

Lesson Notes: 1 Peter 4:1-6 (NIV based)

READ: 1 Peter 4:1-6, with vv.3:18-20a for context

vv.1-2

What "same attitude" is that (v.1)? And how do we "arm ourselves with" it? (v.1)

What does the "arm yourselves" imply about this dynamic, considering its word terminology, sense, and tone?

- - "arm" = Strong's #3695 "arm yourselves; to equip (with weapons [middle voice and figuratively])".

Who is the "he" being referred to here in verses 1c-2, and in what sense?

- - Hint: (*AMP*) - "whoever".

How does "arm yourselves" relate to its cited reason "because he who has suffered in his body is done with sin" (v.1)?

- - Hint: see v.2.

What is being stated and what is being implied here about the results that will be produced in a believer's life when unjust suffering is endured in a proper godly manner?

v.3

What "past" is that?

Define what each listed behavior is, how it is sinful, how it is an acting on "evil human desire" (v.2), and what its counterpart is that would be righteous behavior?

How do we believers get to the point where we no longer desire and no longer engage in each of these listed evil human behaviors?

v.4

What is "dissipation"?

- - "dissipation" - (*AHD*) "Lacking moral restraint; indulging in sensual pleasures or vices."

Theorize or recall why pagans "think it strange that you do not plunge with them into the same flood of dissipation".

Theorize or recall why pagans "would heap abuse on you" for not joining them in their dissipation.

How do the contents of this verse 4 fit into the discussion about suffering for doing what is right? (vv.3:13; 4:1-2)

v.5

Identify in this verse 5 who is being judged, and being judged by whom, and for what reason are they being judged, and what the expected outcome of the judging will be.

Theorize what the purpose is for inserting the contents of verse 5 into this discussion about suffering for doing what is right.

v.6 (cf. vv.3:18-20a)

Review what the "gospel" is.

- - Hint: see vv.3:18; 2:24; 1:18-19,8-9; cf. 1 Corinthians 15:1-8.

For what "reason" was the gospel preached?

- - Hint: see vv.4-5.

What purpose is accomplished by the preaching of the gospel to those people who refuse or fail to respond to the gospel?

What purpose is accomplished by the preaching of the gospel to those people who respond positively and appropriately to the gospel?

What is being stated and what is being implied in this verse 6 about those people who perpetrate or inflict suffering upon others in comparison to those people who are the victims or recipients of the inflicted suffering for doing what is right?

Are you a perpetrator or inflictor of suffering upon others for their doing what is right while you indulge in or plunge into evil human desires?

- Do you go out partying at night, perhaps at clubs or bars, and then drive home inebriated?

- Do you come home drunk or high, and then create a commotion and disrupt the lives of your family members?

- Do you pressure or intimidate your spouse to participate with you in your evil human indulgences, such as "debauchery (wild living), lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing, or detestable idolatry"?

- Do you mock your spouse for going to church on Sundays while you stay home and prepare to party with your buddies - grilling out, drinking beer, smoking marijuana, watching football, and getting rowdy?

- How do you think God is going to react one day in regard to these evil human behaviors you are doing?

MAIN POINT: What would you say is the main point in these verses?

IMPORTANT SUB-POINTS: What are some other important points God is making here in these verses?

APPLICATIONS: What applications can you think of for how we should respond to the concepts in these verses?

PERSONALIZED APPLICATIONS: From these verses, what do you think God wants you to learn, or know, or remember, or put into effect in your life? How are you going to do that?

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