

#### IV. THE BELIEVER'S RELATIONSHIP TO THE UNSAVED, 12A

1. Conversation = manner of behavior, total conduct
2. Having = keep it steady, in hold
3. Honest = more than truth, (beauty, good, pleasing, comely)
4. Gentiles = unsaved and anti-christian, speak down of the believer for doing what he does
5. Good works = offset any false speaking down

#### V. THE BELIEVER'S RELATIONSHIP TO GOD, 12B

1. A future close inspection will prove against the world's claims
2. behold = view closely, take another look as a witness
3. Glorify = ascribe honor
4. Visitation =
  - A. When Christ returns for the believer
  - B. When God visits the unsaved to bring them to salvation
5. Application: the second view of the visitation seems to best fit the context. The unsaved may take a second personal look at the behavior of the believer and make a fair evaluation and glorify God by becoming a believer.

---

EXPOSITION OF FIRST PETER 2:13-17  
TESTIMONY: CHRISTIANS AS CITIZENS

---

I. THE CITIZENS' SUBMISSION, 2:13

1. Submit = to arrange in order as military ranking under a commander
2. Christians' attitude is more than obey, it is to submit to
3. Ordinances = human institutions, not every law
4. The real reason for submission is ultimately to the Lord.
5. Christian civil disobedience is a serious teaching and one should be careful about practicing it. Disobedience must be in light of the penalty and the testimony connected with it.
6. Consider Acts 4:19, 5:29 (a higher authority, but not the overthrow of the lower authority)
7. Even bad government is better than no government.

II. THE CITIZENS' SOVEREIGN, 2:14

1. By obeying government, a Christian is testifying to a greater sovereign- the Lord.
2. One of the primary purposes for human government is to limit and control the spread of evil. The certainty and severity of punishment is a clear biblical teaching for the control of sinful society.
3. A second purpose of human government is the reward for right behavior.
4. Human government is a decree of God.

III. THE CITIZENS' SUFFERING, 2:15

1. Silence = close the mouth with a muzzle, reduce to silence
2. Critics (foolish men- lack of reasoning) cause believers to suffer, but proper Christian submission closes the mouths of the critics (ignorance- lack of understanding of the knowledge one possesses).

3. Freedom in this world is limited for Christians as well as for others.
4. Willing submission even as one suffers is a very lofty Christian concept.

#### IV. THE CITIZENS' SERVING, 2:16

1. Maliciousness = a vicious general character, wicked conduct
2. Christian freedom is the freedom to do right, but never the freedom to wrong, hurt or disobey.
3. Freedom for the Christian (soul liberty) never gives a believer the freedom to choose what he wants to do. It always carries with it the responsibility to obey God, His Word, proper church leadership and His system of human government.
4. All submission to authority is really to be based on the Christian desire to serve God, who is our authority.
5. Rebellion, even against parental authority, will lead to rebellion against God's authority.

#### V. THE CITIZENS' SUMMARY, 2:17

1. Honor, love, respect and obey are all terms which demonstrate Christian character and give good testimony to Christ.
2. Authority is ordained of God, Romans 13:1.
3. The tense of the action is to keep doing, keep loving, keep honoring, etc.
4. The apostle Paul (and others) used the law, but they did not abuse authority.

---

EXPOSITION OF FIRST PETER 2:18-25  
TESTIMONY: CHRISTIANS AS SERVANTS

---

I. SERVING THE SURLY WITH SUBJECTION, 2:18

1. Servants = christian slaves serving in pagan households
2. Christians are to be in submission (attitude), respectful, good (inner goodness), gentle (mild disposition).
3. Christian qualities are to be extended to the unfair.
4. Forward = from-ward, unfair, averse, punish without provocation.

II. SERVING AND SUFFERING, 2:19

1. Patience under injustice is praiseworthy.
2. Meekness is expected from one who cares about God's honor over self-justification.
3. Service will always involve those who mistake meekness for weakness and attempt to take advantage.
4. God can handle those who cause others to suffer.

III. SERVING IN SPIRIT, 2:20

1. Glory = (kleos), praise, fame, good report
2. Buffeted = struck with a fist
3. Note faults versus well doing
4. Acceptable = same as thankworthy, 19
5. This kind of service is only produced by a Spirit controlled person.  
Never is this a result of a self controlled life.

IV. SERVING WITH THE SAVIOR, 2:21-24

1. Who suffered for others, 21
  - A. A call to salvation is a call to suffering for righteousness, Philippians 1:29.
  - B. Example = written under, as a copy

- C. Always ask yourself, "What would Jesus do in this situation?"
- 2. Who suffered when sinless, 22
  - A. The illustration of what Jesus would do
  - B. Guile = trickery, craftiness
- 3. Who suffered silently, 23
  - A. Reviled = harsh railings, sharp bites, stamps upon
  - B. The crude never prompted a response from the Savior, nor should they from the believer.
  - C. When you respond to the simple, you are controlled by him and become less than him.
- 4. Who suffered substitutionally, 24
  - A. The extent of submission on Christ was a death of substitution for the sinful.
  - B. The result of the submission was a substituted righteousness.
  - C. Stripes = Roman scourge, whipping

#### V. SERVING WITH THE SHEPHERD, 25

- 1. The shepherd, having suffered for the sheep, now has the sheep returned to Him as a result of the suffering.
- 2. Once the sheep have returned, the shepherd now becomes the bishop (rightful overseer).
- 3. Christ has the right to direct the life of those whom He has saved, even if suffering accompanies the life.

---

EXPOSITION OF FIRST PETER 3:1-6  
TESTIMONY: CHRISTIANS AS WIVES

---

I. WIVES' TESTIMONY TO HUSBANDS, 3:1

1. Ye = Christian wives
2. Subjection does not mean inferiority, (illustration: trinity).
3. God has order in the universe, and in family structure.
4. Wife relationship is one of service, but so is every believer in this position.

II. WIVES' TESTIMONY TO UNSAVED HUSBANDS, 3:1B

1. Obey not = unbelieving disobedience
2. Men who do not allow themselves to be persuaded
3. Such men may become believers because of the conduct of a godly wife and her holy living.
4. Don't marry counting on this to occur!
5. Won = gain, acquire, won to the Lord

III. WIVES' TESTIMONY IN PERSONAL CONDUCT, 3:2

1. Behold = view attentively
2. Chaste = pure in personal deportment
3. Fear (wife's, not husband's) = reverential obedience

IV. WIVES' TESTIMONY IN APPEARANCE, 3:3

1. Pious living rather than adornment is to be used to win an unsaved husband.
2. Dressing like the world would not likely win the lost husband or anyone else.
3. Adornment = "kosmos", orderly system of adornment which should be in keeping with one's Christian character. Not "chaos", a rude unformed mass of extravagance and

- artificiality.
4. Cf. I Timothy 2:9-14

#### V. WIVES' TESTIMONY TO HERSELF 3:4

1. Positive side of a wife's testimony will come from within her own inner spiritual being.
2. Hidden man of the heart = personality
3. Meek and quiet spirit = Godly beauty
4. Such a woman is said to be of great value to God.

#### VI. WIVES' TESTIMONY TO GOD, 3:5

1. Holy women before God care for their spiritual lives more than appearance.
2. Both internal and external adornment is important, but more time and care should be given to spiritual development.
3. The relationship to the husband is a measurement of balance.

#### VII. WIVES' TESTIMONY TO BIBLICAL PATTERN, 3:6

1. Lord = as it relates to another person is a title of respect, "sir", or for a woman, "lady"
2. Proper spiritual development and relationship to a husband should remove any fear or amazement as a reaction from the husband.
3. Some husbands are so insecure that they feel they must contain their wives in order to keep them. Fear of a husband's reactions produces frustrations in the wife.
4. Nothing in the Bible gives a man the right by marriage to dominate and destroy the personality of a wife.

---

EXPOSITION OF FIRST PETER 3:7-12  
TESTIMONY: CHRISTIANS  
AS HUSBANDS AND BRETHREN

---

I. TESTIMONY OF CHRISTIANS AS HUSBANDS, 3:7

1. In knowledge
  - A. Ye = Christian, God's instruction are not for the unsaved.
  - B. Dwell = domestic association
  - C. Knowledge = intellectual recognition of the marriage leadership
2. In honor
  - A. Honor = precious, 1:19, same word
  - B. Giving = assigning a space, (place of special honor)
  - C. Vessel = vase, as chosen vessel, Acts 9:15
  - D. Weaker = to be protected, not spiritually or morally
  - E. Husband is to be a provider and protector of a precious item, a wife.
  - F. This Christian role must be taught by the church and the home. The world has almost lost this expected behavior for the husband.
3. In grace
  - A. The Christian wife is a joint heir in eternal life, a gift from God.
  - B. Christ died for the wife as well.
  - C. This important truth is needed in any period of history when the woman is treated as less valuable than the man.
4. In prayer
  - A. Hinder = to cut in, to interrupt
  - B. For married people, it is difficult (impossible) to build a strong Christian life without a strong Christian marriage and home.

II. TESTIMONY OF CHRISTIANS AS BRETHREN, 3:8-12

1. In compassion, 3:8
  - A. Demonstrated in unity, one minded- Christ's mind

- B. Compassion = sympathy, to have understanding feelings for someone, Rom. 12:15
  - C. Love, simple brotherly love is expected.
  - D. Pity = tenderhearted
  - E. Courteous = modest opinion of self, humble-minded
2. In control, 3:9
- A. Constantly be a blessing, even to those who offend you.
  - B. For this very purpose you are a christian.
  - C. You receive a blessing from God if you do.
3. In conversation, 3:10
- A. If you want to continue a loving life, refuse to speak evil or deceitfully.
  - B. This is contrary to the natural man.
4. In conduct, 3:11
- A. Eschew = (negative) shun, avoid, to lean away from
  - B. Do = (Positive) seek good, pursue, hunt for it. Don't wait for an opportunity to do good to come by.
5. In confession, 3:12
- A. Ears and eyes, anthropomorphism (God described in human features and form)
  - B. God is eager to hear and answer prayer.

---

EXPOSITION OF FIRST PETER, 3:13-22  
TESTIMONY: CHRISTIANS  
AND THEIR CONSCIENCES

---

I. CONSCIENCE AND CRITICS, 3:13

1. Follower = "zealot", burning zeal, earnest desire
2. Following the Lord makes the critics' accusations of little importance.
3. Always consider the spiritual level of your critics. This will determine how much importance to place on their criticism.

II. CONSCIENCE AND SUBSTANCE, 3:14

1. Suffering, if it comes for right actions, will produce happiness.
2. Happiness is not joy, but "prosperous". You can prosper from some forms of criticism.
3. Don't let the fear of the fear that others want to produce in you disturb or agitate you. If it does, they win!

III. CONSCIENCE AND SANCTIFICATION, 3:15

1. Be sanctified to the Lord as a building set apart and dedicated to a god.
2. Sanctification is giving first place to Jesus as the Lord (Anointed, Greek Christ; Messiah, Hebrew Jehovah).
3. Give an answer, "to talk off from" as an attorney talks his client off from a charge.
4. Today the critics are within the evangelical camp and appear to be friends. Remember that doubt and distrust of God's Word was (and still is) Satan's first plan of attack.
5. A good conscience will not be boastful toward man, but will always display a fear toward God.

## V. CONSCIENCE AND SPEECH, 3:16

1. Good conscience = void of offense
2. False accusers are silenced by proper life.
3. You can't live down a rumor, you can only live above it.

## V. CONSCIENCE AND SUFFERING, 3:17

1. The will of God could include unjust suffering.
2. Jesus suffered and so has most of the church through the ages.

## VI. CONSCIENCE AND THE SAVIOR, 3:18 - 22

1. The Savior suffered for unjust. 18-19
  - A. Suffered = death
  - B. Died in behalf of the guilty
  - C. Purpose = to bring the lost to God
  - D. Alive in the spirit offsets the death
  - E. Suffering is followed by blessing and reward
  - F. Spirits = fallen angels in hell," Tartarus, II Peter 2:4, and bottomless pit, Revelation 9:1-12
  - G. Preach is not evangelize, but "kerusso", official announcement. Fallen angels are not in the atonement.
2. The Savior is longsuffering toward the unjust. 20
  - A. Spirits, angels who rebelled, Jude 6,7
  - B. God gave time for people to repent from the influence of Satan and fallen angels before judgement at the flood.
  - C. Eight believed God and went through the water safely.
3. The Savior suffered with a good conscience. 21-22
  - A. Water baptism is a figure (counterpart to reality) of our identification with Christ's death, burial and resurrection to new life.
  - B. Saves, (as a counterpart) to the real thing, Christ's substitutionary sacrifice.
  - C. Salvation was given as an answer to faith and water baptism is the testimony of the faith.
  - D. Our faith is in the ascended Lord who has the total right to authority over all of His creation.

---

EXPOSITION OF FIRST PETER 4:1-6  
TESTIMONY: CHRISTIANS  
AND CHRIST'S MIND

---

I. CHRIST'S MIND AND THE WORK OF GOD, 4:1

1. For as much = suffering for righteousness accompanies a Christian life, cf. 3,17.
2. Christians will need the same submission to the Father as Christ had in His unjust sufferings.
3. Arm yourself = a Christian will need the heaviest armor possible to withstand the enemy.
4. The heaviest weapon available to the Christian is to have the same mind of submission to God as Christ.
5. Both Christ and believers find suffering accompanies a different life- one no longer controlled by sin.
6. Cease = have gotten release, sin's power is broken.
7. God has no pill to prevent suffering for the believer (contrary to all the spiritual prescriptions being sold by today's "health and happiness" preachers).

II. CHRIST'S MIND AND THE WILL OF GOD, 4:2

1. The reason for breaking sin's power to control is that the believer may not live his whole life as a slave to sin.
2. Lust = strong desire, evil cravings
3. A strong desire to do the will of God is the replacement for the control of the cravings of the flesh.

III. CHRIST'S MIND AND THE WILL OF MAN, 4:3-5

1. The cravings which control one outside of the will of God are described as the will of man, such as:
  - A. Lasciviousness = actions which excite disgust and shock public decency
  - B. Lusts = unrestricted sinful passion