

1 Peter 5:1-14

Final Exhortations by Peter

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Elders: Shepherd The Flock

1 Peter 5:1-3 Therefore, I exhort the elders among you, as *your* fellow elder and witness of the sufferings of Christ, and a partaker also of the glory that is to be revealed, shepherd the flock of God among you, exercising oversight not under compulsion, but voluntarily, according to *the will of God*; and not for sordid gain, but with eagerness; nor yet as lording it over those allotted to your charge, but proving to be examples to the flock.

Faithful Elders Will Be Rewarded

1 Peter 5:4 And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

Are the crowns symbolic of eternal life?
Do the crowns represent other rewards?
Are the crowns literal crowns?

Crowns: Symbolizing Eternal Life

1 Cor 9:25 Everyone who competes in the games exercises self-control in all things. They then *do it* to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable

James 1:12 Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which *the Lord* has promised to those who love Him.

Rev 2:10c Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

Crowns: As Gifts Given To Kings

2 Maccabees 14:4 (not Scripture) Came to king Demetrius in the hundred and one and fiftieth year, presenting unto him a crown of gold, and a palm, and also of the boughs which were used solemnly in the temple: and so that day he held his peace.

1 Thessalonians 2:19 For who is our hope or joy or crown of exultation? Is it not even you, in the presence of our Lord Jesus at His coming?

Lesson 1



In New Testament times, a visiting king would be presented with a crown as a token of allegiance. We should marvel at God's grace - that at Christ's coming the King Himself gives His people the crown!

Humble Now, Exalted Later

1 Peter 5:5-7 You younger men, likewise, be subject to *your* elders; and all of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for GOD IS OPPOSED TO THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE. Therefore humble yourselves under the **mighty hand of God**, that He may exalt you at the proper time, casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.

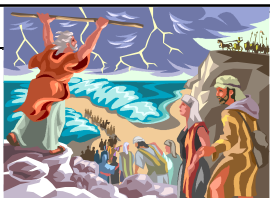
Rescued By God's "Mighty Hand"

Exodus 3:19 But I know that the king of Egypt will not let you go unless compelled by a mighty hand.

Deuteronomy 4:34 Or has a god tried to go to take for himself a nation from within *another* nation by trials, by signs and wonders and by war and by a mighty hand...

Daniel 9:15 And now, O Lord our God, who brought your people out of the land of Egypt with a mighty hand, and have a made a name for yourself, as it is this day, we have sinned, we have done wickedly.

Lesson 2



As believers in Christ, we can trust that God will bring us into the promised land with a "mighty hand" just as He did for Israel.

- We should humble ourselves
- We should submit to various authorities
- We can cast our cares upon the Lord

Believers: Called To Eternal Glory

1 Peter 5:8-10 Be of sober *spirit*, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. But resist him, firm in *your* faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world. After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen *and* establish you.

Peter's Final Remarks

1 Peter 5:11-14 To Him *be* dominion forever and ever. Amen. Through Silvanus, our faithful brother (for so I regard *him*), **I have written to you briefly, exhorting and testifying that this is the true grace of God.** Stand firm in it! She who is in Babylon, chosen together with you, sends you greetings, and *so does* my son, Mark. Greet one another with a kiss of love. Peace be to you all who are in Christ.

The "Bookends" of 1 Peter

Election: 1 Pet 1:1 To those who are elect exiles

Glory : 1 Pet 1:4 ...to obtain an inheritance...

Glory: 1 Pet 5:10...called you to His eternal glory..

Election: 1 Pet 5:13 She who is at Babylon, who is likewise chosen, sends you greetings...

Lesson 3

Let us never forget that God saved us out of Babylon purely by His sovereign, merciful choice.

1 Peter 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has **caused us to be born again** to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.
