

DAILY BIBLE STUDIES

“Fighting to the Finish”

1 Peter 5:9-11

SEPTEMBER 9 –15, 2007

THE LORD'S DAY –As we near the end of the Epistle of **1 Peter** we come to **3 verses** that are fitting to the winding down of a sermon series. They actually are fitting to the “winding down of a life” if you will. The Apostle Peter, after having warned us of the great enemy Satan tells us to fight by resisting him and putting our hope (confidence) in God Almighty. This week we will look at some more very practical truths we need to be daily putting into practice. Read: **1 Peter 5:9-11**.

What truth(s) did I learn from God’s Word today?

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

MONDAY –If you look back at **verse 8**, you will see again the great adversary Satan, who as a roaring lion, “walks about...seeking whom he may devour”. Peter in **verse 9** goes right to the point of what we are to do concerning Satan and his temptations and threats—“Resist him”. The Greek word literally means to “set one’s self against, to withstand, resist, oppose”. Peter explains this resistance is carried out by being, “steadfast in the faith”. We resist the enemy by remaining “steadfast” (solid) in the “faith” (the conviction of truth as revealed by God’s Word). Peter is telling us that in order to resist Satan and his ferocious attacks we must be firm in the truth of sound, solid doctrine. The only way we can do this is by being in the Word and feeding on it and then obeying it in order to be strong. Read **Ephesians 4:11-14, James 4:7**.

What truth(s) did I learn from God’s Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: O God, give me a hunger for Your Word and help me to feed on it and obey it to remain steadfast in the faith.

TUESDAY –Peter then tells us that this roaring of the lion can be defined as he explains it as “the same sufferings” that are being experienced by others who are in the “brotherhood” of believers. Satan attacks all those who are truly born again in his effort to “devour” (destroy) them. God in His sovereign plan and wisdom allows Satan to attack those that are

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

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M a t t h @ 9:13

children of God in order to accomplish His desired ends in their lives. We can take heart and be encouraged that all the “sufferings” that come to upon us are designed to work out God’s perfect will. We also are to be encouraged that we are not alone from a human perspective either as other true Christians experience these same things. Read **Matthew 5:10-12, 2 Corinthians 1:6-7, James 5:11.**

What truth(s) did I learn from God’s Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: O God, thank You that You have an expected end which will be accomplished in my life by Your grace. Help me to glorify You in whatever may befall me in this life.

WEDNESDAY –We run into one of the greatest comforts and a very sure hope in the first phrase of **verse 10**. Peter refers to God as “*the God of all grace*”. Amidst “sufferings” in this life we must remember that our God is gracious. He not only has promised grace for all eternity for believers but He also promises to provide grace in daily living and circumstances. It is this present grace from God that helps us to develop in character and Christ likeness as we live our lives. God continues to work out His sanctifying purposes in our lives, even through our present “sufferings”. Read **Psalm 33:16-22, Hebrews 4:16, James 4:6.**

What truth(s) did I learn from God’s Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: Thank You Almighty Father for Your grace to us as Your children. Praise to You for saving us from Your wrath and providing us daily strength through Your grace. Help us humbly live and glorify You.

THURSDAY –We also read in **verse 10** that God has called us “*to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus*”. We know that one day we will be made like our Savior Jesus Christ. Not that we will become “Divine” but that we will be glorified as the culmination of God’s sanctifying work in us as redeemed saints. He reminds us also that our sufferings are for “*a while*”. This tells us not only that they are temporary but that they are in our lives to move us toward that ultimate purpose of God. This is a great hope to all who know Jesus Christ. Furthermore God in His gracious wisdom has chose to reveal to us when this great purpose will be fulfilled; at our “Blessed Hope” the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ. And we must never forget that it is by God’s grace alone we are “called” through the effectual call of the gospel, to be beneficiaries of these promises. Read **Philippians 3:11-14, 20-21, 1 John 3:2-3.**

What truth(s) did I learn from God’s Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: Thank the Lord today for His death on the cross to pay for your sin. Thank the Holy Spirit that He opened your heart and gave you the faith to believe the gospel. Praise Jesus that one day He will return in great glory to completely fulfill all His promises.

FRIDAY –Peter lists four words in the close of **verse 10** to describe God’s continuing work of sanctification in the lives of believers. Not only will He return and glorify His saints but in the meantime He will, again by His grace, “*perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you*”. These terms all refer to making one stable, mature, strong, sure, and complete. God has not left us here in our sufferings to become “basket cases” and be ruined by despair and doubt (lack of faith) but rather He has designed that the true believer will cling to Him and His Word as they face spiritual battles and will remain steadfast till the end, standing on the truth of God with their confidence in Him. This is not to say that persevering in the faith is easy, but it is guaranteed to the true believer. Read **Psalm 90:17, 1 Corinthians 15:58, Philippians 1:6, 1 Peter 3:1-7.**

What truth(s) did I learn from God’s Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: Thank You Father that it is You who ultimately keeps me as Your child. Help me to remain faithful and stable grounded in Your Word and obedience to it proving that I am Your elect child.

SATURDAY –In **verse 11** Peter let’s forth a blast of doxology with a phrase which points to the worship of our God by His own elect children. He reminds us that our God is the One and only who has “*glory and dominion*”. God has “kratos”—force, strength, power, and might. Peter reminds us of God’s ability to dominate everything in this universe, and that nothing is ever out of His sovereign control. Nothing catches Him off guard and there is nothing that takes place that is outside His sovereign plan. The extent in time of this power and dominance is expressed in the words, “*forever and ever*”. This fact, not some upbeat “Christian” song, is what drives us as believers to our knees in praise and worship. Read **Psalm 66:8-9, Isaiah 48:13, Revelation 4:10-11.**

What truth(s) did I learn from God’s Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: Holy Trinity, to You be the glory both now and forever! We praise You and ask You to help us live worthy of our calling.