

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

1) 02 Sept	1 Peter 1:1-12.....	Living with Hope
2) 09 Sept	1 Peter 1:13-25.....	Living in Holiness
3) 16 Sept	1 Peter 2:1-10.....	Living in a New Household
4) 23 Sept	1 Peter 2:11-17.....	Living as Strangers
5) 30 Sept	1 Peter 2:18-25.....	Living Under Stress
6) 07 Oct	1 Peter 3:1-12.....	Living at Home
7) 14 Oct	1 Peter 3:13-22.....	Living Without Fear
8) 21 Oct	1 Peter 4:1-11.....	Living in Community
9) 28 Oct	1 Peter 4:12-19.....	Living in Faith
10) 04 Nov	1 Peter 5:1-14.....	Living in Humility
11) 11 Nov	2 Peter 1:1-21.....	Living with Truth
12) 18 Nov	2 Peter 2:1-22 / Jude 1-25.....	Living with Troublemakers
13) 25 Nov	2 Peter 3:1-18.....	Living with Assurance

INTRODUCTION

- What's more important in life? The Do's or the Don'ts?

Passage	Comments
1Peter 2:11	<p>"Abstain from Fleshly Lusts"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peter doesn't make a casual recommendation, but he strongly PLEADS and BEGS his readers to avoid sin • Peter calls his readers "foreigners" and "strangers", which is akin to us telling our friends when they travel to a foreign country "Don't drink the water!" • REMEMBER God's perspective on sin – What happens in Vegas is shouted from the roof topsLk 8:17
2:12	<p>"Conduct Yourselves Honorable"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Testimony is everything • If someone catches us being hypocritical (lying, cheating, cussing, bad-mouthing), make amends and get back in God's good graces – cause we need every blessing we can get • How do people speak evil of us today? And is it true? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ "Christians are too judgmental" ◦ "All Christians are hypocrites" ◦ "Christians are milk-toasts, wimps, naïve" ◦ _____ ◦ _____ • Our good testimony is what converts many people – Not our Words shared in a moment of time, But our Deeds examined over a life time
2:13-14	<p>"Submit Yourselves to the Government"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • REMEMBER – The 1st Century Christians were living under a tyrannical ruler (Nero) in countries with few morals and with few laws to protect the weak • It would be similar to living in Afghanistan with the Taliban in control. Anyone, especially women, could be brutally beaten, raped, and killed for bogus reasons • Peter never advocates fighting the Government – but, instead, advocates Christians to work within the system and obey the good laws of the land • Naturally, Peter would be the first person to advocate keeping God's laws above man's laws – even if it meant paying the ultimate price for the crime such as going to jail or even forfeiting one's lifeActs 5:29
2:15	<p>To Shut People Up, Let Them See God's Light In You</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This only works of course with reasonable people • Angry mobs of unruly people bent on destruction and anarchy only listen to those wielding more fire power <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Example #1 – Stephen was stoned by an unruly mob ◦ Example #2 – U.S. embassies overrun by mobs • One day God Himself will be that overwhelming force who will crush the final revolt with fireRev 20:9

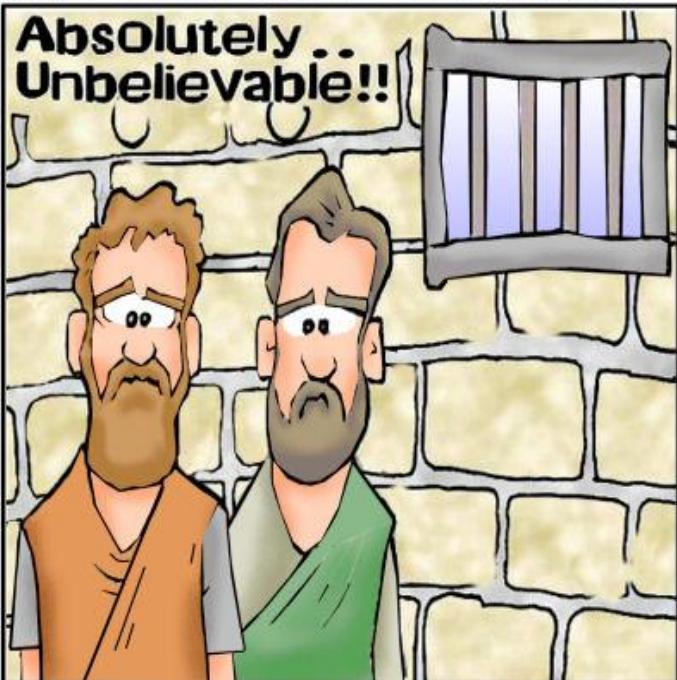
Passage	Comments
Historical Note	<p>Researchers have estimated there were over 60 million slaves in the Roman Empire in the 1st century, and 1/3 of the population of Rome were slaves</p>
2:16	<p>To Be Truly Free, We Must Become Slaves To Christ</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Act as Free Men" – How is this done if someone is enslaved in some capacity? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Consider this – if we are not enslaved to some kind of sin, we are free indeed • "Do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ How would this be done in our lives? ◦ How would our Freedom of Speech be viewed in a wrong manner? ◦ How would our freedom to eat and drink be misconstrued for evil? • "Live as Slaves to God" – What should this look like? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ How hard should we work at this? Flippantly or fervently?
2:17	<p>"Honor Everyone"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does honoring everyone mean submit to everyone? • Do we honor certain people above other people? • How does honoring someone involve our talk? Our wallet? Our attitude? Our thoughts? Our actions? • Was Mordecai wrong in not bowing down to Haman? (see lesson on Esther 3)

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- The Do's and the Don'ts in life are equally important, but as Mike Warnke, a Christian comedian, once said – "If we concentrate on doing the Do's we won't have time to do the Don'ts"

NEXT WEEK: 1 Peter 2:18-25. We are promised trouble in this life, and yet we are also promised a permanent healing by the stripes of Christ

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



Peter and John imprisoned. **Acts 4:1-3** Their Crime?
Inciting a 'Revival' without a permit.