

DAILY BIBLE STUDIES

“Living Carefree but Not Careless”

1 Peter 5:8

SEPTEMBER 2 – 8, 2007

THE LORD'S DAY –This week we come to **verse 8** of **1 Peter 5** and will look at the matter of living “carefree” but not “careless” in this life. As we have seen in the previous verses we as believers are commanded to live “*casting our care on Him...*” Although we are to put our “*care*” upon God Himself this does not mean we are to become lazy or slothful just flippantly thinking God will “bail us out” if we need Him. Rather, He has also commanded us to live attentively and carefully with our minds alert to the dangers from the enemy of our souls with his craftiness and deceit. We are also given instruction on how to battle in this life. Read: **1 Peter 5:8**.

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 –Peter gives the first instruction on how not to live “careless” in this life when he tells us to “*be sober*”. The word “*sober*” in the Greek language means “to be calm and collected in spirit, to be temperate, dispassionate, and circumspect”. It is used in Scripture to speak of self-control concerning intoxication and it is also used in a metaphorical sense that speaks to discipline of mind and body to avoid the “intoxicating” allurements of the world. The latter is the meaning in view here. We as believers are to live balanced and disciplined lives in our thoughts and actions to avoid the sinfulness so prevalent in this fallen, sinful world. Read **Philippians 4:8**, and **1 John 2:15-16**.

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

Suggestion for prayer: O God, help me to “be sober” in my thoughts and my actions. Help me to meditate and think on You and Your Word.

TUESDAY –Following up on yesterday's topic I am reminded of the life of Moses. Moses was a man who had great privilege and opportunity to live a life of pleasure and sin. Being raised in the “house of Pharaoh” he undoubtedly had available to him all the sinful pleasures of this world. All the money, fame, luxury, sex, and carnal pleasures this sinful world could

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						
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Sat						

Meditate 6:9-13

offer where freely available for him to partake of. The Scripture's tell us an interesting fact about Moses and it is this: "*choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin...*" This is what it means to live "*sober*" and "*careful*". Moses is a great hero of mine and one of the many reasons is the "self-control" and "*sober*" way in which he lived to the glory of God and by the grace of God, not living to feed his sinful lusts. Read more about this in **Hebrews 11:23-29**.

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

Suggestion for prayer: *O God, help me live my life devoted to Your glory. Keep me by Your grace from destroying my life by the pleasure of sin.*

WEDNESDAY –Peter next tells us to be "*vigilant*". This word continues to drive home the point we have been making as it literally means "to watch". It also means metaphorically to "give strict attention to, be cautious, active, to take heed lest through remission and indolence some destructive calamity suddenly overtake one". We must stay alert and "watch" for the deceitfulness of sin and the enemy of our souls is out to destroy us. Again we are to remember that we are under the mighty hand of our Sovereign God but this in no way excuses us from living a life that is cautious and alert to the dangers of sin and we must continue in the grace of God to live giving strict attention to our thoughts and actions. This is only possible by daily walking in the Spirit and being "filled" by Him and His Word. Read **Matthew 26:41, Hebrews 3:12-13, 10:36-39**.

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

Suggestion for prayer: *Ask God to help you be watchful and vigilant as you live. Pray that He will keep you from "drawing back" and that He would take pleasure in your life as you endure for His glory and "believe to the saving of the soul".*

THURSDAY –In the remainder of **verse 8** Peter tells us the reason that we as believers need to have and exercise the traits he has been discussing (submission, humility, trust, self-control, vigilance). The reason is stated, "*...because your adversary, the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour*". A person who becomes lazy and does not practice these traits outlined in Scripture can easily become a victim of the enemy. There is a real and significant reason we are to be alert to the Spiritual battle that rages; so we don't become "a casualty of war". Because Satan is a real and dangerous enemy we **must** remember this imperative command to be alert, watchful, or vigilant. In the remainder of

this week's study we will look more closely at this enemy. Read **Hebrews 6:11-12, 2 Corinthians 2:11, 1 Thessalonians 3:5**.

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

Suggestion for prayer: *Ask the Lord to help you remember the reality of our enemy the devil and to cultivate in you a love for His Word which equips us to fight this battle with success.*

FRIDAY –Peter calls Satan our "*adversary*" in this verse. This word simply means "opponent". Satan is your opponent if you are born again and a child of God. He is viciously out to oppose not only God and His Holy Angels but also all of God's people. The term "*devil*" (*diabolos*) means "to slander, falsely accuse". Satan launches his relentless attack of slander and accusation both personally and through his demons as he night and day without rest assaults and attacks God's people. He is called by our Lord, "*the ruler of this world*" and it is from this position of a fallen world contaminated and controlled by sin that he sets out against those who have been called and brought "*out of darkness and into His (God's) marvelous light*" (**2:9**). We who once "*...were not a people but are now the people of God*" (**2:10**) are the primary targets of his hatred. Read **Zechariah 3:1, John 12:31, Ephesians 2:1-3, 1 John 4:4**.

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

Suggestion for prayer: *Thank You Father that although Satan may oppose us we are forever safe and secure in You. Help me to abide in You, safely "under the shadow of the Almighty".*

SATURDAY –Peter gives us the picture of Satan who like a roaring lion, a fierce predator, hunts to kill. He "*roars*" to instill fear in the heart of the prey he seeks to "*devour*". This word means to "drink down, to swallow" and this is precisely the goal of Satan; not only to injure or wound but to ultimately destroy, here pictured as eating his prey. Tomorrow we will look at several ways he goes about his mission, but mark this today; Satan hates God and God's people and has set as his goal the destruction of both. This war is detailed throughout the Scripture. Read **Revelation 12**.

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

Suggestion for prayer: *God, thanks for being the ONLY God. Praise You Father, Son, and Spirit that You alone are victorious and Sovereign. Thank You that victory for us is made possible through You and Your Gospel.*