

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

DAILY BIBLE STUDIES

“Armed to Shun Sin”

1 Peter 4:3-6

MAY 13 – MAY 19, 2007

THE LORD'S DAY –This week we return to **1 Peter** and pick up with the second part of our study on the first **6 verses** of **chapter 4**. We looked last time at being “Armed for Suffering” and this week we want to see that we as believers are “Armed to Shun Sin”. Peter gives us some very practical and helpful information for our lives as Christians which helps us in the battle against sin in this world. Read our text: **1 Peter 4:1-6**.

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

Suggestion for prayer: Ask God to teach you from His Word this week.

MONDAY –Peter ended **verse 2** by telling his readers that they as Believers should “*no longer live...for the lusts of men, but for the will of God*”. Sin is disobedience to God’s will. Many people ask what the “will of God” is when it is quite clear that it consists of obeying Him and His Word. When we sin we are personally rebelling against God. From the remainder of our text, Peter is going to help us see our sin for what it is and see what eventual end it brings. If we are truly saved, the thought of our sin and the horror, guilt, and bad memories attached to it, should serve as a motivation for us to shun sin. In the end whether or not we are obedient to God and hate our sin will evidence whether or not we were actually “children of God”. Read **Matthew 7:21-27**.

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

Suggestion for prayer: Ask God to help you see your sin for the rebellion against Him that it is, and ask Him to help you be obedient to His Word.

TUESDAY –Peter in **verse 3** begins to show his readers their past life of sin. He says that “*we have spent enough of our past time in doing the will of the Gentiles...*” The wording and construction of this phrase in the original Greek conveys the point that this life he is about to explain is a **PAST** lifestyle. It is a “closed book” as it were. He is not saying that

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 e u @ M 6: 9-13

because we now know about these things and have tried them we don't need to do them anymore. He is rather saying that these things were never proper as they mark the life of the unconverted (Gentile's) and we spent or wasted enough time living like this when we were without Christ and Salvation. He is calling us to live to our calling and pursue holiness which is the will of God. Read **Colossians 3:5-17**.

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

Suggestion for prayer: Ask God to forgive you for wasted years and to help you make use of the time He has given you by resisting sin and obeying Him.

WEDNESDAY –Peter gives a laundry list of sins in **verse 3** in his description of the life lived “*for the lusts of men*”. This verse gives a vivid description of a life without Christ that ends in final, devastating, judgment. Everything from unrestrained sexual sin and pleasure to parties focused on getting drunk are listed here. This vile list portrays sin for what it is; a lawless, defiant, selfish breaking of God's law. The unregenerate live this lawless, defiant, open flaunting lifestyle. They are consumed by their sinful, selfish, sensual passions. The point Peter is making is that the believers should be motivated by the painful memory of these things and strive to avoid such sin and pursue holy living, “*the will of God*” (**vs. 2**). Read **Galatians 5:16-26**.

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

Suggestion for prayer: Dear God, help me to walk in The Spirit and yield in abundance the Fruit of The Spirit while not fulfilling the lust of my flesh.

THURSDAY –Albert Barnes said this in reference to the thoughts of **verse 4**, “There is almost nothing which the people of the world so little comprehend as the reasons which influence those with ample means of worldly enjoyment to leave the circles of gaiety and vanity, and to give themselves to the serious employments of religion.” Peter is explaining in **verse 4** that the unsaved world and even former “drinking buddies” (for illustration) would think you are now crazy for not living the way they do. The Greek word translated “*strange*” means surprised or shocked. The world is surprised, offended and even resentful at the Christians lack of desire to fulfill the lusts of the flesh. The following are two examples of how the lost world can't understand the Christian and their new love and life. First even Jesus' own family: **Mark 3:20-21**. And second Festus speaking to Paul: **Acts 26:24-25**.

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

Suggestion for prayer: God, help me to live in such a way that the world would view me like they did you. May my life be radically different from those enslaved and blinded by sin and Satan and may my life glorify You.

FRIDAY –At the end of **verse 4**, Peter tells us that the world will, “*speak evil of you*”. Those of us as believers who pursue holiness and God will inevitably be attacked and suffer in various forms and ways from the lost and blinded world. Their will be unjust persecution from the person who swims against the tide of sinfulness and goes contrary to the pleasure mad worldly system. But in **verse 5**, Peter tells us that vicious attackers of God's children are amassing a debt they will spend eternity “paying back”. The Greek in **verse 5** translated as “will give” means to pay back, pay a debt, render account, give back, and recompense. One day all those who are without Jesus and who “*spoke evil*” of God's children will give account before “*Him who is ready to judge*”... Read **Matthew 25:31-46**.

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

Suggestion for prayer: Dear Jesus, we know the lost will stand before you and be eternally judged and condemned. Help us to share Your gospel with them and to model the gospel in living the way You did and commanded.

SATURDAY –In **verse 6** Peter reminds the believers of their genuine hope of the reality of eternal life in heaven forever. “*those who are dead*” in **verse 6** refers to the believers who had already died. We see that although they were already “*judged according to men in the flesh*”, they “*live according to God in the Spirit*”. As Peter has said many times before and here repeats again; even physical death as the ultimate in unjust suffering serves only to usher the believer into eternal bliss forever. What a marvelous living hope we have as believers that regardless of what the world or Satan may say of us or against us, if we are “In Christ” we will forever live as He lives (**John 14:19**). Read **2 Corinthians 4:16-18**.

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

Suggestion for prayer: God, thank you for the living hope I have in Christ. Help me to live a life that exalts and glorifies You and rest in the eternal promise that I will live with You forever because Jesus died for me on Calvary.