



## **1 PETER 4**

### **Peter's Message on the Pursuit of Substance:**

1. The New Birth - No longer a victim but a victor
2. Eternal over than Temporary - We're just passing through
3. Call to Holiness - Old ways will not satisfy the new direction
4. You have a Sure Foundation - The Word of God
5. Beware of the Fateful Five - Malice, Deceit, Hypocrisy, Envy, and Slander - These hidden vices will kill Christian Communities
6. You are a living stone being built into a Spiritual House - You are an important part in the Kingdom - No one can take your place
7. You are apart of a collective

### **Peter frames, in my observation, the 4 pillars of a culture that honors God.**

1. The Christian Community - Ecclesia - The Church
2. Submitting to Healthy Authority Structures - Gov't who do good
3. Submitting to Healthy Authority Structures - Communities who love without tribalism
4. Submitting to God's Structure for the Family

### **Put on the Healthy Five. You are a Family.**

1. Like Minded
2. Sympathetic
3. Love one another
4. Compassionate
5. Humble

You are going to have to arm your self with the Winning Attitude.

### **1 Peter 4:1**

*Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude,*

Attitude is a difference maker in life. How's your attitude?

Attitude - a settled way of thinking, a point of view.

James Allen (philosopher) wrote " A person cannot travel within and stand still without"

Our attitude determines our approach to life. It can determines our relationship with people

The Stanford Research Institute says the money you make in any endeavor is determined only with 12.5% knowledge and 87.5% by your ability to deal with people. 87.5% people knowledge + 12.5% knowledge = success.

Attitude is often times the only difference between our success and failure

**When God wants to educate someone, He does not send them to the school of blessings but to the school of sufferings.**

Suffering leads to a choice, what kind of attitude am I going to have in the midst of suffering?

### **David Sarnoff -**

*There is plenty of security in the cemetery: I long for opportunity.*

The prodigal son is not just a story about one son, but two. One son was guilty of sins of the flesh, the other son was guilty of sins of the spirit. His attitude stunk. All that to say what Peter was reminding us of in the text. Arm yourself with Christlike attitude.

### **1 Peter 4:7-10**

*<sup>7</sup>The end of all things is near. Therefore be alert and of sober mind so that you may pray. <sup>8</sup>Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. <sup>9</sup>Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. <sup>10</sup>Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.*

As the end drew near, Jesus was:

### **Alert -**

The word translated in verse 7 as "serious," means "sober," or of "sound mind," or to be "clear-minded." This is the word that Paul uses in his letter to the Romans

when he instructs them not to think of themselves "more highly than [they] ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith" (Rom. 12:3).

Be self aware more than you are other aware. It's not a mind your own business kind of advice but it's a mind your own business first kind of advice. Then when you have minded your own business, love others well.

### **Sober minded -**

The word translated in verse 7 as "watchful" is to be "sober" or "self-controlled." Paul shares some similar words of encouragement when he writes, "Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober" (1 Thess. 5:6).

As Peter shares these words of encouragement, it is very possible that he was thinking back to his experience on the night in which Jesus was betrayed. As you will remember, Jesus took the eleven disciples to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray with Him. He invited Peter, James, and John to go deeper into the garden with Him. As He prayed, they fell asleep. He awakened them with the words, "What! Could you not watch with Me one hour? Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak" (Matt. 26:40-41).

Peter is now sharing that same counsel with us. We must be sober and watchful, for these are crucial days. The end is at hand. He shares that warning not only in this passage but again in chapter five when he writes, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour" (5:8). Indeed, let us be serious and watchful in our prayers.

### **Those two things are prerequisites to Prayer.**

To be self aware and clear minded brings a power to prayer. Jesus, when in the garden, "if it's possible, let this cup pass me by". He was fully aware, yet He was fully willing. His prayer was recorded because it gives us eyesight into the power of a prayer while being fully aware.

What do you need to do to become so aware of the purpose you're birthed for?

### **Deeply love -**

As we have seen, "love" is the mark of authentic Christian lifestyle. Jesus said that it was by this love that others would recognize us as His true disciples (John 13:35). Peter tells us not only to love, but to love fervently. The word "fervent" means "intense" or "without ceasing." The New English Bible translates this phrase in a refreshing and helpful way: "Keep your love for one another at full strength."

## **Hospitable -**

Authentic love must show itself in action in practical ways, and hospitality is one of the options. The Greek word for "hospitality" means to be fond of guests or to be a lover of hospitality. To be hospitable means to share what God has given to us with others including our home, our meals, our resources, and our very lives.

The early church was comprised of Christian brothers and sisters who loved to share with one another. Luke's description of that lifestyle of hospitality tells us, "They met constantly to hear the apostles teach, and to share the common life, to break bread, and to pray... With one mind they kept up their daily attendance at the temple, and, breaking bread in private houses, shared their meals with unaffected joy, as they praised God and enjoyed the favor of the whole people" (Acts 2:42-47, neb).