

The Petrine Epistles

December 11, 2016

IV. Hope in Spite of Suffering (2.11 – 4.11)

1 Peter 4.1-11

Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin; ²That he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God. ³For the time past of our life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles, when we walked in lasciviousness, lusts, excess of wine, revellings, banquetings, and abominable idolatries:

⁴Wherein they think it strange that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of you: ⁵Who shall give account to him that is ready to judge the quick and the dead. ⁶For for this cause was the gospel preached also to them that are dead, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh, but live according to God in the spirit.

⁷But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer. ⁸And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins. ⁹Use hospitality one to another without grudging. ¹⁰As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. ¹¹If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Christ's example teaches us that beneficial suffering sanctifies the sinful flesh; Christ foremost so also our suffering embraced in him.

We do not live to feed the flesh as is the will of unbelievers, but to feast on God's love in Christ.

The Gospel was preached to those in the OT that are dead; through the Word of Promise (remember saved Noah who did not run with the course of his world).

The gifts are given for service to others; flesh selfish; spirit serves in Christ.