

# **“FROM APPARENT DEFEAT TO HIGHEST EXALTATION”**

## **I Peter 3:18-22**

**MAIN IDEA:** Even through Christ's unjust suffering, the greatest victory was accomplished.

11/11/18

### **FIRST PETER**

- *Introduction (1:1-2)*
- *Salvation (1:3-2:12)*
- *Submission (2:13-3:12)*
- *Suffering (3:13-5:11)*

➤ *Responding to Our Persecutors (3:13-4:6)*

❖ *With a Bold Witness (3:13-22)*

✓ *Results of Doing Good (3:13-14a)*

✓ *Responses to Suffering Opposition (3:14b-22)*

### **I. CHRIST'S VICTORY \_\_\_\_\_ (I Peter 3:18a)—Through His \_\_\_\_\_**

- A. A \_\_\_\_\_ death (“Christ also. . . suffered”)
- B. A \_\_\_\_\_ death (“once [for all]”)
- C. A \_\_\_\_\_ death (“for sins”)
- D. A \_\_\_\_\_ death (“the just for the unjust”)
- E. A \_\_\_\_\_ death (“that He might bring us to God”)
- F. A \_\_\_\_\_ death (“being put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit”)

### **II. CHRIST'S VICTORY \_\_\_\_\_ (I Peter 3:18b-20)—Between His \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_**

**Key Questions Regarding a Very Difficult Passage:**

- ❖ To what does “\_\_\_\_\_” refer? (3:18) (The Holy Spirit or Christ's human spirit?)
  - ❖ To what does “\_\_\_\_\_” refer? (3:19) (Human beings who lived on the earth or angelic beings?)
  - ❖ To what kind of “\_\_\_\_\_” is it referring? (3:19) (Literally, a place, or spiritually, in bondage to sin?)
  - ❖ What kind of \_\_\_\_\_ is being made by Christ? (3:19) (Made personally or through another? Of salvation or of judgment? Made in the days of Noah, or sometime after Christ's death?)
  - ❖ What \_\_\_\_\_ frame is involved? (In Noah's day, between His death & resurrection, or after His resurrection?)
- A. \_\_\_\_\_ did He announce it? (I Pet. 3:18b)
    - Though Christ's body died, His \_\_\_\_\_ was made \_\_\_\_\_ (I Pet. 3:18b).
    - After being made alive in the spirit, He went and \_\_\_\_\_ (I Pet. 3:19a).
  - B. \_\_\_\_\_ did He announce it? (I Pet. 3:18b-19)
    - He announced it in \_\_\_\_\_.
    - He announced it in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - C. \_\_\_\_\_ did He announce?
    - He did not proclaim the \_\_\_\_\_ to give unbelievers a second chance to \_\_\_\_\_ (cp. Heb. 9:27).
    - He likely did proclaim His \_\_\_\_\_ over sin and Satan accomplished at the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - D. To \_\_\_\_\_ did He announce it? (I Pet. 3:19-20)
    - Their present \_\_\_\_\_: \_\_\_\_\_ (not in physical bodies)
    - Their present \_\_\_\_\_: \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_—the place of departed spirits)
    - Their past \_\_\_\_\_: \_\_\_\_\_ (despite God's \_\_\_\_\_ toward them—cp. Gen. 6:3)
    - Their past \_\_\_\_\_: the \_\_\_\_\_ (most were \_\_\_\_\_, a few were \_\_\_\_\_).

### **III. CHRIST'S VICTORY \_\_\_\_\_ (I Peter 3:21)—Through Our \_\_\_\_\_**

- A. Water baptism saves only as an antitype: a \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. Water baptism provides the \_\_\_\_\_ of a good \_\_\_\_\_.

### **IV. CHRIST'S VICTORY \_\_\_\_\_ (I Peter 3:21b-22)—By His \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_**

- A. By His \_\_\_\_\_ (I Pet. 3:21b)
- B. By His \_\_\_\_\_ (I Pet. 3:22)

- ❖ There is a certainty of \_\_\_\_\_, . . . because of Christ's death and resurrection.
- ❖ There is a certainty of \_\_\_\_\_, . . . If God's patience is despsled.
- ❖ There is a certainty of \_\_\_\_\_, . . . symbolized by waters of baptism, received by faith in Christ alone.

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➤ *Responding to Our Persecutors (3:13-4:6)*

❖ *With a Bold Witness (3:13-22)*

✓ *Results of Doing Good (3:13-14a)*

✓ *Responses to Suffering Opposition (3:14b-22)*

## **I. CHRIST'S VICTORY ACCOMPLISHED (I Peter 3:18a)—Through His Death**

- A. A sufferer's death (*"Christ also. . . suffered"*)
- B. A sufficient death (*"once [for all]"*)
- C. A substitutionary death (*"for sins"*)
- D. A scandalous death (*"the just for the unjust"*)
- E. A saving death (*"that He might bring us to God"*)
- F. A successful death (*"being put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit"*)

## **II. CHRIST'S VICTORY ANNOUNCED (I Peter 3:18b-20)—Between His Death &**

**Key Questions Regarding a Very Difficult Passage:**

**Resurrection**

- ❖ To what does *"spirit"* refer? (3:18) (The Holy Spirit or Christ's human spirit?)
  - ❖ To what does *"spirits"* refer? (3:19) (Human beings who lived on the earth or angelic beings?)
  - ❖ To what kind of *"prison"* is it referring? (3:19) (Literally, a place, or spiritually, in bondage to sin?)
  - ❖ What kind of *proclamation* is being made by Christ? (3:19) (Made personally or through another? Of salvation or of judgment? Made in the days of Noah, or sometime after Christ's death?)
  - ❖ What *time frame* is involved? (In Noah's day, between His death & resurrection, or after His resurrection?)
- A. **When did He announce it? (I Pet. 3:18b)**
    - Though Christ's body died, His *spirit* was made *alive* (I Pet. 3:18b).
    - After being made alive in the spirit, He went and *proclaimed* (I Pet. 3:19a).
  - B. **How did He announce it? (I Pet. 3:18b-19)**
    - He announced it in *spirit*.
    - He announced it in *person*.
  - C. **What did He announce?**
    - He did not proclaim the *gospel* to give unbelievers a second chance to *believe* (cp. Heb. 9:27).
    - He likely proclaimed *victory* over sin and Satan accomplished at the *cross* (Col. 2:14-15).
  - D. **To whom did He announce it? (I Pet. 3:19-20)**
    - Their present *form*: *spirits* (not in physical bodies)
    - Their present *location*: *prison* (*hades*—the place of departed spirits)
    - Their past *rejection*: *disobedient* (despite God's *patience* toward them—cp. Gen. 6:3)
    - Their past *judgment*: the *flood* (most were *judged*, a few were *saved*).

## **III. CHRIST'S VICTORY APPLIED (I Peter 3:21)—Through Our Salvation**

- A. *Water baptism saves only as an antitype: a shadow of the reality.*
- B. *Water baptism provides the answer of a good conscience.*

## **IV. CHRIST'S VICTORY AFFIRMED (I Peter 3:21b-22)—By His Resurrection & Ascension**

- A. *By His resurrection (I Pet. 3:21b)*
- B. *By His ascension (I Pet. 3:22)*

- ❖ *There is a certainty of victory. . . because of Christ's death and resurrection.*
- ❖ *There is a certainty of judgment. . . if God's patience is despised.*
- ❖ *There is a certainty of salvation. . . symbolized by waters of baptism, received by faith in Christ alone.*