

I PETER – GRACE, HOPE AND LIVING WHOLE PART IV “HOPE TO LIVE WELL”

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SCRIPTURE: 1 PETER 3:8-17

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INTRODUCTION

- Hope is the bridge faith needs when our circumstances and our theology don't meet.
- Hope is more than a wish, it's a fact.
- Submission: God works through us submitting.
- Peter highlights discipleship (becoming a disciple) as the true journey of following Jesus.

I. DO GOOD

- 1 Peter 3:8-9 NLT, “Finally, all of you should be of one mind. Sympathize with each other. Love each other as brothers and sisters. Be tenderhearted, and keep a humble attitude. ⁹Don't repay evil for evil. Don't retaliate...when people insult you...pay them back with a blessing. That is what God has called you to do, and He will grant you His blessing.”
- Vs. 9 - What am I here for? “To give a blessing”
- One Minded - We should:
 - Strive for harmony and to live together well.
 - Standing together allows the community to face challenges we otherwise might not alone.
- Sympathy - We should put ourselves in the other person's place.
- Love your Brothers and Sisters - We should:
 - Love other Jesus followers well.
 - Be Kind - We should avoid the temptation to just be nice.

- Humility - We should:
 - Voluntarily submit to one another.
 - Hypotasso = to arrange under

II. DOING GOOD IS A BLESSING

- Doing good is a blessing, but that blessing comes at a price.
- 1 Peter 3:13-14, “... But even if you suffer for doing what is right, God will reward you for it...”
- Romans 8:35-39, “Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love?...³⁷No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us.”
- 1 Peter 3:15-16a, “...worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if someone asks about your hope...always be ready to explain it...in a gentle and respectful way.”
- Hope is like water, without it there is no life.
- 1 Peter 3:16b, “Keep your conscience clear. Then if people speak against you, they will be ashamed when they see what a good life you live...”
- Conscience is like a window that lets in the light of God's truth.
- 1 Peter 3:17, “...it is better to suffer for doing good, if that is what God wants, than to suffer for doing wrong!”

III. CONCLUSION

- Psalm 34:12-16, “If you want to enjoy life and see many happy days, keep your tongue from speaking evil and your lips from telling lies. Turn away from evil and do good. Search for peace...The eyes of the Lord watch over those who do right...the Lord turns His face against those who do evil.”
- Am I Sympathetic, Loving, Kind and Humble?