

Christ's Servant Sufferers, Part 3

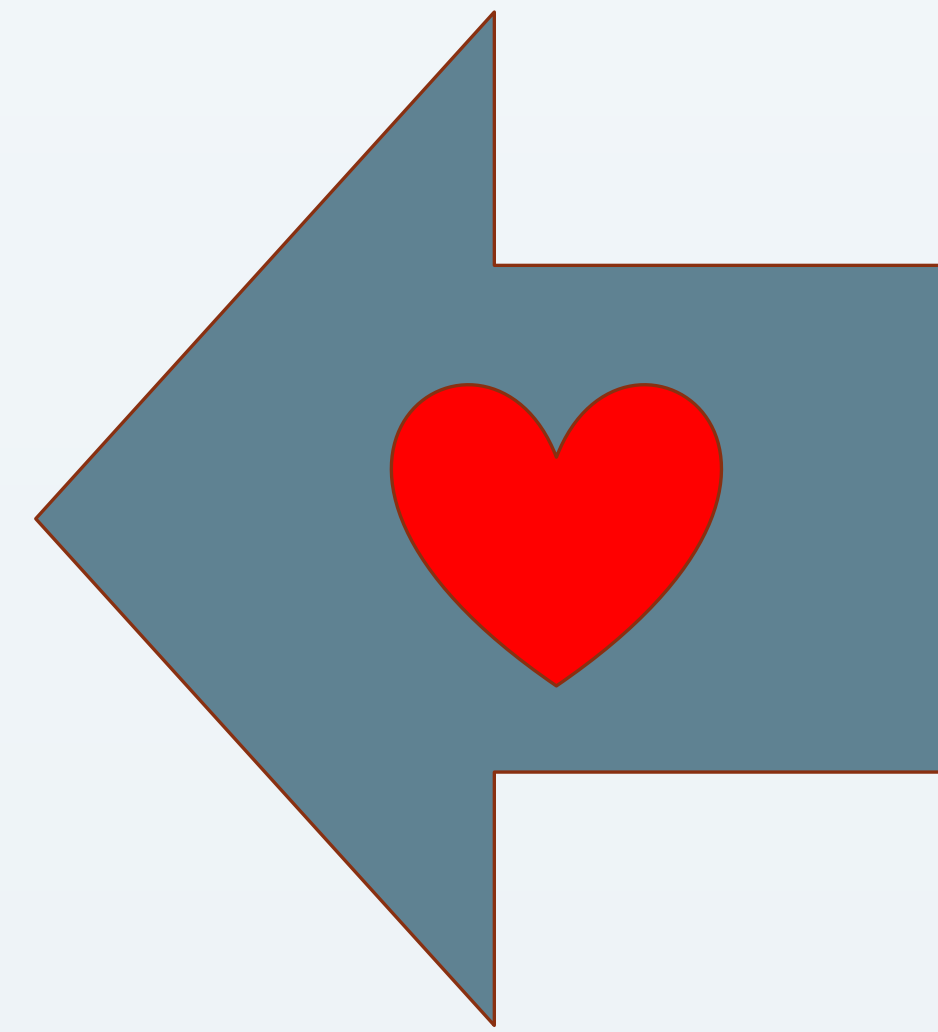
1 Peter 5:8-14



1 Peter: Holy Living in a Hostile Land

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

- Submission
- Humility
- Trust



Three heart attitudes of faithful spiritual service

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

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- **Self-Control** (v8)

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

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...***”

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

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“Adversary”: courtroom term referring to the antagonistic and accusing party in a legal action. Refers to a hostile enemy, opponent, or **accuser**.

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

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- Watchfulness (v8)

“*Adversary*” is a courtroom term referring to the antagonistic and accusing party in a legal action. Refers to a hostile enemy, opponent, or accuser.

“*Devil*” is *diabolos*—he is a false accuser, a slanderer. *Adversary* and *devil* paint Satan as our **hostile** enemy who constantly **accuses** and **slanders** us.

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

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

These scenarios and truths about **our enemy** put each of us in **one of two categories** as we live out our spiritual lives:

We either belong to those who are **prey**, or to those who **persevere**.

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

- Self-Control
- Watchfulness
- **Obedience** (v9)

Commit yourself. “*But resist him...*”

Peter moves us from **ready resistance** through self-control and spiritual vigilance to **responsive resistance**.

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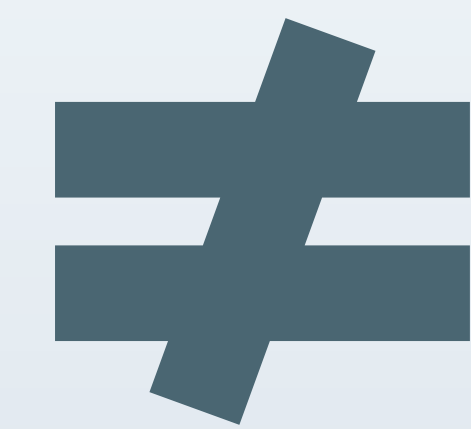
Resist—to set oneself against, to withstand, to oppose.

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

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We **can** *resist* him, but we **cannot** command him or kill him.

Biblical/Spiritual resistance
against Satan/demons



- Controlling
- Casting out
- Conciliating (pacifying)

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

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How do we resist?

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Resisting = the **opposite** of **passivity** and **ignorance**.

As a Christian, you can be **uninvolved** but not **unaffected** in this ongoing spiritual battle. **Ignorance**, **apathy**, and **naivete** will not protect you from being hunted and ambushed by the devil.

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

- Self-Control
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“...firm in your faith...” **Be resolute.**

Be strong, steady, immovable, and steadfast in your trust, confidence, assurance, and convictions regarding the **Bible's teachings** about God and His ways.

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

- Self-Control
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“...knowing that...” Be knowledgeable.

*“Therefore, be careful how you walk, **not as unwise men but as wise**, making the most of your time, because the days are evil. So then do not be foolish but **understand what the will of the Lord is.**”*

(Ephesians 5:15-17)

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“...*knowing that*...” **Be knowledgeable.**

The *same experiences of suffering* for faithfulness to the Lord Jesus *are being accomplished* by obedient fellow believers trying to **steward** the pain and challenges of a **hostile** world.

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

- Self-Control
- Watchfulness
- Obedience
- **Perseverance** (v10) Console yourself.

Main idea: Unlike, and in antithesis to the devil, *the God of all grace* will Himself personally *perfect, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.*

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

- Self-Control
- Watchfulness
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- Perseverance
- **Worship** (v11) Consecrate yourself.

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Let the **attitudes** of your heart be submissiveness, humility, and trust in the Lord as you live under His mighty hand guiding you through these trials.

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- **Watchfulness**
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- **Perseverance**
- **Worship**

Let your **actions** be to compose, condition, commit, console, and consecrate yourself as you cast your anxieties on Him knowing that He cares for you.

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- Self-Control
- Watchfulness
- Obedience
- Perseverance
- Worship

All these spiritual attitudes and actions are nourished, motivated, and activated in the life of a local church by the **shepherding** of the **pastors** who **feed** the church on **sound doctrine**.

Peter's Closing Remarks (1 Peter 5:12-14)

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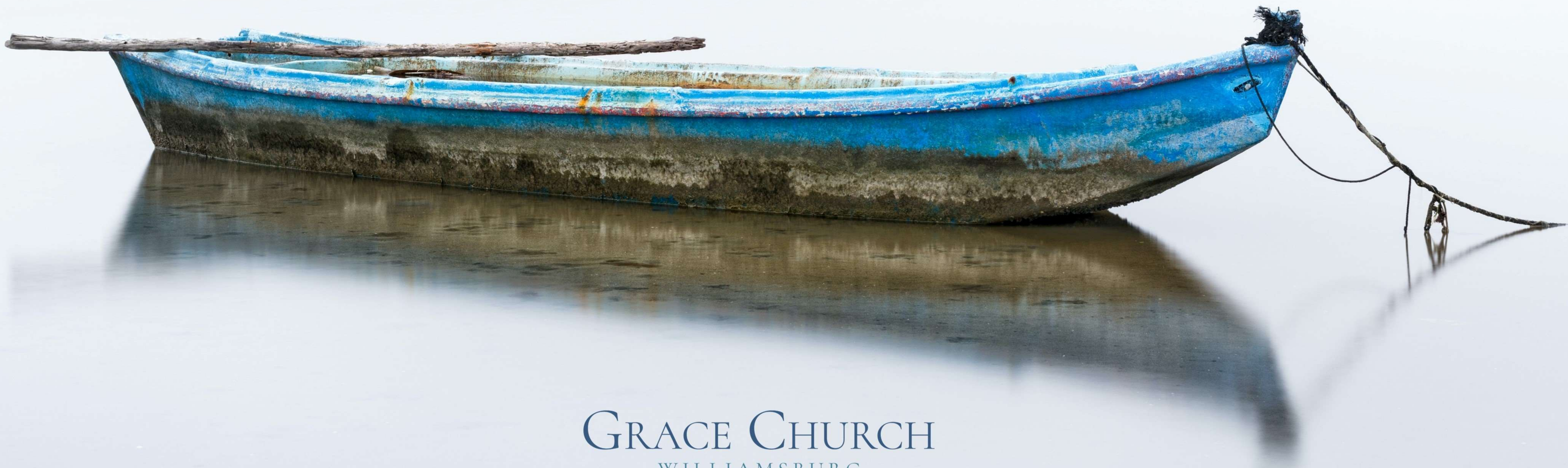
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- v 13: *Babylon* is **code** for Rome. *She* is the local church in Rome. These are greetings from those who, like Peter's believing readers, have also **been chosen** by God for salvation, and for sharing in the sufferings of Jesus as **spiritual pilgrims**.

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- v 14: Peter encourages them in a warm display of **genuine love** common in that day among family and friends, a *kiss of love*.

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