# 1<sup>st</sup> Peter

Christian Life Assembly
Fall 2014
Jim Hoffman

- Two times already Peter tells us that Christ died and that the purpose of his death was to enable us to live differently.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 1:15 but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 2:9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.

And He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed.
 25 For you were continually straying like sheep, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Guardian of your souls.

- The vicarious suffering of Christ.
- Our true Vicar! There is no "Vicar of Christ" there is only Christ.

 And He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness;

 This is a theme Peter has repeated – that Christ died for us so that we might live for Him.

 In verse #24 it is so explicit that it cannot be missed, and maybe not even be ignored. (so that)

 One must conclude that theme like this, that is repeated so often, must to be important to us.

 God has not redeemed us just for heaven – He has redeemed us that we might live a life that declares Him no matter where we are.

 If we are conscious of this we will find multiple ministries to those around us every day.

 And <u>He Himself bore our sins in His body</u> on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness;

 <u>Substitutionary atonement</u> is one of the central and great doctrines of the gospel.

 For thousands of years God had been preparing the world for the day when the Lamb of God would arise in history.

- Prior to His coming, God had shown the way to Him was through the blood sacrifice of a substitute.
  - After the fall of Adam and Eve (Gen 3)
  - When the Abrahamic covenant was made (Gen 15)
  - On Mt Moriah with Abraham and Isaac (Gen 22)
  - The Levitical system

- When Jesus died the veil of the temple was torn in two from the top to the bottom to show that the way into the most holy place of the temple had been made.
- Heb 9:7 But only the high priest ever entered the Most Holy Place, and only once a year. And he always offered blood for his own sins and for the sins the people had committed in ignorance. 8 By these regulations the Holy Spirit revealed that the entrance to the Most Holy Place was not freely open as long as the Tabernacle and the system it represented were still in use.

• Heb 9:11 So Christ has now become the High Priest over all the good things that have come. He has entered that greater, more perfect Tabernacle in heaven, which was not made by human hands and is not part of this created world. 12 With his own blood—not the blood of goats and calves—he entered the Most Holy Place once for all time and secured our redemption forever.

 2<sup>nd</sup> Cor 5:21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

- Isa 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.
- The question that should be asked is this <u>if God was</u> willing have His own son be murdered, bearing sins that were not His, what were His intentions?
- At first blush it would seem that the benefits all accrue to us, and not to Him. (and sometimes that's how love operates)

 Substitutionary atonement - so when we say <u>that Christ</u> <u>died in our place</u> we are saying that our sin debt has been paid by another and that we have been freed from sin's curse.

 There is a litany of benefits that are ours when we believe that Jesus is the Christ.

We've been ransomed from hell – no longer is that eternal sentence hanging over our heads. <u>1<sup>st</sup> John 3:8 The Son of God came for this: to destroy the devil's work.</u>

 And, we've been forgiven of our sins. A heavy and dangerous load has been lifted from us at salvation.

- No more can the devil bring charges against us that will hold up in God's courtroom. 1<sup>st</sup> John 2:1 My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.
- Psalm 103:12 As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us.

- Because Jesus died for us we have been justified!
- Rom 4:3 For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness."
- When we trust Jesus, in Heaven's courtroom, we are not merely acquitted, we are pronounced righteous.
- Our courts pronounce "guilty" or "not guilty" Heaven's court pronounces "guilty" or "holy".

- Rom 5:9 Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.
- Rom 8:1 There is therefore now <u>no condemnation</u> for those who are in Christ Jesus.
- 1<sup>st</sup> John 5:12 Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.
- Rev <u>21:4 And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes;</u>
   there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."

 There is more here than meets the eye in the purpose of Christ's death – yes, we all stand to benefit and those who believe do benefit.

- However, our benefit redounds to something that it is even greater than what we receive – for in redeeming a people who will follow the footsteps of Jesus, <u>God is magnified</u>.
- The battle of the ages, though never in doubt, was won at the cross where God got what He always wanted – a people of His own who will worship Him with zeal.

- Isa 53:5 But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.
- Please notice that the promise is not at all ambiguous we are not told that we might be healed, or that Christ's death made healing a possibility for us.
- It is more emphatic than that "And by His stripes we are healed". That has a sound of certainty.

- I think it is quite certain to those that trust Jesus we will be completely redeemed body, soul, and spirit.
- What is not certain is the timing when does the promise become a reality for the believer who is sick?
- There are some who experience the first shadows of this promise in this life, but except for Enoch, every believer who has ever lived, has also died. (even Lazarus)
- So without question our healing is certain, but the timing of our healing, is uncertain.

 One of the doctrines that sets Pentecostals apart from many other Protestants is that we believe that healing is in the atonement.

 As a practical matter this manifests itself by how we pray for the sick. We believe with James that we should anoint the sick and trust God to heal them.

 But we also have insurmountable heaps of evidence that even those God heals on Earth eventually die.

- So when Peter quotes what Isaiah says "And by his stripes we are healed" we are not being naysayers or faithless to understand that the complete fulfillment of that promise is only attained in the death of the saints.
- We all know people whom God has healed perhaps even you yourself, but none of us know anyone who will not one day die of something unless precluded by the Rapture.
- There is a certainty to the promise that is not for here, but for eternity.

# Questions