

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

**DAILY BIBLE STUDIES**

*“Under the Mighty Hand of God”*

**1 Peter 5:5-6**

**JULY 22 – JULY 28, 2007**

**THE LORD'S DAY** –This week we return to our study in the Epistle of **1 Peter** and we find ourselves in **verses 5-6** of the final chapter (**5**). If you remember back a couple weeks ago we were looking at “Shepherding the Flock of God” from **verses 1-4** and we will pick up those thoughts as Peter continues in the following verses. For the rest of this Epistle Peter will explain to us several attitudes and behaviors we as believers are to have and demonstrate in our lives. He begins with being “*submissive*” (**vs5**), “*humble*” (**vs5-6**), and then continues with “*casting all your care upon Him*” (**vs7**). Read our text for the week: **1 Peter 5:5-6**.

*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** –**Verse 5** begins with the word “*likewise*” in the NKJV. The Greek word used could also be translated “in the same way”. It illustrates a transition or change of focus to another group of individuals who are to do the same thing as the previous group. In this context, the Elders have just been told they are to be submissive to the “*Chief Shepherd*” Jesus Christ and now Peter is saying “in the same way” the flock is to be submissive to their Elders. This matter of humility and submission is for all ages and all people within the church as we will later see, but here younger people are addressed specifically. God has clearly laid out that within the church people are obligated to submit to those God has placed in authority there. We have seen this issue of submission in the broader context throughout this Epistle and it is especially helpful to spiritual growth when it is demonstrated in the church. Read **1 Thessalonians 5:12-13**, **Hebrews 13:7, 17**.

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

*Suggestion for prayer: Ask God to help you to be submissive to your Elders. Pray for your Elders that they would submit to Jesus in all things.*

**TUESDAY** –Peter continues in **verse 6** by saying, “*Yes, all of you be*

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 @ W 6: 9-13

*Submissive to one another.*” We see that not only is there to be submission to leadership but there is to be a mutual submission and humility shown to each other within the church body. The Greek word used in this text for “submit” and “submissive” is the word *hupotasso* which means to arrange under, to subordinate, to subject one’s self, to put in subjection. John Gill (1607-1771) the English Baptist pastor and scholar summarizes this well when he says, “Yea, all [of you] be subject one to another; that is, all the members of the churches should not only submit themselves to their pastors, but to their fellow members, as in **Ephesians 5:21** they should submit to the superior judgments of one another, esteeming each other better than themselves, and not be tenacious of their own way of thinking and judging of things; yea, condescend to men of low estates and weaker minds, bear the infirmities of the weak, and take all admonitions and reproofs given in a friendly manner kindly; and cheerfully perform all offices of love, and by it serve one another in things temporal and spiritual; doing the meanest services for the good of each other, such as washing the feet of one another, in imitation of their Lord and master”. Read **Leviticus 19:32, Philippians 2:1-4, 1 Timothy 5:1-2**.

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

*Suggestion for prayer:* *Ask God to help you to be submissive and humble in your relationships with others in the church body—older and younger.*

**WEDNESDAY** –Peter illustrates this submissive attitude we are called to have for “*one another*” by telling us to “*be clothed with humility*”. Jesus gave the perfect example of this in **John 13** when He girded Himself with a towel and then washed the disciples’ feet. The word here translated “*humility*” and it’s related Greek words are rich in meaning and speak of self abasement, a low view or humble opinion of one’s self, modesty, getting low, lowliness of mind, and an attitude of not being too good to serve others. We are told to wear this trait as our clothing. There is no doubt in my mind that Peter reflected back to Jesus humbly serving the disciples over and over again even though they often were filled with pride. Humility, as clothing is not in “*fashion*” today but if we are to experience God’s blessing (see tomorrow), we must “*wear it*”. Read **Proverbs 8:13, Isaiah 57:15, Philippians 2:5-8**.

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

*Suggestion for prayer:* *Thank Jesus for the example of humility and ask Him to help you by the power of The Holy Spirit to be humble and mortify pride.*

**THURSDAY** –At the end of **verse 5** we find Peter quotes from the Old Testament, citing **Proverbs 3:34**. He is trying to show his readers that they

can forfeit God’s grace working in their lives when they are proud and arrogant as opposed to humble. One of the greatest motivations for us as believers to reject pride and seek to be humble is that God is clearly opposed to the proud. This theme is made plain throughout Holy Scripture. Read **Psalm 138:6, Isaiah 66:2, James 4:6**.

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

*Suggestion for prayer:* *Pray that God would help you to remain humble before Him and His Word, understanding that He resists the proud.*

**FRIDAY** –When we get to **verse 6** we find it starts with that familiar word “*Therefore...*” This particle of speech connects all that was mentioned previously. Peter continues by saying, “*...humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God...*” Peter is telling us that to avoid Divine opposition and receive God’s grace we are to be in submission to the authority in the church because God ordained authority is nothing less than “*the mighty hand of God*”. It is actually God who is in charge and this phrase is describing for us God’s Sovereign control which is at work in and through the Elders of His Body (church), as well as in and through the experiences and lives of all His people. God’s Sovereign power is always at work to unfold His eternal plan in the lives of His children for their eternal good. By God’s grace we will expound on this thought this coming Lord’s Day. Read **Psalm 57:2, Isaiah 14:24-27, 46:9-10, Romans 8:28, 9:11, 17**.

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

*Suggestion for prayer:* *Thank You God that You alone are the Sovereign One in control of ALL things. Help me to praise You and trust You more.*

**SATURDAY** –When we humble ourselves understanding as we said yesterday that it is actually God and His “*mighty hand*” that we are under, we are given a blessed promise: “*...that He may exalt you in due time.*” Everything God does is in His perfect time (Christ’s birth –**Gal. 4:4-5**, and death –**1 Tim. 2:6**). The promise is that God will lift up those who are humbled under Him in His own good and perfect time. Whether this is exaltation after trials & difficulties here and now or to the final exaltation of the believers with Christ at His Second Coming we may rest assured God will exalt those humbled under His “*mighty hand*”. Read **Luke 14:11**.

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

*Suggestion for prayer:* *Jesus, help us live humble as we await Your return.*