

Additional Notes:

Adult Sunday School (1 Peter) Lesson 11

1 Pet 5:6-14: **The Great And Glorious God**

6 July 2025

1. The essential grace of humility (v5-7)

- The imperative: Humble yourself before the mighty hand of God
 - The hand of God: symbolizes God's might and providence in directing human affairs: whether it be in restraining and subduing His enemies, or in the defence and chastisement of His children (Exo 13:3; 1 Sam 5:6,7; Psa 32:4)
 - Abase yourself by knowing your proper place before God
 - The purpose: that God may exalt us in due time
 - The way up is always the way down
 - The future exaltation all believers may look forward to (Matt 25:34)
- The attendant duty: Casting all your care upon Him (Psa 55:22)
 - The wonderful thought that God cares for us (Psa 8:3,4)
 - Praying with the understanding that God is in perfect control (Phi 4:6,7)

2. An appeal to be sober and vigilant amidst a dangerous foe (v8-9)

- The danger posed to believers (Rev 12:9)
- The duty to withstand (Eph 6:13) steadfast in the faith, not in our own strength.

- The sufferings we experience for the sake of Christ are not unique, but are experienced by other godly believers in this world (2 Tim 3:12).

3. A most glorious promise, followed by a doxology (v10-11)

- We are not just called unto eternal life, but eternal glory
- We are not just called unto suffering, but unto glory
- God’s timetable in our suffering – our suffering must be seen in the light of eternity
- The outcome in our suffering (Isa 40:31; Gen 50:20)
- Spontaneously breaking out in doxology
 - An evidence of God’s transformative work in your life

4. Conclusion to the letter (v12-14)

- The true grace of God testified
- Acknowledgement and greetings

Summary and Lessons from 1 Peter

- *What is the Christian to do when sufferings don’t make sense?*
 - 1 Peter teaches us to look beyond the perplexity of our sufferings (present or future), and to **look to the God who ordains all things and orders all things for our good and for His ultimate glory – and to submit humbly to His will.**

- *What is the **flow** of 1 Peter?*
 - In addressing the topic of suffering in the believers’ lives — the apostle Peter turns our attention away from our sufferings, and to our glorious identity/inheritance in Christ within an unparalleled eulogy, and when bringing our minds back to suffering, Peter places it in the context or with reference to the sufferings of Christ (arm yourselves with the same mind), finally closing with a most encouraging promise and a doxology to God.
- *What is the apostle Peter’s **desire** for the readers of 1 Peter?*
 - In the beginning Peter expresses the desire for God’s grace to be multiplied toward them, and at the end He directs them to the God of all grace whose reservoir of grace is inexhaustible.
 - What comes in between? The unfolding of all that salvation has provided that enables us to rejoice even in the midst of grief. The call to holiness in all spheres of our lives, and throughout our lives. All of this against the backdrop of growing suffering — Peter writes in Chapter 4, the worst is yet to come! And what will keep God’s people amidst all this? **Stand in the grace of God** — ‘this is the true grace of God wherein ye stand’! (5:12)