

# The True Grace of God: 1 Peter

[#19] *The Power & Picture of Grace* – 1 Peter 3:13-22

**Sermon Outline** – January 29, 2017

## Children's Sermon: God's Grace

What do you have to do to be rescued from your sins?

**Acts 2:38**

And Peter said to them, “***Repent and be baptized*** every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

What does Peter say to do?

What does he promise?

## Introduction

Notes:

Trust God's Crazy Looking Plan

<sup>14</sup> ***But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed.*** Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, <sup>15</sup> 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; yet do it with gentleness and respect, <sup>16</sup> having a good conscience, so that, when **you are slandered**, those who **revile** (*threaten abusively*) your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.

<sup>17</sup> For it is better to **suffer for doing good**, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

<sup>18</sup> For Christ also suffered...

<sup>4:1</sup> ***Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh***, **arm** yourselves with the same way of thinking, for whoever has suffered in the flesh **has ceased** from sin, <sup>2</sup> so as to live for the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for human passions but **for the will of God**.

## Putting on Our Jesus Glasses

**Today's Clear Biblical Bullet...**

God's good plan comes into sharp focus as we gaze at Jesus: The triumph of his death in the flesh and his exaltation by the Spirit!



<sup>18</sup> 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 s[S]pirit*,<sup>19</sup> in which/whom he went and **proclaimed** to the spirits in prison,<sup>20</sup> because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience **waited** in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, **were brought safely** through water.<sup>21</sup> Baptism, which corresponds to this, now **saves** you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,<sup>22</sup> **who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.**

Luther wrote, "A wonderful text is this, and a more obscure passage perhaps than any other in the New Testament, so that I do not know for a certainty just what Peter means."<sup>1</sup>

## Substitutionary Atonement/Sin Offering

<sup>18</sup> For Christ also **suffered** *once for sins*, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God...

## Flesh/Spirit Contrast

...being put to death *in the flesh but* made alive *in/by the s[S]pirit...*

## Victory Proclaimed to Evil Angelic Opponents

<sup>19</sup> in which/whom he went and **proclaimed** *to the spirits in prison*,<sup>20</sup> because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience **waited** in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared...

## Why Would Peter Go Here!? Is this plausible?

### Colossians 2:13–15

<sup>13</sup> And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses,<sup>14</sup> by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its

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<sup>1</sup> Luther, *Commentary on Peter & Jude*, 166. **Quoted in** Schreiner, T. R. (2003). *1, 2 Peter, Jude* (Vol. 37, p. 184). Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers.

legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.  
<sup>15</sup> ***He disarmed the rulers and authorities*** and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

**Thomas Schreiner** “The best solution, therefore, is that the verse proclaims Christ’s victory over demonic spirits after his death and resurrection. The evidence supporting this view is impressive. First, as we have seen, the word “spirits” almost certainly refers to angels (evil angels in this context). Second, the notion that the spirits are imprisoned fits with Satan’s imprisonment in Rev 20:7. Third, Gen 6:1–4 may possibly provide the reason for the spirits’ punishment: their sexual relations with women. Such an interpretation of Gen 6:1–4 is debated of course. But fourth, this interpretation was standard in Jewish literature in Peter’s day (see *1 Enoch* 6–19, 21, 86–88; 106:13–17; *Jub.* 4:15, 22; 5:1; *CD* 2:17–19; *1QapGen* 2:1; *T. Reu.* 5:6–7; *T. Naph.* 3:5; *2 Bar.* 56:10–14; cf. Josephus, *Ant.* 1.73).” <sup>2</sup>

## **2 Peter 2:4–10a (ESV)**

<sup>4</sup> For if ***God did not spare angels*** when they sinned, but cast them into hell and ***committed them to chains*** of gloomy darkness to be kept until the judgment; <sup>5</sup> if he did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a herald of righteousness, with seven others, when he brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly; ... <sup>9</sup> then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment until the day of judgment, <sup>10</sup> and especially those who indulge in the lust of *defiling passion* and *despise authority*. ...

## **Saved by Baptism? (baptismal regeneration?)**

...in which a few, that is, eight persons, **were brought safely** through water. <sup>21</sup> ***Baptism***, which corresponds to this, now **saves you**, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as ***an appeal to God for a good conscience, through*** the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup> who has gone

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<sup>2</sup> Schreiner, T. R. (2003). *1, 2 Peter, Jude* (Vol. 37, p. 188). Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers.

into heaven and **is** at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

### Acts 2:38

And Peter said to them, “**Repent and be baptized** every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

#### *...Fired at our Life & Heart*

Our baptism publicly expresses our repentance and faith in Jesus formally uniting us to him!



#### *Application*

##### **Fix Our Eyes on Jesus!**

- Meditate on Jesus the righteous one giving himself for us (the unrighteous) as our substitute so as to bring us to God.
- Spend some time considering where Jesus is right now, at the right hand of God. Consider the glory of his status.
- Consider his humble appearance in the flesh and how he has been utterly vindicated.