

HBC Sunday Morning
August 20, 2017
How To Cope With Suffering
A Study Of I Peter
1. Realize Your Position In Christ
I Peter 1:1-2

Introduction:

I would like to start a series of messages this morning from the book of I Peter. I want to travel through this book with you and examine what the Lord has for us as we learn how to cope with suffering. As the Lord gives me opportunities I will share with you messages from this great little book until we reach the end.

I Peter is all about how you and I can deal with suffering in our lives. I am quite sure that there is no one in here this morning who has not been touched by suffering in their lives. If you haven't then I will tell you to just hold on because it is on its way.

So why does God allow us to go through suffering? That's a good question but let's first start by asking why there is suffering any way? Well the reason that anyone has to suffer is because of one word, **SIN!** God never intended for man to have to suffer, but when sin came into this world then it brought suffering with it.

Last Sunday I began my message by making some remarks about a congregation song we sang. In that song the chorus said, "Take your burdens to the Lord and leave them there!" I tried to point out how we are so guilty of praying about our burdens but not fully giving them to the Lord. I pointed out that we are not able to handle the strain of the weight of the burdens that this life throws upon you. However I also said that the Lord is there to help us if we will only cast our burdens upon Him! Matter of fact I believe that is one of the key verses of this book:

1 Peter 5:7 (KJV)

7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

Do you believe that He cares for you? If you do then He invites us to cast our cares upon Him!

In these first two verses I see three things and in these three things I believe that we see that we need to “Realize Our Position In Christ!” So notice point number 1:

1. Peter: The Writer! *I Peter 1:1; Luke 22:33; John 21:15-17*

A. He Was Called By God! *I Peter 1:1; II Corinthians 6:2; Romans 1:7; I Thessalonians 4:7; Matthew 4:19*

B. He Was Commissioned By God! *I Peter 1:1; John 15:6; I Corinthians 15:10*

2. Peter: The Witness! *I Peter 1:1; Luke 2:52; Matthew 11:19*

A. He Was A Witness To The World! *I Peter 1:1; Matthew 28:19; Luke 14:23*

B. He Was A Witness To The Wayfaring! *I Peter 1:1; Jude 1:22; Proverbs 14:31; Proverbs 11:25; Proverbs 3:27-28; II Corinthians 9:6*

3. People: The Winners! *I Peter 1:2; Philippians 4:13*

A. If You Are Saved You Are Secure! *I Peter 1:2; John 10:28; Hebrews 10:10; I John 5:13; John 3:16*

B. If You Are Saved You Are Safe! *I Peter 1:2; Proverbs 18:10; Psalm 4:8; Psalm 91:4; Matthew 23:37*

Bro. Penny