

Bible Thoughts

with
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1st letter of Peter

The thoughts and note material given on these pages are only a possible suggestion of the meaning, they must not be taken as inspired, however they are prayerfully prepared and compared with other similar material. There are many ways in which God's Word can be analyzed and none must be taken in place of the Word of God itself.

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Introduction

1 Peter

WRITER. He is identified as Peter, an Apostle of Jesus Christ [1 Peter 1:1](#). Though Peter was only a fisherman and would not have had much of an education he had spend 3 years with Jesus and since the death and resurrection the Holy Spirit would have be able to have done wonderful work in and through Peter's life.

It was written about 63 A.D.

Peter's original name was Simon, but this was changed by Jesus to Peter (Cephas in Aramaic) which meant "a stone" [John 1:35-42](#).

Peter's three names are used throughout the New Testament, some people feel this reflects (shows) the two natures of a Christian, the natural person and the spiritual person.

Peter and Paul were the two leading and major apostles during the early church, Paul was led to minister to the Gentiles while Peter was directed to the Jews [Gal 2:1-10](#). In [Luke 22:31,32](#) Jesus told Peter to look after the brethren, while in [John 21:15-17](#) he is told to look after the flock. Peter wrote the letter "at Babylon" [1 Peter 5:13](#) and sent greetings from the assembly there. This is an interesting remark as there is no evidence of Peter ever being at Babylon in Iraq. In [Rev 17:5](#) and [Rev 18:10](#) Rome is called "Babylon," so "Babylon" was probably another name for Rome.

Reason.

The letter was written by Peter to Christians who were going through various trials. The apostle knew that they were soon about to go through a "fiery trial."

Peter calls them "strangers and Pilgrims" [1 Peter 1:1](#); [1 Peter 2:11](#), this means people who did not really belong in that place, they were mainly Jews living outside Israel but also they were 'citizens of heaven' through faith in Jesus. [Phil 3:20](#) and so not 'residents' of earth.

The text of the letter also indicates that Peter was also writing to Gentiles who had been converted and were meeting with the Jewish followers.

The letter is broken up as follows:

Glory in God. 1 Peter 1:1-12

Keep clean in this world. 1 Peter 1:13-21

Together in Christ. 1 Peter 1:22-2:10

We are being watched. 1 Peter 2:11-25

Wedlock? 1 Peter 3:1-7

Prepared. 1 Peter 3:8-17

Learn from others. 1 Peter 3:18-22

Your Time. 1 Peter 4:1-11

In the Furnace. 1 Peter 4:12-19

Being a Good Shepherd. 1 Peter 5:1-4

On to Glory. 1 Peter 5:5-11

Chapter 1

v2,3 Peter starts by describing the Christians birth. The [miracle](#) all begins with God, He makes the choice in the beginning, [Eph 1:3-4](#). This took place sometime in eternity, and we knew nothing about it until God chose to show us in His Word. The choice had nothing to do with us or anything we had done because we had still not been born. We cannot explain it but God see's all things, past, present and future, we are creatures who live in time, God does not for He is eternal. [Rom 11:33-36](#). However, "the foreknowledge of God " does not mean that The Father was just able to know the future and that we would believe, the Father chose us. "To foreknow" in the Bible means 'to love a person in a personal way.' [1 Cor 8:3](#); [John 10:14](#); [Matt 7:23](#); [Ps 1:6](#). The Plan of Salvation has more than the Fathers love, even if it was before we were born(elected), it involves the death and resurrection of Christ and the Holy Spirits work in convicting (telling of Christ) the sinner and bring him to faith in Christ. [2 Thess 2:13-14](#). It takes all three of the God head to bring salvation, we have been chosen by the Father, the price has been paid for by the Son, and set apart by the Spirit. All three must be involved in a persons salvation.

v3-5 As Christians we have a living hope because of the Fathers actions and Word, made possible by the Son of God. We have an inheritance (the right to claim) as children of this King, we share in His inheritance. [Rom 8:17-18](#); [Eph 1:9-12](#); Sharing the Glory of Christ. [John 17:22-24](#). This inheritance is incorruptible (cannot be destroyed), undefiled (made bad,stained). It cannot grow old or fade away as it is eternal.

This inheritance is protected by God and awaits our collection, kept and reserved in heaven for those who are saved, awaiting the day when Jesus Christ the Lord returns in glory.

v6-7 We are being prepared (made ready) for this glory, Peter uses the word 'trial' rather than 'tribulation' (pain, suffering) as he was talking about general problems for Christians. These trials may be for "a season," a little while, showing that God may chose to put us, or allow us to go through a time of testing or trials. The trials may be as a result of disobedience of God's Will, or due to a need of spiritual growth, or even possible to help in preventing the person sinning. What ever happens God knows best, any trials are to the glory of God.

Peter says that the trials may be "manifold" (many types, many

‘coloured’), no matter what the trial may be the grace of God will meet them. Trials will cause "heaviness," experience pain or grief, such as [Matt 26:37](#), or sadness for departed saints [1 Thess 4:13](#).

v7 Peter refers to the work of a goldsmith, the gold is put in a fire to burn off the rubbish and impurities to make the best objects, the furnace may be ‘burning’ until the return of Christ, when He returns we will see the full glory. [Rom 8:17,18](#).

v8-12 We can enjoy the joys of glory now. There are directions we must go even though we may have trials.

v8 **Love Christ:** our love is not based upon seeing as we have not seen Him physically, it is a spiritual love from reading and accepting the Word of God, the Holy Spirit being poured out into us [Rom 5:5](#).

Trust in Christ. We live by faith not sight, whatever happens. [Rom 8:28](#)

We know, we must give all to God in faith [Rom 10:17](#).

We must rejoice in Jesus: As we go through our trials we may not be able to rejoice in our own life but put on Christ and take His joy. See Paul’s trial [2 Cor 12:1-11](#).

v9 **Receive:** Believe and receive, this passage does not say "will receive." The promise is for today.

v10-12 God’s plan was revealed to the prophets but they did not see that He was to die and suffer first before glory of the Messiah. The Jewish teachers were looking for a Messiah which would lead them into battle and conquer the world and set up the kingdom as prophesied to David. God told the prophets they were preparing the way for the future. Between the suffering Christ and the Glorified Christ and new kingdom there is a church age, the ‘mystery’ that was reveal at Pentecost. Even the angels are watching with interest as God works out His plan. [1 Cor 4:9](#); [Eph 3:10](#).

Remember that Christ is in the Old Testament as well as the New Testament. [Luke 24:25-27](#).

Keeping Clean 1 Peter 1:13-21.

We now move onto ‘walking a holy life,’ a different life to the world, holy and pure. [1 John 3:3](#). But this is difficult in this world who are against those who seek God.

v13 The "revelation of Jesus Christ," a Christian lives for the future, we know what He has promised, ‘pull your thoughts together’ have an organized mind so you are able to ‘run’ away from the world demands,

also make sure you should have a "sober" mind, a steady, controlled mind making sure you seek and follow the right spiritual balance, not concentrating on one area like prophecy but all area's of scripture. You will then find the grace of God in your life. [1 Peter 4:7](#); [1 Peter 5:8](#).

v14-15 **God's Holiness:** We have inherited a nature of our new Parent, God, He is holy, as His children so must we be. [2 Peter 1:4](#). We were once children who disobeyed, Peter encourages the readers who have been 'called' by God to obey and avoid our old desires, be like God. [Rom 1:5](#); [1 Peter 1:2](#); [1 John 1:5-10](#).

v16 **It is written:** - the Word of God, the mind of God, the sword for battle.

v17 **God's judgement:** What judgement is Peter talking about? It is the judgement of a believers life, their 'works,' not their salvation. Salvation should bring 'good works' [Titus 1:16](#); [Rom 5:1-10](#); [Rom 14:10-12](#); [2 Cor 5:9-10](#). We must live our lives to His glory and not hurt Him in any way by the way we live, live in reverence and godly fear. Note that God has no "respect of person," He shows no favorites to anyone. [Rom 2:11](#).

v18-21 **The Love of God:** Peter first reminds the readers of their salvation, how it happened and the cost. 'Redeemed' had a special meaning to the people of New Testament time, many were slaves but they could obtain freedom by being 'redeemed,' either they had enough of their own money to pay the price or someone else paid the price for their freedom. Redemption was a precious thing in those days.

v19 Peter further reminds them who paid the price for them, no amount of money could set a sinner free only the blood of Christ. We find the doctrine of sacrifice for others throughout the Old Testament into the New Testament with "Behold the Lamb of God" [John 1:29](#).

v20-21 The death of Christ was not an accident, it was part of God's plan from the beginning of time. [Acts 2:23](#). All we have to do is believe and put our hope in the promise of God.

One in Christ 1 Peter 22-25.

These thoughts continue into the next chapter.

We have all experienced the same birth through faith in Jesus, the Word of God, so we should love each other with a pure heart. We all have the same Holy Spirit, with unfailing love for us. Peter used two words for love in this passage *philadelphia*, 'brotherly love' and *agape*, a sacrifi-

cial Godlike love.

The things man does will fail, just like the grass fades and dies, the best man can do is like a flower which soon dies but God's love is for eternity, His Word will be for ever and through this Word we were saved.

Chapter 2

Continuing the thought of 'One in Christ' from chapter 1.

v1-3 We receive the same spiritual food. We can receive life from God's Word, it also gives spiritual food for us each time we read it. We should desire the pure Word so that we can grow from a newborn baby to a mature Christian. As we grow we will also find that this spiritual food is strong meat for the grown child of God. [Heb 5:11-14](#); [1 Cor 3:1-4](#).

v4-8 We all are part of the one and only church of Christ, Jesus being the cornerstone [Eph 2:20](#). We are the stones which are part of God's building.

The 'cornerstone' is a *living* stone, Jesus risen in victory, *chosen* by God and very *precious* to Him. But this 'stone' was rejected by man as they were not looking for the kind of Messiah He was. Matt 21:42ff, they stumbled at the Word v8. It is still happening [1 Cor 1:18ff](#).

v9-10 A chosen generation: The church description given here is similar to the description God used for the Tribe of Israel [Ex 19:5-6](#), but the Israelites disobeyed. Today God's people are by the grace of God a chosen and holy generation [John 15:16](#). Holy, set apart, special for God's use only, a people of God, priests, able to enter the presence of God at anytime.

At one time we were against God, belonging to Satan, and the world [Eph 2:1-3](#) now through the mercy of God we are His people to give Him praise and glory in all we do and say.

We must remember that being of one family does not mean that there are no differences, God has given each our own abilities and attitudes, like in a building each stone is designed for the right place but they are all required to produce the building.

The life of a believer 1 Peter 2:11-25.

Peter reminds the readers that they are only 'visiting' this world, awaiting the call home to Jesus, but every action is being watched as they live their Christian life. As 'beloved children' of God we should have nothing to do with wrong things offered in this world.

As Christians we should submit (obey) to the laws of the world, God setup and controls the home, the governments, kings and the church. [John 14:15-23](#). The way we live our life, our 'good works' may help others find salvation and bring glory to God. [3 John 3-8](#); [1 Peter 3:16](#); [Matt 5:16](#) Or our bad works hurt God's work [1 Cor 5:1](#).

We all represent Jesus Christ on this earth, what people see in our lives reflects what we believe and who Jesus is. As Christian citizens we must submit to human authority, the word "ordinance" v13 does not refer to each individual law but the overall government, it is possible to obey the government but disobey the laws. Consider Daniel and his friends in [Dan 1:4ff](#), they refused to obey the king's food laws but still honoured the king, they did not dishonour the officials in charge of them or get them in trouble by their actions, but they did honour God. Equally Peter and the disciples in [Acts 4 to 5](#), they were told to stop preaching, but Peter and the others refused to obey, they had been given orders by God to preach so could not stop, but they still respected the Jewish leaders.

We must never allow the law to disobey God. Two passages are important v15 "The will of God," and v16 "The servants of God. It is for "the Lord's sake," v13.

v17 Love each other, "fear God and honour powers" [Rom 13:1](#).

v18 Slaves were very common in New Testament times, many who became Christians felt that their Christian freedom meant that they did not need to obey their masters, Peter corrects this idea, saying that submission was still important. Paul also dealt with the problem in [1 Cor 7:20-24](#). There are no 'slaves' as in Romans times today but what Peter and Paul says also applies to employee / employer relationships. [Luke 6:32-36](#).

v21-23 Christ is an example, look at His life on earth to see the perfect example to follow. Jesus had the power to overrule the behaviour of the Jewish leaders and Pilate [John 18:33-38](#), but Jesus had submitted to the Will of His Father.

v24 Jesus took our place, [Gal 3:13](#) He died that we might live.

v25 Our Shepherd is now in heaven watching over us. This shepherd had come looking for His sheep [Luke 15:1-7](#), He died for them and right now is watching over His sheep, [Heb 13:20-21](#) just as the local church leaders should be looking after the church members [1 Peter 5 1-4](#).

The world is watching us but so is our Shepherd in heaven.

Chapter 3

Peter now looks at the relationships of marriage. Peter tries to show the way of a happy marriage. This chapters thoughts continue from previous chapter by starting with "Likewise."

The fact that both man and woman are Christians in a marriage does not mean there will be a perfect marriage, it has to be worked at. There is an even greater problem if only one person of the marriage is a Christian.

Submission 1 Peter 3:1-6.

In verses 1 and 5 Peter introduces the 'submission' of Christian wives to their husbands.

The word translated "subjection" means to 'place in rank,' God has placed everything at various orders of authority, He placed the husband as head of the home [Eph 5:21ff](#) but is also subject to Christ. This does not mean 'dictatorship' but a loving relationship.

v1 Wives submit because of God's Word. This does not mean the wife is of lower status, in v7 husband and wives are 'equal' heirs and [Gal 3:28](#) says they are 'one in Christ'. [2 Cor 6:14-18](#) shows the problems for not being married to a Christian.

Christ was willing to be made a "little lower than the angels" for us. [Heb 2:7](#).

The wife being submissive also may help the unsaved husband come to know Christ as their Saviour. This means that the wife just lives a life that pleases Christ, she does not keep 'preaching' at the husband, it often turns him away instead, it's the love, understanding, patience and kindness which has more effect and then Salvation comes through the 'Word of God.'

v3-6 The word "adorning" is the word *Kosmos* in the Greek, this gives us our word 'cosmos' or 'ordered universe.' Peter warned the Christian woman not to put all their faith in external (outside) 'decoration' but in their internal 'true heart' of Christ. Peter did not forbid the use of jewellery or the wearing of 'fashion' clothes, our appearance can still honour God by the wearing of jewellery etc. Peter used Sarah in [Gen 18](#) as an example, though the use of 'lord' for Abraham her husband might not work today.

v7 Peter now turns to the husband. To "dwell with them," is more than living at the same address, marriage involves a team working together [Eph 5:31](#); [1 Cor 7:1-5](#); It is the husband who should supply the home

requirements, [1 Tim 5:8](#) but women are not forbidden to work as well but the home should come first. [Titus 2:4-5](#).

Husband should have "understanding," a husband needs to know the feelings, fears, hopes and moods of his wife. Honour the wife, treats the wife with respect, "the weaker vessel," is referring to the physical abilities of the wife, usually the man being the stronger.

There is a spiritual side to the relationship, "that your prayers be not hindered." The Word of God and prayer should have a place in each marriage.

Ready for the future 1 Peter 3:8-17.

v8 "Finally" 'to sum up' be of the same mind, united. This does not mean the same, the parts of human body is made of many parts but they work together in 'unity' as one, each depending upon the other. Love for each other proves that the body of Christ is operating in unity, but all actions must still seek to honour Christ.

We must have compassion, pity and sympathetic (feelings for) as well as love, a Christian should be in tune with the needs and feelings of others [Rom 12:15,16](#); God teaches us [1 Thess 4:9](#).

v9 Love your enemies, return good for evil. [Rom 12:18](#). Christ is the example [1 Peter 2:21-23](#). Peter told the readers that they will "inherit a blessing" in heaven if we do this. [Matt 5:10-12](#)

v10 "Love life," enjoy the life God has given you. "Control our tongues," many problems are due to wrong words. [James 3:1ff](#).

v11-17 God knows all that is happening so live a life pleasing to God, even if the problems seem to be winning let God be in control.

v13-15 we may be facing many problems as Christians, but put Christ first, make Him your Lord, He is more than anything the world can throw at you, we may be hurt but our hope is in Christ and nothing can harm us. [Rom 8:17-18](#); [Rom 8:28-39](#). What ever happens be ready to show that Christ is your Lord, "be ready with an answer" of what your faith is.

v16-17 Let your life reflect the love of Christ when you are wrongly accused. Be of "good conscience" to know that our actions are right, it is better for you that you suffer for the sake of God and His Will.

The ministry of Christ 1 Peter 3:18-22.

These verses have caused many discussions causing some difficulty for some.

v18 Christ is the example, the "Just one" dying for the sinners, the unjust to bring us to God, we now have an access to the throne of God because of what Jesus has done. [Eph 2:18](#); [Heb 10:19-22](#); [Rom 5:1,2](#).

v19-20 The phrase "but quickened by the Spirit," 'being made alive by the Spirit' has created a problem. In the Greek manuscripts there are no capital letters, so we have no right to put "Spirit" rather than "spirit," Greek experts say that the end of verse 19 should read "Being put to death with reference to the flesh, but made alive with reference to the spirit," referring to 'flesh' and 'spirit' not 'Christ's flesh' and the '[Holy Spirit](#)'.

Jesus had a physical body, He was not God living in the body of a man, He was a true God-Man. When He died He gave up His spirit to the Father God. [Luke 23:46](#). This spirit must have died when He became sin for us and God forsakes Him. So on the cross His body died and so did His spirit as it became sin for us. At some point His spirit was made alive again, not resurrection as this needs a body.

v19,20 So what does "He went and preached unto the spirits in prison" mean? The word "spirits" in the New Testament is used for angels and demons, not humans. So at sometime during this event Jesus delivered a message to spirit beings who were disobedient before the flood. Peter does not explain what this is about. All we know is that before the flood the world was very evil.

v21 Death means the spirit has left the body, [James 2:26](#) so resurrection means that the spirit returns to the body. [Luke 8:54-56](#). The Father raised Jesus [Rom 6:4](#).

As Noah was saved from the world of sin by the water of the flood, God's judgement, so baptism by water represents death from sin and the saving grace of God. Baptism does not save you it is your heart (conscience) and the death and resurrection of Jesus. [Rom 4:24,25](#); [1 Cor 15:1-4](#); [Gal 2:20](#).

v22 Jesus now sits at the right hand of the Father on heaven, a place of exaltation. [Phil 2:5-11](#). Believers are sitting with Him. [Eph 2:4-7](#).

All authority and power now belongs to Jesus, He has complete victory over all angels and powers [Col 2:9-15](#).

Chapter 4

Using Time 1 Peter 4:1-11.

Peter talks about 'time' in a number of places in his epistle, [1 Peter 1:5,11,17,20](#); [1 Peter 4:2-3, 17](#); [1 Peter 5:6](#).

Our time on this earth is limited, if you believe in the love and salvation of Jesus you will want to make the best of your time here on earth, being prepared for and watching for the return of Jesus.

Our attitude to sin 4:1-3 Peter uses a soldier as an example of our attitude, be 'armed' with a mind like Jesus, a mind which made Him suffer for our sin [1 Peter 2:21](#); [1 Peter 3:18](#). Jesus came to earth to deal with the sins of men and women, He conquered it completely on that cross making us right with God. Because of this we who have received forgiveness should not want to make more sin and hurt for Jesus. We will never be able not to sin until He comes back for us but we need to keep trying not to let Him down. [1 John 2:28](#).

v2 The will of God. Living a life which is in the Will of God is the best way of using your time. We may not always understand what He is doing but it is best for us. [Rom 8:28-39](#).

v3 Remember what we were like once. The fact that we were a prisoner of sin, following the "will of the Gentiles," the will of the unsaved world. How foolish it would be to go back to that kind of life.

v4-6 Our attitude to the unsaved. People think that those who turn to Christ are strange, but seem to forget what their lives are doing to their bodies. We must be prepared to tell others why we changed [1 Peter 3:15](#). The unsaved may judge the saved today but one day they will have to stand before God and account for their life.

We must not think that v6 is saying that the unsaved will have a second chance after death, the Gospel is only preached to the living [1 Peter 1:25](#) [Heb 9:27](#). While we are "in the flesh" the world may judge us by their standards, but one day God will judge.

v7-13 One day Jesus will return, it may be today. [2 Peter 3:1ff](#). We must be v7 sober, v7 watching in prayer, v8 full of love, v9 helping others, v10 using our gifts, v10 good stewards, v12 be prepared for trials, v13 rejoice, v15-16 not ashamed, v16-18 Glorify God, v19 Commit to God. To be 'sober' means to 'keep your mind clear and steady', keep 'cool,' keep a balance of subjects and interests in the Word of God. [Rom 14:10-13](#) Not just looking at one area of scripture, like prophecy and ignoring the others.

Watch and pray: [Mark 14:37-40](#); [Eph 6:18](#); [Col 4:2](#).

Thinking of others, saved and unsaved: [John 13:34-35](#); [1 Peter 2:19-20](#).

Love and service to God: [Rom 12:1-13](#); [Eph 4:1-16](#).

Suffering 1 Peter 4:12-19.

The church was about to enter a period of opposition and persecution, a "fiery trial." The Christians had been accepted as part of the Jewish way of worship but beginning with Emperor Nero attitudes changed.

v12 *Christians are different from the world* [2 Cor 6:14-18](#) and this different kind of life produces problems, the world looks for pleasure and wanting 'more,' to get this the world develops lust, lies and pride, so different to a Christian whose aim is to give God the Glory.

'Fire' has the image of pain and suffering but God considers that 'trials of fire' are a purifying action rather than a divine judgement, helping the Christian become closer to God. We must remember that not all problems of life are 'fiery trials,' some are just a part of human life, however, some we do bring upon ourselves by our poor life for God.

v13,14 *We must 'rejoice'* as they are all part of God's plan [Rom 8:28](#). It is an honour to suffer with Christ and the way the world treats Him [Phil 1:29](#); [Acts 5:41](#); The world is actually persecuting Jesus. [Acts 9:4](#). Not all believers are strong enough to go through this type of testing though.

v13 *Suffering leads to future glory.* [1 Peter 1:6-9](#).

v14 The suffering and trials will bring us the Holy Spirits ministry. Peter is indicating that the [Holy Spirit](#) has a special ministry for those who suffer for Christ.

Glorify His name. The name of Jesus is hated in the world, most people will have no problem with Baptist, Methodist, Anglican etc but admit to being a Christian and the problems will start.

v15-18 *Look at the life you are leading.* Why am I suffering? Are you breaking the law? then expect to suffer. Is it for Christ I am suffering? Am I ashamed for Christ? [Phil 1:20,21](#).

v17-18 If God is prepared to send fiery trials on His children, what will He do to the unsaved?

v19 Commit ourselves totally to the Lord, let Him do what He wants to us so that we can give Him the glory. He will never fail in His promises. Our present actions are controlling our future, the more we commit to Him the more glorious it will be.

Chapter 5

The church always needs good leadership, but at times of trial this becomes very important. [1 Peter 4:17](#) warns that 'judgement' is to begin at the house of God.

New Testament Churches operated under the local leadership of elders and deacons. [1 Tim 3:1ff](#). The titles ‘Elder’ and ‘Bishop’ refer to the same position. [Acts 20:17,28](#) ‘Elder’ refers to the spiritual maturity, ‘Bishop’ to the responsibility of the office. The word ‘Pastor’ meaning ‘shepherd’ is another title used for the same office [Eph 4:11](#). In the New Testament church suitable people were appointed to the position by ‘being ordained’ (the raising of hands).

v1 Peter introduces himself as ‘an elder’ who had witnessed the suffering of Christ. He had also experienced "the glory that shall be revealed" on the Mount of Transfiguration" [Matt 17:1-5](#).

v2 The elders must do the job willingly, without any pressure or just for payment. [1 Tim 5:17-18](#).

v3 "Lording over" reminds us of Christ’s attitude [John 13:1-17](#) ; [Luke 22:24-30](#) .

The Bible often uses an image of sheep or a flock for the people of God. To ‘man’ the sheep is a clean [2 Peter 2:20-22](#) and useful animal, supplying meat, clothing and in Bible times a sacrifice, but sheep need great care for them to be successful. They often wander away from the main herd and have no real way of defending themselves. Peter reminds the elders to care for God’s ‘sheep,’ to feed the flock, doing this with love and real care. For a shepherd feeding a flock involves searching and moving the flock to better ground as they need, making sure that there is no danger from snakes etc, so the elder needs to search, protect and teach God’s Word, to help the flock grow in Christian maturity and in number.

The Elder has to always remember that the ‘flock’ really belong to God, purchase with the blood of His Son. The elders life also has to be in the Will of his Lord, showing the way by their own life, a servant of the Lord.

v4 The promise of the Lord’s return and reward. If a minister does it for himself then reward could be small, for the Lord then a crown of glory. Be like Jesus the Chief Shepherd. [John 10:11](#); [Heb 13:20,21](#).

v5-11 The way to Glory from Grace.

v5-7 We must be humble: The younger respect and submit to the elders (age and spiritual maturity), yet still submit to each other. Just as Christ was willing to be the servant in that upper room. [John 13:1-17](#); [Phil 2:1-11](#) God does not like the proud. [1 John 2 15,16](#); [Luke 14:11](#);. Give your-

self, your cares, past, present and future into the hands of God, let God care for you in all things. [Phil 4:13](#). We must let Him work through us, not sit back and not do any work.

v8,9 Be on the lookout. Satan is our enemy and wants to destroy God's people and work. Peter gives some warnings:-

Respect Satan He is powerful and dangerous. [Rev 12:9-11](#); [Eph 6:10ff](#); [Luke 13:16](#).

Resist Him: Use the Word of God to fight him [Eph 6:10-13](#); with prayer [Eph 6:17-18](#); [Matt 4:1-11](#).

He can change his appearance: [2 Cor 11:13-15](#); [John 8:44](#); [Matt 13:24-30](#); [Matt 13:36-43](#); [1 John 2:18-27](#).

v10-11 We may suffer but God is in control. We have the grace of God, called by Him. On the way to glory. It will only last for a while but the glory is eternal. [2 Cor 4:17](#). These trials are making our Christian character. [Rom 5:3-5](#).

v12-14 Greetings from other Christians.