

Christ's Servant Sufferers, Part 2

1 Peter 5:8



1 Peter: Holy Living in a Hostile Land

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Humility of mind — Paul’s word here means with a **lowly mindset**, so speak and behave from a sense of your **littleness**.

I. Attitudes of the Savior's Servant Sufferers (1 Peter 5:5-7)

II. Actions of the Savior's Servant Sufferers (1 Peter 5:8-14)

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- **Self-Control** (v8)

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Compose yourself. “*Be of sober spirit...*”

“*Be sober minded...*” (ESV)

Greek = *nepho*; literally **to be sober**. The idea here is to be restrained, disciplined, or self-controlled.

II. Actions of the Savior's Servant Sufferers (1 Peter 5:8-14)

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What is **godly self-control**?

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What is **godly self-control**?

“Not that I speak from want, for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am. I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need. I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.” (Philippians 4:11-13)

II. Actions of the Savior's Servant Sufferers (1 Peter 5:8-14)

- **Self-Control** (v8)

What is **godly self-control**? **Spiritual stability!**

II. Actions of the Savior's Servant Sufferers (1 Peter 5:8-14)

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Godly contentment is:

“inner satisfaction in God alone, whatever the circumstances.” (Robert Jones)

“that sweet, inward, quiet, gracious frame of spirit, which freely submits to and delights in God’s wise and fatherly disposal in every situation.” (Jeremiah Burroughs)

II. Actions of the Savior's Servant Sufferers (1 Peter 5:8-14)

- **Self-Control** (v8)

Godly self-control is about **spiritual stability**, and **Peter** is telling us that our spiritual stability is grounded in **submission, humility, and trust** in our walk with God.

II. Actions of the Savior's Servant Sufferers (1 Peter 5:8-14)

- **Self-Control** (v8)

Peter tells us how to **get command of ourselves**, and then how to **focus our self-control** in our **second action**:

II. Actions of the Savior's Servant Sufferers (1 Peter 5:8-14)

- Self-Control
- **Watchfulness** (v8)

Condition yourself. “*Be of sober spirit, **be on the alert...***”

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Condition yourself. *“Be of sober spirit, **be on the alert...**”*

*“**Be on the alert**”* is literally rendered as **be awake!** It means **be vigilant**, or don't be caught **napping** and **unaware**.

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- **Watchfulness** (v8)

Condition yourself. *“Be of sober spirit, **be on the alert...**”*

The vital necessity for you to adopt and practice this spiritual vigilance is the chilling reality that you and your loved ones are **being hunted**. *“Your adversary, the devil, **prowls** around like a roaring lion, **seeking** someone to devour.”*

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Condition yourself. *“Be of sober spirit, **be on the alert...**”*

This is a picture of you in the **full armor** provided by **God's protective** care, armed to the teeth with **God's weapons** and fully energized by **God's promise** to give His grace to the humble.

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