THE FIRST EPISTLE OF PETER

TO THE CHURCH OF THE DISPERSION THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

1 PETER CHAPTER 3:13-17

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SMX-967 NOVEMBER 11, 2018

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

"On Your Mark. Get Set. Be Ready"

The Ministry of The Grace of God Toward All Those Who Are Anchored in Christ.

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Lordship, Holiness, Sanctification, Maturity, Judgment

Introduction to the Text: 1 Peter 3:13-17

1 Peter 3:13-17

And who is he who will **harm** you if you **become followers** of what is **good**?
14 But even if you should **suffer** for **righteousness'** sake, you are **blessed**.
"And do not be **afraid** of their **threats**, nor be **troubled**."
15 But **sanctify** the Lord God in your hearts, and **always** be **ready** to give a
defense to everyone who asks you a **reason** for the **hope** that is in you,
with **meekness** and **fear**;
16 having a good **conscience**, that when they **defame** you as **evildoers**, those
who **revile** your good **conduct** in Christ may be **ashamed**.
17 For it is better, if it is the will of God, to suffer for
doing good than for doing evil.

In the Great Sermon on the Mount

Jesus gave what is considered to be the most beloved teaching of His ministry. In that message, Jesus revealed the true spirit of of a true follower of Christ.

In that sermon, Jesus Christ told us (3) key realities of

(1) what would be the earthly-reality of being a Christian, (2) what the true conduct of the believer be like, and (3) what those of this world, the non-Christian, would do in response to the Christian.

Matthew 5:1-12

And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mount, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. 2 Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying: 3 "**Blessed** are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 4 **Blessed** are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. 5 **Blessed** are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. 6 **Blessed** are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled. 7 **Blessed** are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. 8 **Blessed** are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. 9 **Blessed** are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.(and the world will receive you with open arms and declare a holiday in your name) 10 **Blessed** are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, or theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11 "**Blessed** are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. 12 Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you….

On Your Mark. Get Set. Be Ready.

1.) Be ready to not be surprised	vs. 13-15a

On Your Mark. Get Set. Be Ready.

To Not Be Surprised

1a.) When you are attacked for the faith	vs. 13

:13 And who is he who will **harm** you
if you **become followers** of what is **good**?

And **who is he who** will **harm** you
if you **become followers** of what is **good**?

Harm grk: kakoo; to treat with contempt. to ill-treat. To be bitter towards or to be embittered against someone. to target as an object of mistreatment.

Followers grk: mimetes; an imitator. a look-a-like. In the shape of the shadow. The implied motive is "love" to love what is good.

It's where we get the word "Zelotes" or to be a Zealot
for what is good. To be a lover of what is good with great, passionate intensity.

Now this is an interesting way that Peter introduces persecution. It sounds like a bit of sarcasm - - when he says “Who is going to harm you for speaking good, being good, doing good - - that would be ridiculous?”

There’s a dual meaning here.

(1) There are people who desire to harm you. But (2) the truth is, they cannot actually harm you in reality.

Your Changed Life is the Problem.

If your non-Christian family members & coworkers,

can get you to be the standard of Christianity – then they have every excuse not to become a Christian. But we are not the standard, Jesus Christ is the standard and that’s the problem for them - - is that you now have a changed life, as imperfect as it is to date – it’s a terrifying reality that Jesus Christ does live - that Jesus Christ is the issue between life and death, heaven and hell.

What is it about our person that can be harmed?

Matthew 10:28

And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

John 3:18-20

“He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned (sentenced to death) already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. 19 And this is the condemnation (no way out), that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. 20 For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.

(A word to the never-christ mob / the anti-christ:

You can stop using other people as an excuse to reject Jesus Christ)

Persecution and Troubles like the sea, the waves can only

go so far. So it is with our physical bodies, they can only go so far. Yet, for now the real you is anchored within. The you that will live forever.

And you know who you are – it's the person you are
apart from your pigmentation. You are not identified by your wealth or your poverty. You are not identified by your physical address.

The origin of this challenge is from a spiritual realm.
The Christian Resides In a Truly Alternative Universe.

On Your Mark. Get Set. Be Ready.

To Not Be Surprised

1b.) When you are rejected for His name	vs. 14a

:14 But even if you should **suffer** for **righteousness'** sake, you are **blessed**.
to value the things of heaven is to be heavenly wealthy.

To Follow Jesus Christ is to be Hated in This World

Matthew 10:34-36
"Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword. **35** For I have come to "set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law'; **36** and "a man's enemies will be those of his own household.'

Matthew 6:19-21
"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; **20** but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. **21** For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Remember now the sermon on the mount…

Matthew 5:11
"Blessed are you when they **revile** and **persecute** you,
and **say** all kinds of evil against you **falsely** for My **sake**. (because of me)

The origin of this challenge is from the spiritual realm.
We know that because the reason for our suffering is rooted in our association to Christ.

To Not Be Surprised

When people love **unrighteousness**

Romans 1:28-32 NLT

Since they thought it a foolish thing to acknowledge God, God abandoned them to their foolish thinking and let them do things that should never be done. **29** Their lives became full of every kind of wickedness, sin, greed, hate, envy, murder, quarreling, deception, malicious behavior, and gossip. **30** They became backstabbers, haters of God, insolent, proud, and boastful. They invent new ways of sinning, and they disobey their parents. **31** They refuse to understand, they break their promises, are heartless, and have no mercy. **32** They know God's justice requires that those who do these things deserve to die, yet they do them anyway. Worse yet, they encourage others to do them also.

Are not people inventing evil? Are they not excited about it?

On Your Mark. Get Set. Be Ready

To Not Be Surprised

1c.) When you are threatened for doing good vs. 14b-15a

:14b "And **do not** be **afraid** of their **threats**, **nor be troubled**."
15a But (in response to the threats) (do) sanctify
the Lord God **in your hearts**,

End of Study

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