

HOPE *Refined*



Christ Chapel Bible Church
Dr. Cody McQueen
August 9, 2020

1 PETER 3:8-22

HOPE FOR VINDICATION

FOR IT IS BETTER TO SUFFER FOR *doing good*, IF THAT SHOULD BE *God's will*, THAN FOR DOING EVIL.
v. 17

I. Suffering for good brings you a blessing as you _____ with Christ. (vv. 8-12)

"For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil." v. 12

A. Don't take out your _____ on other people.

Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind. v. 8

B. Bless those who don't deserve it rather than _____.

Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing. v. 9

C. Seek peace instead of stirring the pot to build a case for _____.

For "Whoever desires to love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit; let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it." vv. 10-11

II. Suffering for good gives us a _____ to witness for Christ in this world. (vv. 13-17)

Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled ... vv. 13-14

A. Prepare a _____ for your hope when the world wonders "Why?"

... but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you ... v. 15a

B. Present your hope in an _____ way.

... yet do it with gentleness and respect ... v. 15b

C. Make yourself _____ to the Holy Spirit to keep a clear conscience.

... having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. v. 16

III. Suffering for good will ultimately be _____, just like it has in the past. (vv. 18-22)

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit ... who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him. vv. 18, 22

1. What is the difference between *unity of mind* and *uniformity*? How can Christians find unity even though they are diverse?

2. Read 1 Peter 3:8-17. In what ways, large or small, have you experienced criticism or rejection for your faith or for doing good (vv. 13-14)?

3. Verse 17 says: *For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.* Does it surprise you that suffering for doing good might be in God's will? What purposes might He have in our suffering for doing good?

4. Read 1 Peter 3:18-22. Peter concludes this passage with a glorious final note concerning Jesus Christ's own suffering and triumphant supremacy. Christ's substitutionary death for sinners was an act of grace (Acts 15:11; Eph 1:7; 2:5, 8-9; Titus 2:11; 3:7; Heb 2:9) extended to those who deserved nothing but eternal judgment from God. Why does Peter include the example of Noah here, and how does that relate to us as believers today?

5. How do these last five verses encourage you that all things will eventually submit to Christ and our faith will be vindicated, even if your current circumstances would make it seem otherwise? How does it encourage you to treat with grace those who revile you?

6. After hearing this sermon, what matter have you been tempted to take into your own hands that you need to take to the Lord instead? Why should He take it on instead of you?

COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week. Like to plan ahead a little more? Pick up a copy of *The Source* at a stand around campus or near the exits, or visit www.ccbcfamily.org/events. They're your source for everything going on at Christ Chapel.

TEXT "CCBCCONNECT" TO 94090 FOR YOUR NEXT STEP. If you've been worshipping with us for a while, take the next step and connect! You can start with a September Connecting Point class, a fall Bible study or an online small group—just text "CCBCCONnect" to 94090 and we'll send you info on ways to get in community (yep, even while socially distant).

MARRIED COUPLES, FEELING SOME SERIOUS STRAINS? Whether you'd rate the current state of your marriage as a two or a 10, we'd love to help you strengthen your relationship this fall. Join us for an info meeting on Sunday, Aug. 23 at 5 p.m. on Zoom where you'll learn exactly what the reengagement experience looks like. Don't worry—there will be no perfect couples in attendance! Go ahead and sign up for the meeting at www.ccbcfamily.org/events.

LADIES, WOMEN IN THE WORD IS TRYING SOMETHING NEW THIS FALL. That's right—you can gather with a Women in the Word group online or in a small group leader's home to study the Bible with friends starting the week of Sept. 9. Their fall study is called "The Good Land: Possessing the Promise" and is based in the book of Joshua. It's a story all about victory and God's constant presence as we face spiritual battles—and that feels like a message we could all use right about now, doesn't it? Learn more and sign up at www.ccbcfamily.org/events.

DON'T MISS REAL HEROES BEFORE IT FLIES OUT OF TOWN! Looking for one more summer adventure? Well, if you haven't experienced Kids Kamp 2020 yet, you've just got to! The adventure includes games, activities, Bible stories, cartoons, music videos and more—and it's all available at www.ccbcfamily.org through Aug. 31. Share the link with friends and neighbors, and plan on making some memories with your kids or grandkids this month.

SEE THIS YEAR'S DEACON AND ELDER CANDIDATES ON OUR WEBSITE. If you'd like to review the list of this year's Deacon and Elder candidates, go to www.ccbcfamily.org/ccbcleadership. Per the Constitution, a members-only congregational vote will be taken by online ballot the weekend of Friday, Aug. 28 through Sunday, Aug. 30 to affirm these nominations. The results will be announced Sunday, Aug. 30 at the annual business meeting in the Sanctuary on the Fort Worth Campus at 1 p.m.

MISSING COMMUNITY? JOIN AN ONLINE SMALL GROUP! These groups meet to hang out online, go deeper into Sunday's message and pray together each week. We're gearing up for a big fall study and you'll be able to dive deep into the series with your small group. Sign up today at www.ccbcfamily.org/groups.

WE'RE POSTING THE LATEST UPDATES AT WWW.CCBCFAMILY.ORG. We know there's a lot to keep track of right now—that's why we want to make it easy for you. You can always go to www.ccbcfamily.org to see what's new and get tickets for our next in-person worship service.