

The First Epistle of Peter

1

Morning Devotions

Select a passage in God's Word. Talk with the Lord as you read the passage, then go back and find one or two verses which the Lord has impressed on your heart and meditate on them.

Morning Study

Today we continue reading Peter's first letter, this time looking more closely at the third section – **4:1-19**. This section can be divided into three subsections. Read each subsection, answering for yourself the questions associated with it. Jot down or type out your the answers and file them together with your morning study.

Read 1 Peter 4:1-6

- What is the attitude that Peter asked his readers to arm themselves with? (**4:1**).
- Why does Peter make the statement, "he who has suffered in his body is done with sin"? (**4:1-2**).
- Why did the pagans heap abuse upon the Christians of Peter's day? (**4:3-4**).
- Who will the pagans have to give account to? (**4:5**).
- For what reason was the gospel preached to those who were, by the time of Peter's letter, "now dead"?* (**4:6**).

Read 1 Peter 4:7-11

- Why did Peter tell his readers to be cleared minded and self-controlled? (**4:7**).
- What "above all" should his readers do? (**4:8**).
- How were they to offer hospitality to one another? (**4:9**).
- How were they to use the gifts God had given them? (**4:10-11**).

Read 1 Peter 4:12-19

- How did Peter encourage his readers to react to their trials? (**4:12-13**).
- Why should they rejoice? (**4:13-14**).
- What should those who "suffer according to God's will" do? (**4:19**).

* The preaching was done not after these people had died, but while they were still alive. The Bible clearly states that there will be no opportunity for people to be saved after death (**Hebrews 9:27**).

Memory Verse

The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray. Above all, love one another deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.

1 Peter 4:7-8

Here are a few suggestions that may help you to memorize your memory verse:

- ➡ Ask the Lord to help you remember his Word (see [John 14:26](#)).
- ➡ Use the version of the Bible you are most familiar with. What you normally read in your Bible is what you need to be memorizing.
- ➡ Don't just memorize the contents of the verse; memorize its "address" (the verse reference) as well. You can do this by following this pattern: Step 1: **reference**; Step 2: **verse content**; Step 3: **reference**. Then repeat steps 1-3. Note that you are quoting the reference twice as many times as you quote the actual verse content. This gives the verse a clear "reference tag."
- ➡ After you have read your memory verse out aloud several times, try going through your memory verse *without* reading your computer screen.
- ➡ Look up your memory verse in your Bible. Look at its immediate context and read the verses that come before and after your memory verse.
- ➡ Print out your memory verse or jot it down on a piece of paper. Take this paper with you when you go to work or do other daily activities. Meditate on the meaning of the verse throughout the day.
- ➡ During your noon appointment with the Lord, take out your memory verse and go over it again. Talk to the Lord about what this verse means to you personally.
- ➡ In the evening (at either your evening study or your evening devotions), see if you can quote your memory verse from memory. Then, without looking at the memory verse itself, see if you can find it in your Bible.
- ➡ The next day, before you begin committing a new verse to memory, rehearse your previous day's memory verse and see if you can remember it (without cheating!).
- ➡ Finally, at the end of the week (possibly on the Sunday), collect all your week's memory verses, rehearse them and see if you can recall them without reading them. Spend a little extra time on any verses you have difficulty recalling.
- ➡ Remember: Don't just memorize a verse. Put it into practice ([James 1:22](#)). It is not being able to quote a verse from memory that counts. It is His Word *abiding* in your heart that counts ([John 15:7](#)). When you actually apply a verse consistently to your daily life, that is when you *truly* know that verse!