

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

A PILGRIM'S WALK THROUGH

THE NEW TESTAMENT

1 PETER

Reading: 1 Peter 4:12-19

Introduction

- 1 Peter is the 2nd of the 7 '*general epistles*'
- It is composed of 5 chapters and 105 verses.

1 The Author Of The Book.

- Son of Jonas/Jonah and brother of Andrew.
- Known as the '*big fisherman*'
- Lived at Capernaum with his wife and mother-in-law.
- Recognised as the lead disciple.
- Denied Jesus on the eve of His crucifixion.
- Pentecost changed the cringing coward into the dynamic disciple.
- One of the leading figures in the early church.
- According to tradition he was crucified upside down.

2 The Occasion Of Peter's Writing

- He wrote to the '*pilgrims*' in Asia Minor. (Turkey).
- 1 Peter: addresses the attack on the church from outside. (Persecution).
- 2 Peter: addresses the attack that came upon the church from inside. (False teaching).
- Key Verses: [4:12-13].
- The key word is '*suffer*' or '*suffering*'.

3 Suggested Outline Of The Book

- The **SALVATION** of the believer [1:1-21].
- The **SANCTIFICATION** of the believer [1:22-2:12].
- The **SUBMISSION** of the believer [2:13-3:12].
- The **SUFFERING** of the believer. [3:13-4:19]
- The **SHEPHERDS** of the believer. [5:1-14].

4 Persecution And Suffering

- Persecution for the cause of Christ is an unwelcome fact. [John 16:33].
- As long as there has been a church there has been persecution to some degree.
- Sadly: *'persecuted Christians don't seem to matter'*
- What Is Our Response When Persecution Comes Along?
- Don't be surprised when it occurs. [2 Timothy 3:12].
- Our response is important. It can make you bitter or produce growth.
- Regard it as a privilege. [Acts 5:41]
- If you are persecuted you have joined an illustrious crowd. [2:21]

5 Obedience

- The words *'obey,' 'obedience'* and *'disobedience'* are used 9 times.
- [1:14], [1:22], [2:7], [2:8], [4:17] etc etc
- The fundamental hallmark of true salvation.

6 The Shepherds Of The Believer. [5:1-4]

- God elects and saves some and from that number He calls some to be shepherds of the others.
- The shepherd is entrusted with God's sheep.
- They are to be to them what the eastern shepherd is to their sheep.
- They are to lead by being examples.
- The faithful shepherd will receive the crown of glory.

Homework

In chapter 2 Peter gives a number of mini portraits of the believer. Find them and note their significance.

Teaching Biblically · Thinking Biblically · Living Biblically

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