

## **Be a blessing to the world (1 Peter 3:8-17)**

Under siege

How should we respond?

The context:

- Trials and sufferings (1:6, 4:19, 5:9)
- Accusations, gossip and verbal abuse (2:12, 15; 4:4, 14)

So Peter wants to encourage the Christians to stand firm! (5:12)

How? 2:11-12

- i. Fight sin
- ii. Live good lives in this world

The second way that Peter wants to unpack for us this morning

### **The calling: We are called to bless (3:8-9a)**

Bless others in church first (v.8)

Remember what church is?

Therefore...

A dress rehearsal

Be a blessing to the world (v.9)

Following in the way of Jesus

But why?

### **The basis: Because the Lord's blessing is on us (v.9b-12)**

Psalm 34

### **The encouragement: Don't fear even when you suffer (v.13-15a)**

"Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good?"

What does it mean to be blessed?

Isaiah 8:12-13

### **The benefit: The opportunity to speak of the ultimate blessing (v.15b-17)**

As you go be a blessing...

Help people make sense of it all

Always be prepared