

1 Peter

Lesson #20, Chapter 5:6-14

Ask the Lord to give you understanding of His Word and how to apply it in your life. Read all of Chapter 5 in preparation for this lesson.

1. One of the characteristics of Peter's writing is that he frequently uses transition terms to connect thoughts as he moves from one subject to another. What thought from the previous section is connected to verse 6 by *therefore*?
2. What command does Peter give us in verse 6? Where or in what way are you supposed to do this (verse 6)? What reason is given to motivate you in this verse?
3. John MacArthur makes the observation that, "The readers of Peter's letter were not to fight the sovereign hand of God, even when it brought them through testings. One of the evidences of lack of submission and humility is impatience with God in His work of humbling believers." How is this similar in thought to 3:17 and 1:6?
4. For an example of submission and humility with God's work in a believer's life see 2 Cor. 12:7-10. How did Paul determine to humble himself under the mighty hand of God?
5. Christian, you are to humble yourself, living under the mighty hand of God. How is living under His powerful hand a comfort and source of security to you, as well as a reminder to keep your heart in check?

6. As we humble ourselves, we are told to be in the process of casting our anxiety upon God (verse 7). What does the word *casting* mean [Strong's #1977] and what picture does Peter intend that word to create in your mind about how you are to deal with worry? Just to make sure you don't miss it, we need to ask: How much worry are we to give to God?
7. What truth about God's character does Peter add to help us obey this command in verse 7?
8. Peter continues with his final words by telling them to do 2 more things in verse 8. What are they to do and why?
9. How are we to respond to the devil according to verse 9? See also Eph. 6:11-13.
10. How would the knowledge that other believers are also suffering help you to stand firm in your faith?
11. How long will you suffer according to verse 10?
12. No matter what length of time you suffer here on earth what is still true about its duration according to verse 10? Why is that true? See 1 Pet. 1:6-7; Rom. 8:17-18; and 2 Cor. 4:16-18.

13. Why is that truth about the duration of suffering so necessary for a Christian to understand?

14. What happens after your suffering (verse 10)?

15. Define the following words from verse 10 to gain an understanding of what God intends to do in your life.
 - a. Define *perfect* [Strong's #2675 (ESV *restore*; NKJV *establish*)]. See also Luke 6:40; 1 Cor. 1:10; and 2 Cor. 13:11 to aid your understanding of this word.

 - b. Define *confirm* [Strong's #4741 (NKJV *establish*; NIV *strong*)]. See Col. 2:7; 1 Thess. 3:2, 13; and 2 Pet. 1:12.

 - c. Define *strengthen* [Strong's #4599 (NIV *firm*)]. This word isn't used anywhere else in the New Testament, but a similar word is used in Eph. 3:16.

 - d. Define *establish* [Strong's #2311 (NKJV *settle*; NIV *steadfast*)]. See Matt. 7:25; Eph. 3:17; and Col. 1:23.

16. What kind of woman does God intend you to be based upon your understanding of the words above?

17. What do you learn about Silvanus (also called Silas) from the following verses? See 1 Pet. 5:12; Acts 15:22, 32; 16:25, 37; 2 Cor. 1:19.

18. As Peter closes his letter to the brethren, what comments does he make about the things he has written to them (verse 12)?

19. Peter closes his letter the way he began it (1:2), with a benediction of peace. What bedrock truths in this letter will lead the believer to the peace that surpasses all understanding no matter what their circumstances?

20. What words from this letter have left their mark upon you? What truths have you come to better understand and apply since studying this book?

To Him be dominion forever and ever. Amen!