# His Eyes are on the Righteous PART II (1 Peter 3:8-22)

# **Called to Blessing**

"Finally, all of you be of **one mind**, having **compassion** for one another; **love as brothers**, be **tenderhearted**, be **courteous**; not **returning evil for evil** or reviling for reviling, **but on the contrary blessing**, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing. For "He who would **love life And see good days**, Let him **refrain 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**. For the **eyes of the LORD are on the righteous**, And His **ears are open to their prayers**; But the face of the LORD is **against those who do evil**."" I Peter 3:8-12 NKIV

## I Peter 3:8-12

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## One Mind

- That They May Be One: ""I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me." John 17:20-23 NKJV
- The Mind of Christ: "For "who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?" But we have the mind of Christ." I Corinthians 2:16 NKJV
- Be like Paul: "Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ." I Corinthians 11:1 NKJV
  - Rebuked for Divisions: "Now in giving these instructions I do not praise you, since you come together not for the better but for the worse. For first of all, when you come together as a church, I hear that there are divisions among you, and in part I believe it.

- For there must also be factions among you, that those who are approved may be recognized among you." I Corinthians 11:17-19 NKJV
- ☑ Unity: "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is For brethren to dwell together in unity!" Psalms 133:1 NKJV
- Compassion for; love as brothers; tenderhearted;courteous
  - Brotherly Love: "By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."" John 13:35 NKJV
  - "Beloved, **let us love one another**, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God." I John 4:7 NKJV
  - "Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. Be kindly affectionate to one another with **brotherly love,** in honor giving preference to one another; not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord;" Romans 12:9-11 NKJV
- ☑ Blessings instead of evil for evil and reviling for reviling,
  knowing that...you were called to such to inherit a
  blessing
  - Sermon on the Mount: ""You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I

say to you, **love your enemies**, **bless those** who curse you, **do good** to those who hate you, and **pray for** those who spitefully use you and persecute you, **that you may be sons of your Father in heaven**; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust." Matthew 5:43-45 NKJV

Love and do good to those who don't love or do I good! V "Give to everyone who asks of you. And from him who takes away your goods do not ask them back. And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise. "But if you love those who love you, what **credit is that to you?** For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive back, what credit is that to you? For even sinners lend to sinners to receive as much back. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil. Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful." Luke 6:30-36 NKJV

"For "He who would love life And see good days, Let him refrain 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." I Peter 3:10-11 NKJV

# **■ Healthy Tongue = Long Life**

Where does Peter get this idea? "Come, you children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD. Who is the man who desires life, And loves many days, that he may see good? Keep your tongue from evil, And your lips from speaking deceit. Depart from evil and do good; Seek peace and pursue it. The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, And His ears are open to their cry. The face of the LORD is against those who do evil, To cut off the remembrance of them from the earth." Psalms 34:11-16 NKIV

# **<u>Iurn from evil and seek peace</u>**

- ✓ Sermon on the Mount: "Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God." Matthew 5:9 NKJV
- ☑ Let's just take a excerpt from Paul which complements
  Peter!
  - "Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. **Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love**, in honor giving preference to one

another; not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. **Be of** the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion. Repay no one evil for **evil.** Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live **peaceably with all men.** Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. Therefore "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap **coals of fire on his head."** Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." Romans 12:9-21 NKJV

- "For the eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, And His ears are open to their prayers; But the face of the LORD is against those who do evil."" I Peter 3:12 NKJV
  - **Yahweh's eyes are on the righteous**

- "The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, **And His**ears are open to their cry." Psalms 34:15 NKJV
- **Yahweh's ears hear the prayers of the righteous** 
  - The effective fervent prayers of a righteous man: "Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing psalms. Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. **The** effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit." James 5:13-18 NKJV

## **Yahweh is against evildoers Yahweh is against evildoers**

■ READ all of Psalm 37, but here are a few nuggets: "Do not fret because of evildoers, Nor be envious of the workers of iniquity. For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, And wither as the green herb. Trust in the

LORD, and do good; Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness... Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for Him; Do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, Because of the man who brings wicked schemes to pass. Cease from anger, and forsake wrath; Do not fret it only causes harm. For evildoers shall be cut off; But those who wait on the LORD, They shall inherit the earth. For yet a little while and the wicked shall be no more; Indeed, you will look carefully for his place, But it shall be no more. But the meek shall inherit the earth, And shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace. The wicked plots against the just, And gnashes at him with his teeth. The Lord laughs at him, For He sees that his day is coming. The wicked have drawn the sword And have bent their bow, To cast down the poor and needy, To slay those who are of upright conduct. Their sword shall enter their own heart, And their bows shall be broken." Psalms 37:1-3, 7-15 NKJV

- ✓ See Habakkuk <u>1</u>, <u>2</u>, <u>3</u> (each number is a separate link!)
- ✓ **Vengeance is Mine says the Lord:** we just saw this is Romans 12:9-21.
  - "How could one chase a thousand, And two put ten thousand to flight, Unless their Rock had sold them,

And the LORD had surrendered them? For their rock is not like our Rock, Even our enemies themselves being judges. For their vine is of the vine of Sodom And of the fields of Gomorrah; Their grapes are grapes of gall, Their clusters are bitter. Their wine is the poison of serpents, And the cruel venom of cobras. 'Is this not laid up in store with Me, Sealed up among My treasures? Vengeance is Mine, and recompense; Their foot shall slip in due time; For the day of their calamity is at hand, And the things to come hasten upon them.' "For the LORD will judge His people And have **compassion on His servants,** When He sees that their power is gone, And there is no one remaining, bond or free. He will say: 'Where are their gods, The rock in which they sought refuge? Who ate the fat of their sacrifices, And drank the wine of their drink offering? Let them rise and help you, And be your refuge. 'Now see that I, even I, am He, And there is no God besides Me; I kill and I make alive; I wound and I heal; Nor is there any who can deliver from My hand."

Deuteronomy 32:30-39 NKJV

## **Suffering for Right and Wrong**

"And who is he who will harm you if you become followers of what is good? But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you are blessed. "And do not be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled." But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear; having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed. For it is better, if it is the will of God, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil." I Peter 3:13-17 NKIV

#### I Peter 3:13-17

- "And who is he who will harm you if you become followers of what is good? But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you are blessed. "And do not be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled."" I Peter 3:13-14 NKJV
  - - Sermon on the Mount—Blessed for suffering for righteousness: "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

      Matthew 5:10 NKJV
  - **Do not be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled!**

- ""Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. And where I go you know, and the way you know." Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." John 14:1-6 NKJV
- "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear; having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed." I Peter 3:15-16 NKJV
  - **Ready to give a defense...** 
    - Ready in season and our of season: "I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: Preach the word! Be ready in season and out

of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry." Il Timothy 4:1-5 NKJV

■ Hope: "Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us." Romans 5:1-5 NKJV

## A good conscience

Those who defame you for your good conduct, as if it is evil, will be put to shame: again I refer to Psalm 37–"For the LORD loves justice, And does not forsake His saints;

They are preserved forever, **But the descendants of the wicked shall be cut off**... The wicked watches the righteous, And seeks to slay him. **The LORD will not leave him in his hand**, Nor condemn him when he is judged." Psalms 37:28, 32-33 NKJV

- Opposites: "Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes, And prudent in their own sight!" Isaiah 5:20-21 NKJV
- ✓ "For it is better, if it is the will of God, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil." I Peter 3:17 NKJV
  - Suffering for Good
  - Remember: "For what credit is it if, when you are beaten for your faults, you take it patiently? But when you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently, this is commendable before God. For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps:" I Peter 2:20-21 NKJV
  - Again—Sermon on the Mount: "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, For theirs is the

kingdom of heaven. "Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you." Matthew 5:10-12 NKJV

# **Suffering for Evil Suffering for Evil**

- "A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself; The simple pass on and are punished." Proverbs 27:12 NKJV
- "And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ. But he who does wrong will be repaid for what he has done, and there is no partiality." Colossians 3:23-25 NKJV

## **Christ's Suffering and Our Own**

"For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit, by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison, who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water. There is also an antitype which now saves us—

**baptism** (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and **is at the right hand of God**, angels and authorities and powers **having been made subject to Him**." I Peter 3:18-22 NKJV

#### I Peter 3:18-22

- "For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit, by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison," I Peter 3:18-19 NKJV
  - **<u>Ine just suffering for the unjust</u>** 
    - ☑ Propitiation: "And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world."

      I John 2:2 NKJV
    - Seek and save the lost: "And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham; for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."" Luke 19:9-10 NKJV
  - **<u>Ine Flesh dies; the Spirit lives</u>** 
    - See Roman 6, 7, 8: "There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the

Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace." Romans 8:1-6 NKJV

## **Me preached to the spirits in prison**

He first descended: "But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore He says: "When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave gifts to men." (Now this, "He ascended"—what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.)" Ephesians 4:7-10 NKIV

- "who formerly were disobedient, when once the **Divine**longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was
  being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved
  through water. There is also an antitype which now saves us—
  baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the
  answer of a good conscience toward God), through the
  resurrection of Jesus Christ," I Peter 3:20-21 NKJV
  - **<u>Ine Days of Noah—the Flood and Baptism as Antitypes</u>** 
    - Find KEM teaching on <u>Tender branches: The Fate of Two</u>

      <u>Messengers</u> page 22.
      - 1. **Note:** in 1 Peter 3:21 (antitype) a pattern, predictive symbol or image of the opposite to be a representative of a thing resembling its counterpart....coming from the Greek
        - a) Anti—denotes contrast but direct correspondence to
        - b) **Tupos**—a model or type forged by repetition based on a reliable precedent as predictive as a stamp struck by a die, certain to make the exact impression.
      - 2. The water of the flood was actually destructive but the 8 were saved in spite of its destructive intent. The

water of baptism has only saving qualities as an expression of a good conscience. In other words it is an antitype, one saves because you avoid the water, the other saves because you go into the water.

- "who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him." I Peter 3:22 NKJV
  - Seated at the right hand of the Father
    - He is waiting in Heaven: "But to which of the angels has He ever said: "Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool"?" Hebrews 1:13 NKJV
  - All power and authority
  - Seated at the right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion: "Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know

what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all." Ephesians 1:15-23 NKJV

## **NEXT WEEK**

All for God's Glory (1 Peter 4)