

W @ e k l J P r a J e r J o u r n a l

## DAILY BIBLE STUDIES

*“A Life of Blessing”*

**1 Peter 3:9b-12**

**FEBRUARY 18 – FEBRUARY 24, 2007**

**THE LORD'S DAY** –This week as we continue our study in **1 Peter** we are going see how as Believers we are told that we can have a life of Blessing. We will see that we are called to be Blessing others, and that we are privileged to be the recipients of a Blessing from God. A life lived God’s way as Peter describes is a life that will be fully enjoyed as well as blessed by Him. Read **1 Peter 3:8-12**.

*What principles in these verses are applicable to your life today?*

*Suggestion for prayer:* Ask God to teach you from His Word and to help you be a blessing to others this week.

**MONDAY** –We start where we left off last week in the middle of **verse 9** where Peter says, “...but on the contrary, blessing....” If you remember he has just told us not to return “evil for evil”. He is telling us how we are to act as believers in Christ, specifically to one another (**vs. 8**). Rather than retaliating when treated wrong we are to give a blessing instead. “Blessing” is the word eulogia which is the source of our word “eulogy” and it means to praise, speak well of, and offer blessing. We can bless both fellow believers and unsaved people in many ways. Some of them include: Praying for them, loving them selflessly without conditions, and forgiving them when they wrong us. Read **Matthew 5:43-45, John 13:34-35, 1 Corinthians 4:12**.

*What principles in these verses are applicable to your life today?*

*Suggestion for prayer:* Pray that God would help you not retaliate sinfully when your wronged but rather be a blessing to both friends & enemies.

**TUESDAY** –We just touched yesterday on the fact that we are to be forgiving others as a form of “blessing” them when they wrong us. This is a main point of Peter’s here as he states in **verse 9** that, “you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing”. As believers we have been granted

Praise & Prayer	ADORATION Hallowed be Your name. (6:9)	AUTHORITY Your Kingdom come... (6:10)	APPEAL Give us this day... (6:11)	AQUITTAL Forgive us our debts... (6:12)	ASSISTANCE Deliver us from evil. (6:13a)	ADMIRATION For Yours is the Kingdom... (6:13)
Lord's Day						
Mon						
Tue						
Wed						
Thu						
Fri						
Sat						

M a t t h e w 6: 9-13

forgiveness of all our sin through Jesus Christ by God's grace alone so we should have a forgiving attitude toward others. If we don't forgive others we may prove that we do not even belong to Christ as His child in the first place. Christians are "called" to be forgiving and a "blessing" to others. God may withhold forgiveness from the one who is unforgiving (**Matthew 6:14-15**). Read **Ephesians 4:32, Matthew 18:21-22**.

*What principles in these verses are applicable to your life today?*

*Suggestion for prayer:* Ask God to help you be a forgiving person and offer blessing, forgiveness and prayer for those who are hostile toward you.

**WEDNESDAY** –In **verses 10-12** Peter quotes from the Old Testament passage of **Psalms 34:12-16**. The first word of **verse 10** ("For") links **verse 10** to **verses 8-9**. In the following verses Peter is giving support for what he has just said regarding Christians and how they are to act toward others. Notice that Peter goes to the Word of God to support and defend what he has taught. Scripture should always be our source for ALL things in matters of how we are to live to please God. These specific verses tell us how to "live the good life" if you will. Not by the world's standards which end in death (**1 John 2:15-17**), but the good life—God's way which leads to a fulfilling life on earth as well as eternal bliss forevermore. Read **Psalms 16:11, John 10:10**.

*What principles in these verses are applicable to your life today?*

*Suggestion for prayer:* Ask God to help you live and love "the good life" found only in Him.

**THURSDAY** –The first instruction on how to see "good days" or blessing in life is to have control of our mouths. We are told "Let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips from speaking deceit". As believers we are not to speak any "evil" (kakos). This refers to base, wrong, wicked, injurious, and destructive speech. We also are to speak without "deceit" (dolos-craft, deceit, guile). The Christian's mouth should be committed to speaking true, pure, honest, sincere, and virtuous speech. We understand that matters of our mouth and its speech are controlled not at our mouths but from where our speech truly originates in our hearts (**Matthew 12:34-35**). Read **Proverbs 12:18, Ephesians 4:25, Philippians 4:8**.

*What principles in these verses are applicable to my life today?*

*Suggestion for prayer:* Ask Christ to help you to have speech that is true and pure, building others up and spreading His saving Gospel message.

**FRIDAY** –**Verse 11** continues to give us commands for living as believers. We are told "turn away from evil and do good". We are to "shun, turn aside from" what is evil and sinful (**Proverbs 3:7, 16:17, 1 Thessalonians 5:22**). We don't stop there however; we now "do good". This is not "good" as we see it rather "good" as the Scripture and God see and proclaim it. Lastly, "seek peace and pursue it". Both of these words used for "seek" and "pursue" speak of an intense searching, craving, swift and furious pursuit of something. We are to be aggressively after "peace". The Greek word is eirene which means a state of tranquility and harmony with rage and havoc absent. It speaks to lasting and fearless assurance found in Jesus Christ (**Romans 5:1, 8:6**). We are to seek peace with those who persecute us and don't know Christ as well as strive for harmony with our brethren as well (**Matthew 5:9, Romans 12:18, 14:19**).

*What principles in these verses are applicable to your life today?*

*Suggestion for prayer:* Pray that you would be a "peacemaker" and that you would be seeking to bring the gospel of peace to those who are lost.

**SATURDAY** –In **verse 12** we find out a reason that should motivate us to live as Peter has written. It is God who commands, watches, rules, and will judge. "The eyes of the Lord" watch over His people (**2 Chronicles 16:9, Proverbs 5:21, 15:3**) and "His ears are open" to the prayers that they offer before Him (**Psalms 65:2, 138:3, Hebrews 4:16**). But sadly this verse also tells us that "the face of the Lord is against those who do evil". Those who disobey the Lord and His Word will experience the anger and wrath of God (**Lamentations 4:16, Psalm 76:6-8, Revelation 6:16-17**). God is watching over those who are His children and He is ready to give a life of blessing to those who would obey Him.

*What principles in these verses are applicable to your life today?*

*Suggestion for prayer:* Ask God to help you obey these truths from His Word. That you would be a blessing to others & experience God's blessing yourself.