

A Study of The Epistle of 1st Peter

Theme: “A LIVING HOPE!”

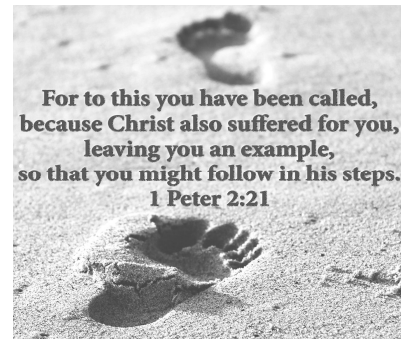
Trinity Lutheran Church - Norman, OK.

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Lesson: 17

Chapter 2:18-25

Date: 11-29-20



BIBLE TEXT:

(18) Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust. (19) For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of **God**, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. (20) For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing **in the sight of God**.

(21) For to this you have been called, because **Christ also suffered for you**, leaving you **an example**, so that you might follow in **his steps**. (22) **He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth.** (23) **When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.** (24) **He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.**

(25) For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to **the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls**.

STUDY NOTES:

A. Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust. (19) For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of **God**, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. (20) For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing **in the sight of God**.

(Mt 5:10; Eph 6:5-8; Col 3:22-25; 1 Tim 6:1,2; Titus 2:9-10; Jas 3:17)

B. For to this you have been called, because **Christ also suffered for you**, leaving you **an example**, so that you might follow in **his steps**. (22) **He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth.** (23) **When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.** (24) **He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.**

(Dt 32:39; Ps 9:4; 103:3; Is 52:13-53:12; Mt 4:23; 8:17; 10:28,38,39; 11:29; 16:24; 27:12-14,34-44; Lk 23:46; Jn 8:46; 13:15; Acts 3:14; 5:30; 10:39; 13:29; 14:22; Rom 6:3-14; 8:28; 2 Cor 5:21; Gal 3:13; Php 1:29; Heb 4:15; 7:26; 9:28; 12:3,13; 1 Jn 3:5; Jas 5:16)

C. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to **the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls**.

(Job 10:12; Ps 23; 119:176; Ezek 34:5,6; Lk 15:4; Jn 10:11-14; Acts 20:28; Heb 13:20)

“Manservants and maidservants are Christians just as other people are; for they share the Word, faith, Baptism, and all blessings with everyone else. Therefore **before God they** are just as great and high as others. But according to their outward way of life and before the world there is a difference. They are in an inferior station and must serve others.

Therefore since **they are called to this estate by God**, they must let it be their duty to be subject to their masters, to look up to them, and pay attention to them. From this the prophet David draws an excellent analogy and points out how they should serve. “Behold,” he says in Ps. 123:2, “as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so **our eyes look to the Lord our God.**” That is, manservants and maidservants should fulfill the wishes of the master or the mistress with humility and fear. **God wants this.**

Therefore it should be done gladly. You can be sure and confident that this is pleasing and acceptable to **God** if you do it in faith. Consequently, these are the best good works you can perform. You need not go far afield and search for others. What your master or mistress commands, **this God Himself** has commanded you to do. It is not a command of men, even though it is given through men.

Therefore you should not consider what kind of master you have, whether good or bad, friendly or irritable and angry; but you must think as follows: “The master may be as he wants to be, I will serve Him and do his bidding in **honor of God**, because He wants me to do this, and because **my Lord Christ Himself became a Servant for my sake.**”

This is what we have said, namely, that servants should impress it on their hearts and be moved to do and suffer willingly what they must, because **Christ did so much for them.** They must think as follows: “Since my Lord served me even though He was not obliged to do so, and since He sacrificed life and limb for me, why would I refuse to serve Him in return? He was completely pure and without sin. Yet He humbled Himself so deeply, shed His blood for me, and died to blot out my sins. Ah, should I then not also suffer something because it pleases Him?” Now he who contemplates this would surely have to be a stone if it did not move him. For if the master takes the lead and steps into the mire, it stands to reason that the servant will follow.



1. He served others (John 2:1-11).
2. He ministered to the sick (Luke 5:12-15).
3. He prayed to Heavenly Father (John 17).
4. He stood up for what's right (John 2:14-17).
5. He showed compassion (Matthew 14:16-21).
6. He studied, learned, and taught from the scriptures (Luke 4:16-21).
7. He was humble (Matthew 27:27-31).
8. He shared the gospel with others (Matthew 5-7).
9. He resisted temptation (Matthew 4:1-11).
10. He was obedient (Matthew 26:39).
11. He forgave others (Luke 23:34).
12. He inspired hope (John 14:15-17).

LIFE APPLICATION

What are examples in your life, that when you do good and suffer for it, and you endure, that this is a gracious thing **in the sight of God?**