


Standing in the True Grace of God

Peter's Life, Letters and Lord

1 Peter 1:17-25

1. Peter's desire is to encourage believers to stand in the "true grace of God" (1 Pet. 5:12) by reminding them who they are and who God is. Read through this week's passage and pull out one thing he says about each that encourages you.

2. Having made the case that our salvation is secure (vv. 3-9), Peter now says we will be judged by God.
 - a. For what will we be judged? (v. 17; *1 Cor. 3:11-15; 2 Cor. 5:10)

 - b. Even though God is our Father, our works will still be judged. What will characterize God's judgment? (v. 17a)


 - c. How is he able to do this? (1 Cor. 4:5; Heb. 4:13)


 - d. How does this practically influence the way you live your life now?

3. Peter instructs the believers to "live [their] lives as strangers here" (v. 17). Why do you think he says this? (Phil. 3:20; 1 Jn. 2:15-17)

4. The "reverent fear" (v. 17) Peter encourages is not a fear of punishment. Instead it is "that desire above all, to honor the One who has saved us. It is a fear born out of gratitude, reverence, and awe."¹ What fruit should this reverent fear yield in the life of a believer? (1:14-15; 2 Cor. 7:1)

¹ Ruvolo, Carol, *Grace to Stand Firm, Grace to Grow*, p. 52.

*The  symbol indicates verses for further study.

5. Peter previously used the terms “chosen,” “given new birth” and “called” to describe what has happened to his readers (vv. 2, 3, 15).
 - a. What new term does he use in verse 18?
 - b. What does this mean? (1 Cor. 6:19b-20; Rev. 5:9)
 - c. In contrast to silver and gold, what was the cost of our redemption? (vv. 18-19)
6. Peter’s readers have been “redeemed from the empty way of life” (v. 18) that naturally gets handed down from generation to generation.
 - a. What characterizes this type of living? (Titus 3:3)
 - b. In contrast, what should characterize the lives of God's children now? (v. 22; * Eph. 5:1-2)
7. In verses 23-25, Peter returns to the topic of how his readers were saved.
 - a. Why do you think that he again emphasizes that their salvation comes through that which is imperishable?
 - b. Why might this be especially important to believers who are suffering and being persecuted for their faith?
8. What is the “word of God” (v. 23) that God used to bring about new life in Peter’s readers? (v. 25b; 1 Cor. 15:1-4)
9. Often we are tempted to return to the “empty way of life” (v. 18) from which we’ve been redeemed. What has captured your heart from this passage that will help you live in the new life that Jesus has made possible?