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1 Peter 1

1 From Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ; to the sojourners scattered in the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, the chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, sanctified by the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ. May grace and peace be multiplied to you.

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to his great mercy has given us new birth to a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,
4 to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and does not fade away. It is reserved in heaven for you,
5 who by the power of God are protected through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.
6 In this you have joy, although now, for a little while, you have had to suffer in various trials,
7 so that the genuineness of your faith, being more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire, may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.
8 Though you have not seen him, you love him; you do not see him, yet you believe in him, rejoicing greatly with joy unspeakable and filled with glory.
9 You are receiving the result of your faith—the salvation of your souls.
10 Concerning this salvation the prophets, who prophesied of the grace that should come to you, sought and searched diligently.
11 They searched for what person and time the Spirit of Christ which was in them was pointing to when it testified beforehand about the sufferings of Christ and the glories that should follow.
12 It was revealed to them, that they were not serving themselves, but you, things which now have been announced to you through those who preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, things into which even angels are eager to look.

13 Therefore, prepare your minds, be sober and set your hope completely on the grace that will be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed.
14 Like obedient children, do not be conformed to your passions derived from your former ignorance.
15 But as he who chose you is holy, be holy yourselves in every area of life,
16 for it is written, “You shall be holy; because I am holy.”
17 If you call on him as Father, who without partiality judges according to each one's work, live the time of your sojourning in reverential fear.
18 You know that you were ransomed not with corruptible things, like silver or
gold from your futile ways of life handed down from your forefathers,
19 but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of an unblemished and spotless
lamb.
20 He was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but was manifested at the
end of times for your sake.
21 Through him you are now believers in God, who raised him from the dead and
gave him glory; so that your faith and hope might be in God.
22 You have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have
genuine mutual love. Love one another fervently from a pure heart.
23 You have been born again, not from perishable seed, but from imperishable,
through the living and enduring word of God.
24 For,
"All flesh is like grass,
    and all its glory like the flower of grass.
The grass withers,
    and the flower falls off,
but the word of the Lord endures forever.

This is the good news which was proclaimed to you.
1 Peter 2

1 Get rid of all evil, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all slander,
2 Like newborn babies long for the spiritual milk which is pure, so by it you may grow up to salvation;
3 if you have tasted that the Lord is good.

4 As you come to him, a living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God, and precious to him.
5 You yourselves are like living stones, built up into spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.
6 For it says in the Scriptures,
   “Look, I lay in Zion a stone,
   a chosen and precious cornerstone.
   And the one who believes on him
   will never be put to shame.”
7 For you therefore that believe he is precious; but for those who do not believe,
   “The stone which the builders rejected
   has become the chief cornerstone.”
8 and
   "he has become a stumbling-block,
   and a rock that trips them up."
They stumble because they disobey the word, just as they were destined to do.
9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of God's own possession, that you may proclaim the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.
10 You, who in time past were not a people, but now are the people of God. You who had not received mercy, but now have received mercy.
11 Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles, to abstain from fleshly lusts that war against the soul.
12 Live honorably among the Gentiles, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good works, and glorify God on the day he comes to visit.

13 Be subject to every human institution for the Lord's sake, whether to the king, as governmental leader,
14 or to governors, as sent by him to punish evildoers and to praise those who do good.
15 For it is the will of God, that by doing good you should silence the ignorance of the foolish.
16 Live as free even though you are bondservants of God. Do not use your freedom as a pretext for doing evil.
17 Honor everyone. Love those in the family of faith. Fear God. Honor the king.
18 Servants, be subject to your masters with all fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also those who are nasty.
19 For this is commendable, if, because of one’s conscience toward God, one endures grief, suffering unjustly.
20 For what credit is it, if, when you sin, you are beaten and endure it patiently? But if, when you do good, and suffer and take it patiently, this is commendable before God.
21 For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps,
22 he who committed no sin, nor was deceit found in his mouth.
23 When he was abused, he did not return the abuse; when he suffered he did not make threats, but committed himself to God who judges justly.
24 He himself bore our sins in his body upon the tree, that we might die to sins, and live to righteousness. By his wounds you were healed.
25 For you were going astray like sheep; but now have returned to the Shepherd and Guardian of your souls.
1 Peter 3

1 In the same way, wives, be subject to your own husbands. Then, even if any do not obey the word, they may, without a word, be won over by the behavior of their wives,
2 by seeing your pure and respectful behavior.
3 Let not your beauty just be external with special hair styling, and wearing golden jewels, or fine clothes;
4 but let the inner person from the heart, be adorned with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is precious in the sight of God.
5 For in the same way the holy women of old who hoped in God, adorned themselves, being subject to their own husbands.
6 Sarah, for example, obeyed Abraham, calling him “lord,” and you are her children if you do good, and are not intimidated by fear.
7 Husbands, in the same way, treat your wives according to knowledge, giving honor to the women as to a fragile vessel, considering them as joint-heirs of the grace of life. So that your prayers are not hindered.

8 Finally, all of you be agreeable, compassionate, loving as brothers, tenderhearted, and humble.
9 Do not return evil for evil, or insult for insult; but instead return a blessing; for that is why you were called, so that you should inherit a blessing.
10 For,
   the one who loves life,
   and wants to see good days,
   let him keep his tongue from evil,
   and his lips from speaking deceit.
11 Let him turn away from evil, and do good;
   let him seek peace, and pursue it.
12 For the eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous,
   and his ears open to their request.
   But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.
13 Who is the one who will harm you if you are zealous for that which is good?
14 But even if you do suffer for righteousness' sake, you are blessed. Do not fear or be troubled by them.
15 But in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always ready to give answer to every one that asks you a reason concerning the hope that is in you.
16 Respond with gentleness and respect, with a good conscience; so that, whoever accuses you may be put to shame when slandering your good manner of life in Christ.
17 For it is better, if God should so will, that you suffer for well-doing than for evil-doing.
18 Because Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God; being put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit.
19 So then he went and preached to the spirits in prison,
20 that were before disobedient, when God patiently waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being built. There were few, only eight souls, that were saved through water.
21 This was a likeness of baptism which now saves you, not by the washing away of the filth of the flesh, but the pledge of a good conscience toward God, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ;
22 who, having gone to heaven sits at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities and powers being made subject to him.
1 Peter 4

1 Since Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, for he who has suffered in the flesh has finished with sin
2 that he no longer should live the rest of his time concerned about human lusts, but the will of God.
3 For the time past was sufficient for you to have done what the pagans desire and to have walked in sensuality, lusts, drunkenness, orgies, carousings, and despicable idolatries.
4 They think it strange that you do not join them in the same flood of wickedness, so they slander you.
5 They will give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead.
6 For to this end was the gospel preached even to the ones who are now dead, that they might be judged in the flesh by human standards, but live by the Spirit according to God.
7 For the end of all things is near. Be therefore clear headed and disciplined in prayer.
8 Above all be fervent in your love for one another; for love covers a multitude of sins.
9 Be hospitable to one another without complaining.
10 Just as each one has received a gift, serve each other, as good stewards of the diverse grace of God.
11 If any one speaks, let it be the words of God; if any one ministers, do it with the strength which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

12 Beloved, do not be surprised concerning the trial by fire happening among you, as though something strange has happened to you.
13 But rejoice in as much as you are partakers of Christ's sufferings, that at the revelation of his glory you may rejoice and be glad.
14 If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed; because the Spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, rests upon you.
15 Let none of you suffer as a murderer, thief, criminal, or as one who meddles in other peoples’ affairs.
16 But if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed; but glorify God that you bear this name.
17 For the time is come for judgment to begin, starting at the house of God. If it begins first with us, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God?
18 If the righteous are barely saved, what will happen to the ungodly and sinner?
19 So then let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls to a faithful Creator by doing good.
1 Peter 5

1 Now as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and as one who also is a partaker of the glory that will be revealed, I urge the elders among you:

2 Tend the flock of God which is among you, exercising oversight, not because you are forced to, but willingly, as God would want you to, not for greed of money, but eagerly.

3 Do not lord it over those under your charge, but be examples to the flock.

4 And when the chief Shepherd appears you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.

5 Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Yes, all of you clothe yourselves with humility, to serve one another, for "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time.

7 Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.

8 Be sober, stay alert. Your adversary the devil, like a roaring lion, prowls around, seeking whom he may devour.

9 Resist him, being steadfast in your faith, knowing that your brothers all over the world face the same sufferings.

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 perfect, establish, and strengthen you.

11 To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

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

13 Your sister church that is in Babylon, elect together with you, greets you; and so does my son Mark.

14 Greet one another with a kiss of love. Peace be to all of you who are in Christ.