

1 Peter: Suffering and Self-Control

New Testament * Week 35 * Opening collect: Confession of St. Peter, BCP 238

If you have questions from past weeks or your reading, email them to

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I. Peter wrote in hard times.

II. Suffering

A. 1 Peter 1:3-9

1. Vs 3-5 – Facing trials
2. Vs 6 – We can rejoice
3. Vs 7 – Peter and James were friends! “Consider it joy, when you encounter various trials...” (James 1:2-3)
4. Vs 8-9 – We are those Jesus told Thomas about

B. 1 Peter 2:18-24

1. Vs 18 – Remember: the New Testament doesn’t condone slavery
2. Vs 19-20 – If we suffer for doing wrong...
3. Vs 21-23 – Being like Jesus includes
4. Vs 24 – Jesus suffering

C. 1 Peter 3:9-15, 17 – Echoes of “Blessed are you when people persecute you for righteousness sake, for great is your reward in heaven” (Matthew 5:10-12),

D. 1 Peter 4:1 – When we get used to unjust pain, the pain of refusing temptation seems less painful. Unfortunately, some in the church took this verse to mean that suffering gets rid of sin, so they started wearing scratchy clothes, and beating and starving and hurting themselves to be done with sin. Needless pain is just that: needless and useless. There’s enough pain naturally; we don’t have to manufacture any.

- E. 1 Peter 4:12-19
 - 1. Vs 12 – We shouldn't be surprised
 - 2. Vs 13-16 – There is a certain amount of grief
 - 3. Vs 17-19 – NOW

III. Self-control.

- A. 1 Peter 1:13-16 – Delayed gratification
- B. 1 Peter 2:1-3 – Lap up God's nourishment:
- C. 1 Peter 2:9-12
 - 1. Vs 9 – Chosen, priesthood, holy nation.
 - 2. Vs 10 – Where have you heard that?
 - 3. Vs 11 – We are only visiting this planet.
 - 4. Vs 12 – Live in such a fashion
- D. 1 Peter 3:1-7 – Wives and husbands.
 - 1. Vs 1-2 – How to win those boys over
 - 2. Vs 3-6 – These are not instructions
 - 3. Vs 7 – NOT “she IS a weaker vessel”
- E. 1 Peter 5:6-9
 - 1. Vs 6-7 – It takes humility
 - 2. Vs 8-9 – Be alert and self-controlled

IV. 1 Peter 5:10-11 – Promise:

Preparation for next week: Read Acts 13-28

Closing collect: St. Peter and St. Paul, BCP 241