

1 Peter 3:8-22 **One Mind – Unity of understanding**

Love One Another

8 Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous; 9 not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing. 10 For

"He who would love life And see good days, Let him refrain his tongue from evil, And his lips from speaking deceit. 11 Let him turn away from evil and do good; Let him seek peace and pursue it. 12 For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, And His ears are open to their prayers; But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil." [Psalm 34:13-16]

Suffering for Right and for Wrong

13 And who is he who will harm you if you become followers of what is good? 14 But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you are blessed. "And do not be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled." 15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear; 16 having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed. 17 For it is better, if it is the will of God, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.

Christ's Suffering – Preached to Spirits in Prison

18 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, 19 by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison, 20 who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water.

Baptism – Answer of a Good Conscience toward God

21 There is also an antitype which now saves us — baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, 22 who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him.

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Facts Revealed:

Love One Another [1 Peter 3:8-12]

✠ Finally, all of you be of one mind.

✧ The call for unity of mind is demonstrated as example, and called for directly. [Matthew 18:18-20, Acts 1:12-14, 2:42-47, 4:32-37, 5:12-16, Romans 12:9-21, 15:5-7, 1 Corinthians 1:10-17, 12:12, 2 Corinthians 13:11, Ephesians 4:1-16, Philippians 1:27-30, 2:1-4, 3:10-17, 4:2-3]

✧ The mind of Love, desired by Christ Jesus for us, is a mind of compassion and brotherly love for one another.

✧ Love is tenderhearted and courteous. [1 Peter 3:8, 1 Corinthians 13:4-6]

✧ Love does not return evil for evil, or reviling for reviling. [1 Peter 3:9, 1 Corinthians 4:12, 13:4-6, Matthew 5:11, Luke 6:22-23, 2 Peter 2:23]

✧ Love returns good and blessing. [1 Peter 3:9, Matthew 5:44, Luke 6:28, Romans 12:14, 1 Corinthians 4:12]

✧ Knowledge of the blessing we will inherit strengthens us to bless those who revile us. [1 Peter 3:9]

- ✚ Advise for the Saint who is looking for a good reward on the day of Judgment. [1 Peter 3:10-12]
- ✧ Keep your tongue from speaking evil and your lips from speaking deceit. [1 Peter 3:10, Psalm 34:13]
- ✧ Turn from every form of evil, Learn to do good, Seek peace and pursue it. [1 Peter 3:11, Psalm 34:14]
- ✧ The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, His ears are listening to their prayers. [1 Peter 3:12, Psalm 34:15]
- ✧ The Lord is against those who do evil. [1 Peter 3:12, Psalm 34:16]

Suffering for Right and for Wrong [1 Peter 3:13-17]

- ✚ Who is he who will harm you if you become followers of what is good? [1 Peter 3:13, Psalm 56:11, 118:6]
- ✚ Even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you are blessed. [1 Peter 3:14, Matthew 5:10-12]
- ✧ Do not be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled. [1 Peter 3:14, Isaiah 8:12, Matthew 10:28]

Prepare your heart by commitment toward the Lord.

- ✧ Sanctify (give a special place for) the Lord God in your hearts.
- ✧ **Always be ready to give a defense to anyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you**, conducting yourself with meekness and fear with a good conscience toward God.
- ✧ The desired result is, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed.
- ✧ There are times when it is God's will for His people to suffer for doing good as a testimony to the evil world around us. [Matthew 10:16-42, 13:20-21, 24:9-13, Luke 21:12-13, John 15:20, 16:1-4, Revelation 12:17, 13:7, 14:12-13]
- ✧ It is better to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.
- ✧ Suffering for doing good has a good reward from God.
- ✧ Suffering for doing evil is just punishment as deserved.

Christ's Suffering – Preached to Spirits in Prison [1 Peter 3:18-20]

- ✚ Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God.
- ✧ When Jesus suffered at the hands of men, it was with the purpose of bringing us to God.
- ✧ When we suffer for the Name of Christ, it is our testimony for the glory of God and of Christ Jesus, also with the hope of winning souls for Him.
- ✚ Jesus died in the flesh, but was made alive by the Spirit.
- ✧ In His Spiritual body [1 Corinthians 15:44], Jesus went and preached to the spirits in prison (hell).
- ✧ The souls Jesus preached to in hell were the spirits of those who were disobedient before the flood of Noah's time.
- ✧ The preaching was not for their salvation, but to demonstrate the justice in their judgment for having refused the testimony of the Saints of their time, such as Able, Seth, Enoch, and Noah.
- ✧ God had been very patient as He waited over 1,600 years for them to come to repentance until the ark was finished and the flood took them all away except for the eight people in the ark who were saved by the grace of God.
- ✧ Water was involved in the judgment of the wicked and the salvation of the righteous.

Baptism – Answer of a Good Conscience toward God [1 Peter 3:21-22]

- ✚ Water is again involved in the salvation of our souls in the water of baptism.
- ✧ The saving power in baptism is not in the washing away of the filth of the flesh, but in the answer of a clear conscience toward God by the fact of obedience to His command for us to be baptized. [Matthew 28:19, Mark 16:16]
- ✧ Our faith is in God through the evidence of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

- ✧ Jesus is now alive in Heaven at the right hand of God. [Matthew 22:44, 26:64, Mark 12:36, 14:62, 16:19, Luke 20:42, 22:69, Acts 2:32-36, 5:31, 7:55-56, Romans 8:34, Ephesians 1:20-22, Colossians 3:1, Hebrews 1:1-5, 8:1, 10:12-13, 12:2, 1 Peter 3:22]
- ✧ Angels, authorities, and powers have been made subject to Christ Jesus the Lord over all. [1 Peter 3:22, Ephesians 1:20-22, 3:9-10, Colossians 1:15-17, 2:9-10]