the Mount: Jesus initiates the upside down kingdom ethics of suffering

Ephesians: Paul's Prison Epistles have been circulating in Asia Minor for several years

James: This is another example of a NT commentary on Wisdom and the Sermon on the Mount

First, to the elders

To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder, a witness of Christ's sufferings and one who also will share in the glory to be revealed: ² Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, serving as overseers—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve; ³ not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. ⁴ And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

1 Peter 5:1-4

1) A witness (*martus*) is one who tells, not just one who sees

2) Peter knows the suffering and glory story

3) The heart of eldering/shepherding is service

4) There is only one Lord of this church!

Second, to the young

⁵ Young men, in the same way be submissive to those who are older.

1 Peter 5:5

1) “Young men” reflects all of us in relationship with church leaders

2) Submission to elders, like wives and husbands, is closely related with suffering (see 2:21)

3) Submission is the gift we give to maintain God's creation order and our testimony in the church

Getting our thinking right (1 Peter 1:13, “prepare your minds for action”)

All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because,

“God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” [Proverbs 3:34, but again read the whole passage]

⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

⁸ Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

1 Peter 5:5b-9

1) Right thinking about me:

2) Right thinking about God:

3) Right thinking about Satan (with spiritual warfare from Ephesians in mind):

4) Right thinking about brothers and sisters (see 2:17) throughout the world:

Benediction and Doxology

¹⁰ And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. ¹¹ To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

1 Peter 5:10-11

1) God’s story is my story (go back to Peter’s Scripture lesson in 1:10-12)

2) God does the restoring – the question: Where am I committed? (see 4:19)

Learning from Peter's people (for Wednesday night)

¹² With the help of Silas, whom I regard as a faithful brother, I have written to you briefly, encouraging you and testifying that this is the true grace of God. Stand fast in it.

¹³ She who is in Babylon, chosen together with you, sends you her greetings, and so does my son Mark. ¹⁴ Greet one another with a kiss of love.

Peace to all of you who are in Christ.

1 Peter 5:12-14

1) From faithful brother Silas (see Acts 15:22-41; 2 Corinthians 1:18-19; Acts 16; 1 Thessalonians 1)

2) From “She who is in Babylon” (see Revelation 18; Jeremiah 50-51)

3) From “my son Mark” (see Acts 12:12; 12:25-13:13; Acts 15:36-41; 2 Timothy 4:11; Philemon 24)

Resources for further studies of 1 Peter

I found Kenneth Wuest's "First Peter in the Greek New Testament" very helpful (Eerdmans, 1942).

There are some wonderful sermons available at <https://www.monergism.com/topics/sermon-manuscripts-mp3s-scripture/1-peter/chapter-1-peter/chapter-05>

Bob Deffinbaugh's sermons on 1 Peter at <https://bible.org/seriespage/20-final-word-suffering-1-peter-412-19>

Spurgeon's series of messages on 1 Peter, especially "The Roaring Lion" at

<https://www.spurgeon.org/resource-library/sermons/by-scripture/1-peter>

ThirdMill has a collection of sermons on 1 Peter at <https://thirdmill.org/sermons/series.asp/srs/1%20Peter>

John Piper has a wonderful series of 1 Peter sermons at desiringgod.org

Reformation21's "resident aliens" blog on suffering at <https://www.reformation21.org/blog/suffering-and-redemption>

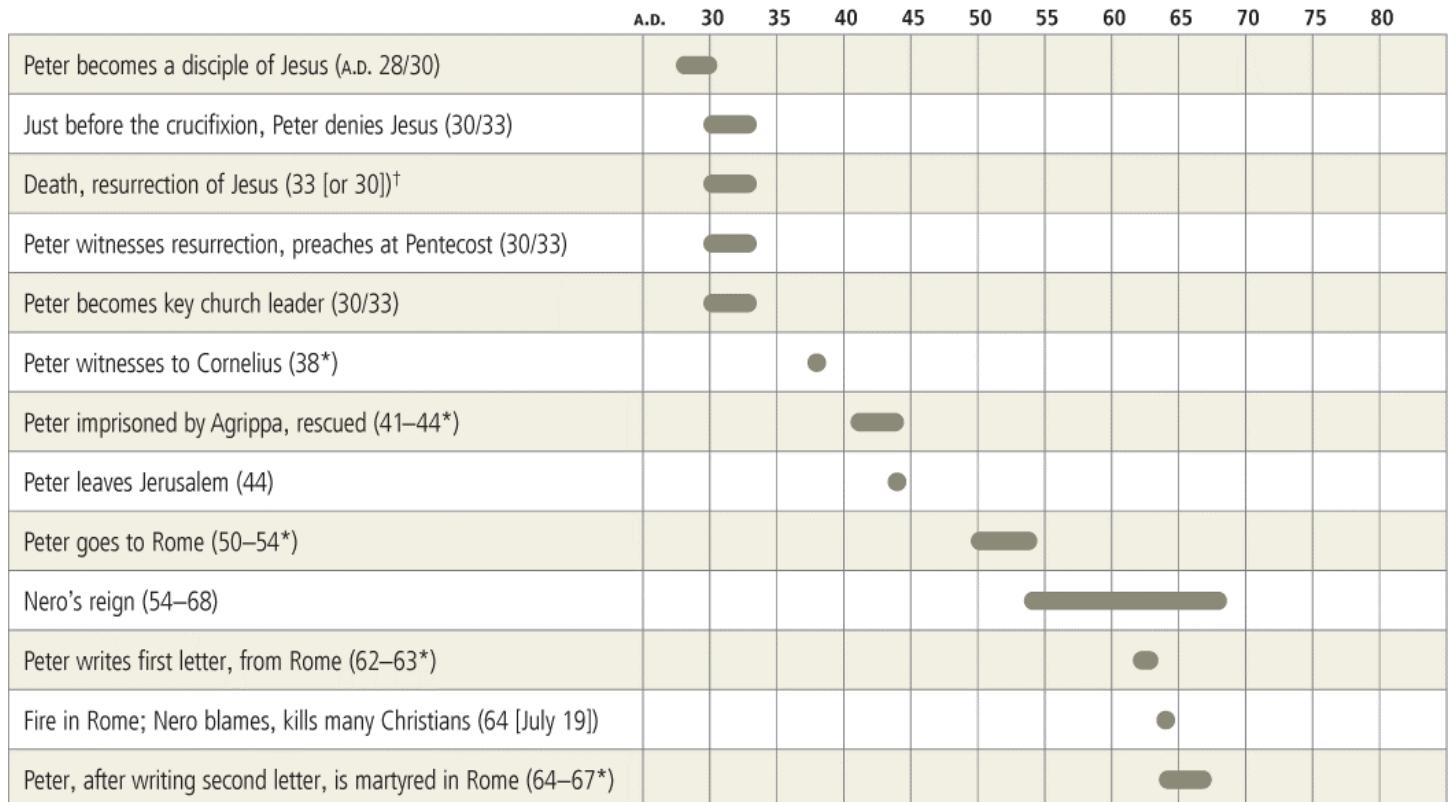
Ligon Duncan, and other First Presbyterian, Jackson, preachers has a wonderful series of messages at
<https://www.fpcjackson.org/resource-library/sermons/scripture/1-peter>

Karen H. Jobes' commentary of 1 Peter in the Baker Exegetical Commentary series (Baker Academic, 2005).
She is even better on 1 Peter 4.

The Gospel Coalition produced this animated introduction (on which this week's coloring page is based) and study taken from the ESVSB at <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/course/1-peter-introduction/#overview>

Jonathan Edwards' wonderful 1 Peter 2:9-10 sermon at <https://www.biblebb.com/files/edwards/chosen.htm>

The Gospel Coalition offers a introductory lecture series on 1 Peter at
<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/course/study-1-peter/#course-introduction>



1 PETER

HOPE IN THE MIDST OF SUFFERING

- GOD'S PEOPLE ARE A MISUNDERSTOOD MINORITY,
LIVING UNDER THE RULE OF A DIFFERENT KING.

THE GENEROUS LOVE OF JESUS.

