



Date: 3/1/2019

Scripture: 1 Peter 3:8-18

- Please take a look at the structure of this passage.
- How does the structure help us understand the meaning?ⁱ

1 Peter 3:8–18a^(ESV)

⁹**Do not repay** evil for evil or reviling for reviling, **but** on the contrary, **bles**s,
for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing.

¹⁰For “Whoever desires to love life and see good days,

let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit;

¹¹let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it.

¹²For

- the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer.
- But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”

¹³Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good?

¹⁴But even if you should suffer for righteousness’ sake, you will be blessed.

Have no fear of them, nor be troubled,

¹⁵but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy,

always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet

do it with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.

¹⁷For

- it is better to suffer for doing good, (if that should be God’s will),
- than _____ for doing evil.

¹⁸For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous



(The Message) 1 Peter 3:8–18

⁸Summing up:

Be agreeable, be sympathetic, be loving, be compassionate, be humble.

⁹That goes for all of you, no exceptions.

No retaliation.

No sharp-tongued sarcasm.

Instead, bles—that’s your job, to bless. You’ll be a blessing and also get a blessing.

¹⁰Whoever wants to embrace life and see the day fill up with good,

Here’s what you do:

Say nothing evil or hurtful;

¹¹Snub evil and cultivate good;

run after peace for all you’re worth.

¹²God looks on all this with approval, listening and responding well to what he’s asked; But he turns his back on those who do evil things.

¹³If with heart and soul you’re doing good, do you think you can be stopped?

¹⁴Even if you suffer for it, you’re still better off.

Don’t give the opposition a second thought.

¹⁵Through thick and thin, keep your hearts at attention, in adoration before Christ, your Master.

Be ready to speak up and tell anyone who asks why you’re living the way you are, and always with the utmost courtesy.

¹⁶Keep a clear conscience before God so that

when people throw mud at you, none of it will stick.

They’ll end up realizing that they’re the ones who need a bath.

¹⁷It’s better **to suffer for doing good,** if that’s what God wants, than to be punished for doing bad.

¹⁸**That’s what Christ did definitively:** suffered because of others’ sins, the Righteous One for the unrighteous ones.

He went through it all—was put to death and then made alive—to bring us to God.



Main Idea:

The idea being communicated is that based on the Great Exchange of our sin for Christ's righteousness, we too should swap out others' evil against us for righteousness in return.

Another way to say it would be that Romans 5:11-21 leads to Romans 12:17.

Discussion Questions:

Please discuss the terms in 1 Peter 3:8 –

⁸Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind.

What does that look like in real life?

"What threatens to disturb the harmony of your church?"

What can be done to restore or maintain harmony"¹?

Eph 4:32–5:2

How do Chapter two's commands to suffer well, relate to chapter three's command to return good for evil?

What motivation do we have to continue to exchange good for evil?

What is Biblical "Hope"? ⁱⁱ

¹ David Walls and Max Anders, *I & II Peter, I, II & III John, Jude*, vol. 11, Holman New Testament Commentary (Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1999), 65.



Related Verses.

The Great Exchange =

2 Corinthians 5:21 ^(ESV)

For our sake

- God made **him** to be sin who knew no sin,
- so that in **him** we might become the righteousness of God.

Mini-Exchanges....

1 Peter 2:19–24

¹⁹For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly.

²⁰For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God.

²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps.

²²He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth.

²³When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.

(The Great Exchange) ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.



Ephesians 4:32–5:2 (ESV)

³²Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

¹Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children.

²And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

ⁱ Verses 9 gives an overarching command of how we're to live.

Then verses 10-17 fill in the gaps on the way to carry out the command.

Verse 18 then gives the ultimate reason for the command – because Jesus did the same for us.

ⁱⁱ **Hope** = Focusing on the Lord's future = **Our Salvation & Inheritance...**

- Because God is in the Future (Omni-present)
- Because God is all-powerful (Omni-potent)
- Because God is all-good (Perfect)
- Because God is Eternal (Unchanging)

Then our future inheritance, ie. Our Complete and Total Perfection ("Salvation") is guaranteed. Based on who God is and what he has done, we have "hope" – A Guaranteed future, something to look forward too.

1 Peter 1:13 (ESV)

¹³Therefore....set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Colossians 1:5 (ESV)

because of the hope laid up for you in heaven.

Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel,