

I Peter

(16) Be Sober and Alert

Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. 1 Peter 5:8, NIV

The battle we're all in...IPet.5:8-11

What is the final command to all believers? 5:8a

Be self-controlled and alert. Be of a sober spirit and keep awake! There is an enemy.

Why is this a critical requirement for us? 5:8b

Your enemy the Devil (slanderer, 4:4, 14) continually looks for someone to 'gulp down'.

What was Peter's first-hand knowledge of this? Lu.22:31-34 see Zech.3:1-5

Satan had prompted Peter to his well known thrice-denial of Christ. Who knows...?

But because of Christ's intercession, what finally results? Jn.21:15-17 ; IITim.4:17

Peter is forgiven, publicly restored, and given his new task. Tend My sheep.

What is the 'unseen' truth about Satan/demons? Eph.6:11-13; IITim.4:1-2; Rev.2:10; IICor.11:3

Satan is relentless, powerful, cunning. We are no match for him in the flesh.

What must also be remembered regarding our sin/trials? 5:9; James 1:12-16;

Not all sin is from the Devil! We choose to sin. No excuses, just confession. RESIST.

What is the sense of the word 'resist'? ICor.10:12-13 What applications are there?

This is primarily a defensive term, not offensive. Stand firm; not commanded to attack!

What last point does Peter make to these believers? 5:9b IIPet.3:17-18

Stand firm in the faith because believers everywhere are having the same sufferings.

And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. 11 To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen. 1 Peter 5:10-11, NIV

What is Peter's final reminder to these persecuted believers? 5:10; Col.2:7; Phil.4:13

The God of all grace who called you, will restore, make strong, firm, steadfast, after...

What's the point behind the 'called you' statement? Rom.8:28-30; IITim.1:9

God called (chose) you. He has a plan for you! This time of suffering is temporary.

What (4) things is God going to do for us (after suffering is done)? 5:10

katartizo=complete thoroughly; sterizo=turn/confirm; sthenoo=spiritual knowledge/power; themelioo=lay/erect the foundation. Totally new, at last!

And Who is the Source of this incredible transformation? 5:11; 4:11; Rev.5:13

To HIM be the power for ever and ever. And all God's people said, AMEN.