

# From the Cross to the Crown 5

## 1 Peter 5

### Introduction

A. Peter Is about to Close His Epistle, and He Is Aware of the Struggles Through Which These Good People Are Passing

1. He Refers to Them as a Saved People
2. He Refers to Them as a Separate People
3. Christians Are to Be Submissive
4. Christians Will Suffer Because of Their Being Saved Separate, and Submissive
5. In Spite of All This, Peter Expects Christians to Remain Steadfast

B. But How Are Christians to Remain Steadfast and Firm in Their Struggle?

### I. A Leadership That Is Strong Will Aid Steadfastness - 1 Peter 5:1-4

A. Peter Refers to Respect That Evaluates Leadership

1. To Whom Is Peter Referring When He Address Elders?

- a. Term "Elder" Originally Had Reference to Age, but Later Came to Be Most Common Designation of Those Empowered by the H.S. to the Oversight of the Churches
- b. The Qualifications of this Office Are Listed in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1
- c. Each Congregation to Have Elders
- d. Elders Have Duties They must Perform!

- 1) They Are to Be Self-disciplined
- 2) They Are to Be Examples
- 3) They Are to Care For/watch over Congregation
- 4) Feed, or Tend the Flock
- 5) Teach the Word of God
- 6) Exhort & convince Gainsayers
- 7) To Take the Oversight of the Congregation
- 8) Watch for Grievous Wolves
- 9) Support the Weak
- 10) Admonish the Church
- 11) Consider & decide Church Problems
- 12) Take Lead in Exercising Discipline

2. This Exhortation Based on 3 Considerations

- a. Peter Was Also an Elder
- b. He Was Witness of the Suffering of Christ
- c. Shared the Hope of Ultimate Glory with Other Saints to Whom He Wrote

B. Along With Leadership Comes Responsibilities, and These Responsibilities Should Stimulate the Leadership

C. But, along With Responsibilities, Come Restrictions, and These Restrictions Should Regulate the Leadership

1. Elders Are to Serve, Not by Constraint or Force - I Just Accepted Because No One Else would
2. Elders Are to Be Willing to Serve
3. Not to Serve Because of What They Can Get out of it

4. Elders Are to Be of a Ready Mind. They Are to Be Earnest and Desire to Serve God as They Execute Their Duties as Overseers
5. They Are Not to Be Lords over God's Heritage; Not Arrogant or Domineering

D. But along With Restrictions That Regulate Come Regards That Should Dominate the Leadership  
 E. There Are Rewards That Motivate the Leadership

## **II. Loyalty to the Truth Will Help a Christian to Remain Steadfast - 1 Peter 5:5-9**

A. Peter Tells the Younger to Submit to the Elder or Older

1. The Younger Have Responsibility to Submit to the Elder
  - a. Submit - To Subject One's Self - To Obey - To Submit to One's Control - To Yield to One's Admonition, or Advice
  - b. So, Younger Christians Are to Submit Themselves to the Elder, But, to Whom Does The Elder Refer
2. Whether the Word Be Taken in its Functional (Office or Ordinary Sense), the Obligation of the Younger People to the Older Remains
3. All Are to Be in Subjection to the Elders of the Church (Of Their Congregation) in Addition to Rendering Respect to the Aged

B. But Christians Are to Be Subject to One Another

C. A Christian Should Be Clothed With Humility

1. Clothed With Humility Comes from a Term Which Has Reference to an Apron That Was Worn by Slaves to Distinguish Them from Freemen
  - a. As Slaves Would Tie on an Apron, Christians Are To Tie On, or Clothe Themselves With Humility, and Thus Be Ready to Serve One Another in Whatever Way Necessary
  - b. For Christians So Clothed, No Area of Service Is to Be Regarded as Too Menial, or Lowly; No Task Is Too Small to Perform
  - c. Jesus Was Our Example
  - d. Every Christian Is to Be Involved in Serving Others, and Thus Following the Lord's Example, Refusing No Area of Service
2. God Resisteth the Proud
  - a. Resisteth - To Range in Battle Against
  - b. Peter Is Warning All That God Arrays the Spiritual Forces Against the Proud
  - c. Pride Is Such an Ugly Sin That it Leads the List of the Things God Hates
  - d. All Who Fall into this Snare of the Devil, and Are Puffed up With Pride Will Day Be Humbled
3. Resist Satan, and Remain Steadfast!

## **III. In Order to Remain Steadfast, Christians must Have a Love That Is Sincere - 1 Peter 5:10-14**

- A. Peter Brings this Epistle to a Close in the Warmest Possible Way
- B. He Will, in Brotherly Love, Send Greetings From Those Who Love & appreciate Other Christians, And Will Encourage Them to Be Very Warm in Their Love One for Another
- C. They Are to Know That Others Are Depending upon Them, and That They Have Others upon Whom They Can Depend

## Conclusion

- A. Peter Is Writing to Christians That Are Suffering for the Cause of Christ
- B. Christ Went from the Cross to the Crown
- C. Would Not this Epistle Help Us to "Endure the Cross" (Suffering) in Order to Obtain the Crown?
- D. Christians Are Saved, Separate, Submissive, but Suffering. However Christians must Remain Steadfast!