

W @ K L J P r a J @ r J O u r n a l

Lord's Day	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)
Mon							
Tue							
Wed							
Thu							
Fri							
Sat							

M a t t h @ W 6: 9-13

DAILY BIBLE STUDIES

“A Look Behind the Scene”

1 Peter 3:18-22

APRIL 8 – APRIL 14, 2007

THE LORD'S DAY –This week we are going to continue on in our study of **1 Peter 3**. The last time we looked at this passage we were considering Christ’s suffering for us. We focused on the nature of Christ’s suffering in that it was in our place as believers as He became our substitute. Jesus paid the “*wages of sin*” on the cross for those who would believe His gospel. He also did this in order that He “*might bring us to God*”. This week let’s continue on in this passage. Read our text in **1 Peter 3:18-22**.

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

Suggestion for prayer: Ask God to teach you from His Word this week and to help you see, exalt and worship Christ Jesus.

MONDAY –We begin where we left off with the last phrase of verse 18. The scripture tells us, “...*being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit...*” Last Lord’s Day we celebrated the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. Many critics have claimed that Christ did not rise from the dead because He never actually died. We know from both The Word of God and history itself that this is not the case. This phrase explains to us that Jesus did indeed die “*in the flesh*”. On the cross Jesus physical life ceased. We are reminded of this many places in Scripture including the account of what took place on the cross at the hands of the Roman soldiers who executed Christ. Read **Luke 23:46, John 19:31-37, Acts 3:15**.

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

Suggestion for prayer: Thank the Lord Jesus that He “laid down His life” for us and actually bore the wrath of God for sin to the point of death. .

TUESDAY –Next we read that Jesus was “*made alive by the Spirit.*” There is some difference of opinion by scholars as to “whom” or “what” is actually meant by “*the Spirit*”. In the Greek language the definite article

“*the*” is missing. We do know that The Holy Spirit was involved in “raising Jesus from physical death” (**Romans 8:11**). However in this context Peter has just been speaking of Christ dying physically “*in the flesh*” and with the absence of the definite article it is probably best understood as referencing Jesus’ own spirit that continued to live although He physically died. We will see that He went in this spirit and “*preached...*” (**Verse 19**). Even though Christ physically died His eternal spirit lived on as is also the case with all men. Read these verses that help explain this: **Matthew 27:50, Luke 23:46**.

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

Suggestion for prayer: *Thank you Jesus that we know we will live forever in spirit as well as with a new physical body like unto Yours (1 John 3:2)!*

WEDNESDAY –Let’s take and elaborate a bit on yesterday’s lesson. As we saw from **verse 19**, not only was the resurrection of Jesus a spiritual reality but it was also a physical one. Jesus died physically on the cross and there He also experienced a kind of “spiritual death” in that He was separated from the Father in a way that is not comprehensible in its fullness to the human mind when He suffered on the cross. Christ never ceased to be God; but as a man He experienced the alienation and separation from God that parallels the condition of all those who will die without saving faith in Christ. Jesus paid that horrible price and in His resurrection and ascension to eternal glory proved that God was fully satisfied with His sacrifice for His children who would believe. Read **Matthew 27:46, Luke 24:39, John 3:36, 1 John 5:20**.

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

Suggestion for prayer: *Thank You Jesus that Your sacrifice is sufficient. And thank You for tasting and conquering death for us. Glory & Praise be to You!*

THURSDAY – As Peter continues he tells us what Christ did in His spirit while His body lied dead in the tomb. “*He went and preached to the spirits in prison...*” As John MacArthur has stated, “He purposefully went to an actual place to make a triumphant announcement to captive beings before He arose on the third day”. Christ did not “*preach*” the gospel to “*the spirits*” rather he “*heralded*” (Greek – *kerusso* -to herald, publish, proclaim openly) His triumph and victory over sin, death, Satan, demons, and hell. His “*preaching*” was a declaration of His ultimate and final victory as the death conqueror and Lord of Life. Read **Romans 6:5-10, 1 Corinthians 15:54-57, 1 John 3:8**.

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

Suggestion for prayer: *Thank You Jesus that You have abolished death and have conquered the fiercest of enemies by Your victorious life.*

FRIDAY –In **verse 20** Peter gives some details of these spirits to whom Christ went and proclaimed His victory over. He says they “*formerly were disobedient*” and gives us a time frame of their disobedience back to the “*days of Noah*”. These demons were bound by God in the “*prison*”, an actual place awaiting their final judgment and sentence from God. We will take some time this Lord’s Day to dig a bit deeper into this. For today, notice it was against the “*Divine longsuffering*” of God that they were “*disobedient*”. These wicked spirits crossed over the bounds of God’s tolerance with their vile sin and wickedness and brought upon themselves this punishment. Read these verses which help to shed some light on this entire awful scenario: **Genesis 6:1-8, Jude 6-7**.

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

Suggestion for prayer: *Thank You Father for Your patience and longsuffering. Help us to obey You and to know fully Your grace.*

SATURDAY –Wrapping up this week’s study we read more of God’s incredible patience by seeing that He gave ample time (120 years) for men to repent and turn to Him while “*the Ark was being prepared*”. God was about to judge the world with a flood of water and He gave them Noah who Peter calls a “*preacher of righteousness*” in **2 Peter 2:5**. Despite the preaching of Noah and the open illustration of impending judgment (the construction of the ark) the people did not turn to God. But God by His grace saved “*a few, that is eight souls*”, through the waters of judgment. We are left to marvel at God’s grace (**Genesis 6:8**) and learn from this example that God alone is the just judge as well as the giver of salvation. His “*ark of safety*” is none other than His Son, Jesus Christ which we will see next week. Read **Genesis 6:13-22, 8:15-22**.

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

Suggestion for prayer: *Thank You Almighty God that You have provided by Your grace the ark of safety, Jesus Christ Your Son and our Savior.*