



Major Themes *in 1 and 2 Peter*

Main Text for The Week: *“For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit,”* ([1 Peter 3:18 KJV](#)).

Read and Meditate for This Week’s Study:

*Isaiah 53:5-6, 9; Leviticus 16:16-19; Leviticus 11:44; Romans 13:1-7;
1 Corinthians 14:40; 2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 3:1-10; 1 Corinthians 10:11.*

Main Thought for the Week: As with the Bible in general, the epistles of Peter were written for practical purposes to God’s church. The Apostle Peter confronts the persecution being faced by the church, as well as the influx of false teachers. He emphasizes the sacrifice of Christ and the coming Judgment, and shows us how the foundation of the scriptures is the Rock (Jesus Christ). In all this, Peter focuses on the spiritual as the solution to the physical situations faced by the believers. This week, we will close out our study for the quarter by reviewing some of the themes, and by seeing how an understanding (and appreciation) of spiritual things, brings practical solutions. A brain-only theology is essentially philosophy, and is thus useless to the believer. Peter shows that the gospel and the scriptures are much more than head knowledge - they are the revelation of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit to mankind.



How Should We Live?

Monday's Summary – June 19:

1. What do the following passages tell us about Christian behavior?

(1 Peter 1:15-17, 22) _____

(1 Peter 2:1) _____

(1 Peter 3:8-9) _____

(1 Peter 4:7-11) _____

(2 Peter 3:11) _____

2. Is living in Christ synonymous with being judgmental? (**Ephesians 5:11; John 7:24; Hebrews 11:4**) _____

SUMMARY THOUGHTS: Proper Christian living is a theme that Peter seems to focus on more than any other in his epistles (**2 Peter 3:11**). Not only did Peter apparently believe it was important to live a holy life - especially in light of a coming judgment - but he believed it was entirely possible to do so successfully through divine power. We can, and **must**, be holy -- because God is holy.

PERSONAL NOTES: _____



Hope in the Second Coming

Tuesday's Summary – June 20:

1. What do the following passages tell us about future events?

(1 Peter 1:4, 17) _____

(1 Peter 4:5-6, 17) _____

(2 Peter 3:10) _____

SUMMARY THOUGHTS: One of the crucial issues facing those who first received the epistles of Peter was persecution. The apostle comforts his readers with the thought that, even though their lives may be hampered by persecution, there is a future reward waiting for them in heaven, a reward that cannot be taken away. Very early in 1 Peter, he mentions that Christians have an imperishable inheritance kept in heaven for them (1 Peter 1:4). And Peter reminds them of the upcoming judgment where justice will be performed, pain and suffering will be ended, wickedness will be blotted out, and the believers will receive their eternal reward.

Discuss/Consider: Why must we continue to press onward and upwards in faith and obedience, regardless of our current circumstances? _____

PERSONAL NOTES: _____



Order in Society and in the Church

Wednesday's Summary – June 21:

1. What does Peter say about the importance of **societal** leadership and how we should respond to that leadership as Christians? (1 Peter 2:11-21) _____

2. What does Peter say about the importance of **religious** leadership and how we should respond to that leadership as Christians? (1 Peter 5:1-5) _____

ILLUMINATION: “We have men placed over us for rulers, and laws to govern the people. Were it not for these laws, the condition of the world would be worse than it is now. Some of these laws are good, others are bad. The bad have been increasing, and we are yet to be brought into strait places. But God will sustain His people in being firm and living up to the principles of His Word. I saw that it is our duty in every case to obey the laws of our land, unless they conflict with the higher law which God spoke with an audible voice from Sinai, and afterward engraved on stone with His own finger. **“I will put My laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to Me a people.”** He who has God’s law written in the heart will obey God rather than men, and will sooner disobey all men than deviate in the least from the commandment of God. God’s people, taught by the inspiration of truth, and led by a good conscience to live by every word of God, will take His law, written in their hearts, as the only authority which they can acknowledge or consent to obey. The wisdom and authority of the divine law are supreme.” – Ellen G. White, *Counsels for the Church*, p 314

PERSONAL NOTES: _____



The Primacy of Scripture

Thursday's Summary – June 22:

1. What do the following passages tell us about the scriptures?

(1 Peter 1:10-12) _____

(2 Peter 1:16-20) _____

(2 Peter 3:2, 16) _____

ILLUMINATION: "...Every day adds sorrowful evidence that faith in the sure word of prophecy is fast decreasing, and that in its stead superstition and satanic witchery are captivating the minds of men. All who do not earnestly search the Scriptures and submit every desire and purpose of life to that unerring test, all who do not seek God in prayer for a knowledge of His will, will surely wander from the right path and fall under the deception of Satan." – Ellen G. White, **Counsels to the Church**, pg 320.

Discuss/Consider: Are we in danger of using ignoring plain teachings of the Bible by making excuses about "context" and "intent" of the Bible writers? Do we feel that the *promises* of the Bible apply to us, but the *requirements* of God apply to people who lived long, long ago in a place far, far away? _____

Appeal: Take a moment today and prayerfully consider whether or not you are searching the scriptures earnestly, and submitting your desires and purposes to God's revealed will. Won't you ask God for His Holy Spirit to guide and direct your life today?

PERSONAL NOTES: _____



Wrapping It All Up...

Friday's Summary – June 23:

ILLUMINATION: “God has called His people to glory and virtue, and these will be manifest in the lives of all who are truly connected with Him. Having become partakers of the heavenly gift, they are to go on unto perfection, being **“kept by the power of God through faith.”** 1 Peter 1:5. It is the glory of God to give His virtue to His children. He desires to see men and women reaching the highest standard; and when by faith they lay hold of the power of Christ, when they plead His unfailing promises, and claim them as their own, when with an importunity that will not be denied they seek for the power of the Holy Spirit, they will be made complete in Him.”

– Ellen G. White, *Peter's Counsel to Parents*, pg 57

Final Thoughts: We at Metro New York World Ministry are committed to preaching and teaching the totality of the scriptures as God's guide for our lives. The scriptures, which were ordained by the Father, inspired by the Holy Spirit, and point to the plan of salvation through Jesus Christ, have been provided to us in order to prepare us for life here and in the hereafter. The messages from God through His Word are intended to address every circumstance mankind faced from the time they were written until the closing chapters of earth's history. They were **“written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.”** (1 Corinthians 10:11).

PERSONAL NOTES: _____

