

Sunday October 17th 2010

Petros

Part Eighteen

Study Questions

1). 1Pe 5:1 ¶ *The elders who are among you I exhort, I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that will be revealed:*

- a). How does Peter describe himself at the beginning of Chapter 5?
- b). What can we learn from this?
- c). What other words are used in scripture for the office of elder and what might we learn from them about this office?

2). 2 *Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly;*

- a). What is the exhortation given to the elders here?
- b). How are they to shepherd the flock of God?
- c). And what would each one of these mean?
- d). To whom does 'the church' belong and why?
- e). So what does this tell you about the elders' service?

3). *3 nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock;*

- a). What does this scripture teach about the ministry of elders?
- b). Does this in any way take away from the spiritual authority they are to exercise?
- c). How does the Holy Spirit through Paul speak of this authority in 1 Thessalonians and 1 Timothy?
- d). What is the congregation's obligation with regards to their elders as outlined in Hebrews 13:17?
- e). What are the elders to do instead of Lording it over the flock?

4). 1Pe 5:5 ¶ *Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble."*

- a). What is taught in this verse concerning submission?
- b). What is the main focus of this verse?
- c). What does it mean to be clothed with humility?
- d). Why is this so important for us?
- e). What does it mean for God to 'resist the proud'?

5). 1Pe 5:6 *Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, 7 casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.*

a). ‘Therefore humble yourselves’ – what should be our motivation for doing this?

b). What does the phrase ‘humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God’ really mean?

c). Historically, what was the means by which God was humbling Peter’s readers?

d). How would we see this in our own setting?

e). What would God having humbled us look like?

f). What scripture do we have from Hebrews that speaks to this?

g). What will be the result of allowing ourselves to be humbled?

h). What does ‘casting all you care upon Him’ mean?

i). What is the significance of the statement ‘for He cares for you’?

j). What does Jesus have to say about this?

k). What does all of this say to you personally?

6). 1Pe 5:8 ¶ *Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. 9 Resist him, steadfast in the*

faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

- a). What does it mean for us to be sober and vigilant?
- b). Why do we need to do this?
- c). What does it mean to ‘resist him, steadfast in the faith’?
- d). What does our scripture tell us about our ‘brethren in the world’?

7). 1Pe 5:10 ¶ *But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you.*

- a). What does the phrase ‘the God of all grace’ tell us?
- b). What does it mean that we have been called and what have we been called to?
- c). What scripture do we have from Hebrews that would give us commentary on this?
- d). What verb tense in the original language are the words perfect, establish, strengthen and settle written in and what does this tell us?
- e). What do these words mean?
- f). What process is being described here?
- g). What scripture from Ephesians deals with this same process?

h). And so, what is the only way according to scripture, that spiritual maturity can be attained?

i). And whose work is it that makes this possible?

j). What connection is there between 'humbling yourselves under the mighty hand of God' and spiritual maturity?

k). How are you doing in this area?