

# 1 Peter 3:17-22

## **A. Intro: The Gift of a Hard-to-Understand Text**

1. Loving God with our minds
2. Remembering humility
3. Knowing our place

## **B. Big Idea: Better to Suffer for Good Than Evil (v. 17)**

## **C. Example: Christ**

1. Innocent suffering (v. 18a)
  - The goal of his suffering
2. Victorious resurrection (v. 18b)
3. Triumphant proclamation (v. 19)
4. Exalted ascension (v. 22)

1. Share how you've seen God at work in this previous week (perhaps in answer to prayer requests), or other ways you've seen his goodness.
2. What insight, principle, or observation from the message did you find most helpful, most challenging, or most troubling? Please explain.
3. Did the text from Sunday challenge how you view the world you live in? How so?
  - a. Sometimes we forget that the gospel is bigger than just having our sins forgiven. It is never less than that, but it is more than that. How could 1 Peter 3:18-22 give us a "big Gospel" view?
4. On Sunday we learned that Jesus suffered "once for sins" to bring us to God.
  - a. The central theme of the book of Hebrews is the "one time" offering of Jesus which brings us to God. Consider Hebrews 7:27; 9:12; 9:25-28; 10:10-14.
  - b. What is the practical application of being brought to God by Jesus' offering (Hebrews 10:19-25)? How does this work out vertically & horizontally?
  - c. Why do you think being brought to God by Jesus' offering practically means that we need one another (10:24-25), if we've already been brought to God?
  - d. How can we use our time/conversations this week to help one another hold fast, stirring one another up, and encouraging each other? Do what verse 24 says, and consider together how to do this.
5. On Sunday we learned that our world is far more than meets the eye. We wrestle with cosmic powers in heavenly places (Ephesians 6:12).
  - a. How do we fight this war (Ephesians 6:10-18)? Discuss each part of the armor.
  - b. What is Paul's desire & purpose for the armor of God?
  - c. Consider the similarities between 1 Peter 3:15, & Ephesians 6:15. How does this help you consider "giving a defence of your faith" as spiritual warfare? Discuss how the armour of God could help you as you show/defend your hope in Jesus to the world.
6. Make prayer & supplication for one another, that you would boldly proclaim the mystery of the Gospel, while living Jesus' hope before the world. Pray that you'd walk in a victory purchased once for all.

**Next Week's Passage: 1 Peter 3:20-21**