

Path to Hope: First Peter

Hope & Living in the World

Hope Along The Path 2:11-12

- These two verses set the standard for this entire section
- As pilgrims we are to live in such a way as to draw all people to the Messiah (Christ). That includes both believers and non believers.
- We are to abstain from the things of the flesh
- We are to live in an honorable [honest] way

A. How to Live in the World 2:13-25

For the Lord's sake, we are to show respect (and submission) to the following...

1. Civil authorities 2:13-16

- a. The key here is that this is God's will (His plan) for impacting civil authorities. :15
- b. The purpose of our freedom in Christ is bless others not as a 'cloak' for selfish or political gain. :16

2. Everyone 2:17 "Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king." This four-fold command reveals the believers attitude towards others.

3. Employers 2:18-20 Remember that from God's point of view—our conduct is a strong message to others. Suffering for righteousness sake is commendable before God.

- a. The example of Christ 2:21-25 Jesus, our sinless Savior died on Calvary's cross that His wounds might heal ours and that we might turn to **the** Shepherd in our time of need.

B. How to Live With Each Other 3:1-17; 1 Peter 5:5

1. Responsibilities of wives 3:1-6

- a. Peter is saying that a life lived in holiness and reverence (first to God) releases a great influence upon the lives of others—including an unsaved husband.
- b. True beauty never fades.
- c. Submission here is simply an extension of God's will for all. "If anyone desires to be first, he shall be last of all and servant of all." *Mar 9:35*

2. Responsibilities of husbands 3:7

- a. Understanding! To know another requires time, honesty, mutual openness, patience, sensitivity and above all LOVE.
- b. Honor! She is precious and of great value and highly esteemed. *If not—you can forget your prayer life!*

3. Responsibility to each other 1 Pet 5:5 "Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for "GOD RESISTS THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE."

- a. Both young and old [all of us] can benefit from this. Pride often keeps older people from trying to understand young people and keeps young people from listening to those who are older. Peter told both young and old to be humble and to serve each other.



1 Peter 2:11-3:7 (NKJV)

1 Peter 2:11-12

:11 Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul,

:12 having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by your good works which they observe, glorify God in the **day of visitation**.

A **day of visitation** is any time the Lord draws near, either in grace or in judgment. The expression is used in Luke 19:41-44 where Jesus wept over Jerusalem because it did not know the time of its visitation, that is, Jerusalem did not realize that the Messiah had come in love and mercy. Here it may mean: (1) The day when God's grace will visit the critics and they are saved, or (2) the day of judgment when the unsaved will stand before God.

1 Peter 2:16

:16 as free, yet not using liberty as a cloak for vice, but as **bondservants** of God.

Bondservant/Servant Gk doulos, "...one who is in a permanent relationship of servitude to another, his will being altogether consumed in the will of the other."

Christian Liberty/Freedom

"Christians use freedom as a tool for a life of exuberant service. It's the foundation that God gives to us to reach our highest potential. Because God gives us freedom from religious rules and eternal guilt, we must not seek to indulge our own desires; instead, we should reach for the best God has for us. Let your freedom sing of power, joy, and love—accountable to God, devoted to others." Life Application Bible