



Experiencing Victory in a Hostile World

Our Future: Remember Our Living Hope

Our Lord Will Return

Soon (4:7 – 5:11)

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“Back to Basics” --

Building
Blocks for
Spiritual
Maturity

Christ

1 Pet. 2:6-7

Worship

Hope

Fortitude

Vigilance

Self-Control

Trust

Submission

Humility

1 Peter 5:5-11

Fundamentals for Spiritual Maturity

1 Peter 5:5-11

(Submission)

5 You younger men, likewise, be subject to your elders; and all of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

(Humility)

6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time,

(Trust)

7 casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.

----- (Self-Control)

8 Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

(Vigilance)

9 But resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world.

(Fortitude)

10 After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you.

(Hope)

11 To Him be dominion forever and ever. Amen.

(Worship)

Fundamental Outcomes from Navigating Suffering Biblically



Our Objective: What does God want us to learn?

Humble dependence on God's Sovereign will is that which carries us through the sufferings of this life to the finish line of faith.

“Back to the Basics” of Navigating Through Suffering

1. “be SUBJECT to your elders; (5:5a) SUBMISSION

- It’s a call for RESPECT
- It’s a call for HONOR
- It’s a call to give deference to those in SPIRITUAL leadership. The people of God must learn to submit themselves to these leaders. (1 Cor. 16:15; Eph. 5:21; 1 Thess. 5:12; Tit. 3:2; Heb. 13:7)

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2. “clothe yourselves with HUMILITY (5:5b)

Inseparably linked to and underlying a submissive attitude is a mind given to Humility (Ps. 25:9; Matt. 5:3-5; Eph. 4:1-2; Jam. 4:10).

1. It is a Humility that bows to God's Sovereignty (6)

2. It is a Humility that always looks to God and Eternity (6)



“Back to the Basics” of Navigating Through Suffering

3. “casting all your care upon Him, because He cares for you ” (5:7) -- TRUST

3. It is a Humility that always Forsakes worldly anxiety.

4. It is a Humility that Rests in God’s care. (Ps. 56:3; Matt.6:25-34; Phil. 4:6)

“Back to the Basics” of Navigating Through Suffering



4. Be aware of “ Your Adversary” (5:8-9) --

SELF-CONTROL & VIGILANCE

“Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.”

Peter gives us two basic commands for godly thinking and discipline: **Self-Control;**

“Be sober” -- Discipline of mind (1 Pet. 1:13; 4:7; Tit. 2:2; 1 Thess. 5:6-8) **Watchful;**

“Be alert” -- Stay awake (Matt. 24:42; Rom. 13:11; 2 Tim.4:5)

Peter exhorts his readers to be ready for what is coming, and not be surprised when it is upon them (us) -- Persecution and Suffering. They (we) must recognize Satan’s hand in the difficulties faced.

“Back to the Basics” of Navigating Through Suffering

- Satan is “your adversary, the devil.” - Terms mean opponent; accuser, hostile enemy. Three times Jesus called him the ruler of this world. (John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11)
- Satan is called the “accuser of the Brethren.” (Rev. 12:10) => (1 Pet. 2:12; 3:16; 4:4) - unjustly accused of being evil doers by unbelievers for doing good. Now we see that behind these accusations is Satan

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- Satan’s view of suffering is dictated by his view of Success - “Glory”. His addiction to success led to his own downfall because of his pride and grasping for the preeminence and glory which belong only to God. (Isa. 14:12-14; Ezek. 28:11-15; 1 Tim. 3:6)
- Satan tempts men on the basis of their success. (1 Chron. 21:1; 1 Tim. 3:6)
- But for those who suffer, Satan tries to convince them God cannot be with them and cannot care for them. (Job 1:9-11) Satan sees suffering as the opportunity to turn us from God.

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- Peter indicates that the themes of suffering and glory both converged in the person of Messiah. But the Old Testament prophets could not understand how this could be since suffering and glory seemed incompatible (1 Pet. 1:10-12).
- Satan’s view of suffering and glory is evident in the temptation of our Lord. (Matt. 4:1-11; Luke 4:1-4)
 - **First Temptation: (Matt. 4:1-4)** Satan’s objective -- Jesus should use His Power to end His suffering and reveal His Glory by commanding that stones become bread.

Same test to Israel: Deut. 8:1-3; John 6:25-34; 52-69

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- **Second Temptation: (Matt. 4:5-8)** Satan’s objective – Let Him put Himself in a situation where Suffering is inevitable, and then God must save Him.

Same test to Israel: **Matt. 3:1-12**



- **Third Temptation: (Matt. 4:8-11)** Satan’s objective – Offer Him the Glory of earthly kingdoms for the glory Satan would gain by obtaining the worship of Messiah.

Same test to Israel: **Ex. 32:6; John 11:47-50**

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- o Such temptations did not end at Christ. Satan seeks an “*Opportune time*” to attack, not only through unbelievers, but even the saints (Luke 4:13; Matt. 16:21-23)
- o Now we can understand Peter’s reason for establishing the link between suffering and Satan. (Luke 22:31-32)

Peter knows only too well...He failed...He was not “sober” and “alert”!

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Satan’s Attack

- Satan is a creature of diversity of methods. At times, he seeks to catch us unawares, or unnoticed. (2 Cor. 11:12-15). But sometimes, like we see in this passage, Satan’s opposition is direct. He is described as “Roaring lion” (Ps. 104:21; Job 1:6-12; 2:1-7; Ezek. 22:25; Amos 3:4)

