

Intro

~ Johann Gutenberg used a moveable type printing press to mass produce the bible in Latin in 1455. The letters were made of lead and tin and were placed on a plate or a mold and were pressed into the medium used as the bible. The Chinese used wood in the 1000's for printing. Gutenberg's bible was printed on paper and calfskin. Of the remaining 48 copies 12 are printed on calfskin. The paper was imported from Northern Italy. Gutenberg printed 200 bibles in 1455

~ The letters made an impression on the paper

~ Peter tells us in 1 Peter 1:21 Christ suffered for us leaving an example. The word example means an underwriting. Vincent's says, "meaning a copy set by writing-masters for their pupils. Some explain it as a copy of characters over which the student is to trace the lines." It's a copy to write after. It refers to a writing or drawing that someone placed under another sheet of paper so he or she could trace on the upper sheet.

~ The context of 1 Peter is suffering (mentioned 12 times in 1 Peter)

~ Suffer = 6 times (2:20, 3:14,17; 4:15,16,19); Suffering = 1 time (2:19); Suffered = 5 times (2:21,23;3:18; 4:1; 5:10)

~ Peter speaks of Christ's sufferings in this book

~ Each chapter bleeds Christ and his suffering

- 1:11 The OT prophets spoke beforehand of the sufferings of Christ and glory that should follow
- 1:19 We're redeemed with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish or spot
 - Christ's suffering is necessary because nothing else but the blood of Christ could redeem us
- 2:4,7 He's the living stone which the builders disallowed
- 3:18 Christ has once suffered the just for the unjust in order to bring us to God. He was put to death in the flesh but quickened in the spirit
- 4:1 Christ suffered for us in the flesh
- 4:13 In our suffering we're partakers of Christ's suffering and glory that should follow
- 5:1 Peter said he was an witness of the sufferings of Christ

~ The context of the verses 13-20 give us the context for Peter describing Jesus's sufferings. Peter tells us how he wants us to act in our suffering.

- V17 – honor all, love your brethren, fear God and honor the king
- V18 – Servants are to be subject to their bosses. Even those who are harsh
- V19 – It's honorable and commendable when we can honor those and suffer wrongfully
- V20 – There's no glory in suffering for our own faults but when we suffer for doing well, and take it patiently it's acceptable to God

~ Considering our suffering for doing the right things then sets us Peter to tell us the most acceptable example of suffering there ever was...Christ and his model of suffering

Outline

1 Christ is our example of suffering (v21)

2 Christ as our example of suffering is he didn't sin. Not even with his mouth (v22)

3 Christ as our example of suffering trusted himself to the Father (v23)

4 Christ as our example of suffering made us righteous so we can live righteously (v24)

5 Christ as our example of suffering is that of a shepherd who seeks his lost sheep (v25)

Text

V21 Christ is our example of suffering

~ We're called to suffering

~ So that we know how to suffer we have an example to follow

~ Example – a copy to write after. The word example literally means "writing under." It was writing put under a piece of paper on which to trace letters, thus a pattern.

~ We follow in the steps of Christ's suffering

~ When we're wronged, judged, attacked, misunderstood we don't have to get ugly because we have an example of how to suffer

~ Peter tells us to accompany Christ in his tracks

~ Edmond Hiebert, ""These verses [21-25] contain the fullest elaboration of the example of Jesus Christ for believers in the New Testament."

V22 Christ as our example of suffering is he didn't sin. Not even with his mouth

~ Peter quotes from Isaiah 53:9, *"Isaiah 53:9 And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth."*

~ I speak so many words I shouldn't

~ James tells us the tongue is a small member yet he likens it to the helm which controls great ships

~ James 3:1-11

~ Christ didn't sin with his mouth on the cross. Instead he spoke words of encouragement, forgiveness, & shepherding

V23 Christ as our example of suffering trusted himself to the Father

~ When reviled he didn't revile back (abuse or vilify)

~ When he suffered he threatened not. When we suffer at the hands of others one of the first things to cross our mind is get even or threaten vengeance

~ Instead....he committed himself to the father who is the righteous judge

~ As the righteous judge God is able to mete out revenge.

~ Because we're not perfect we're not qualified to judge anything

~ The NLT says Christ trusted his case to the Father

~ When it comes to our suffering we can commit ourselves to God and his care

~ God doesn't miss a beat

V24 Christ as our example of suffering made us righteous so we can live righteously

~ The purpose of his suffering was to bear our sins on his own body on the tree

~ The word bare means bringing sacrifice to the altar.

~ Acts 5:30; 10:39 and 13:29 reference Christ being crucified on a tree

~ Deut 21:22,23 and Gal 3:13 tell us cursed is anyone who hangs on a tree

~ Christ was cursed for our benefit

~ We're always interested in the benefits of a car, a job – Christ was cursed for our benefit and that benefit is we're made righteous in Christ

~ We were dead in sins but now we are made righteous

~ 2 Cor 5:21 *For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.*

~ Christ suffered not only as the Christian's pattern (1 Pet 2:21-23), but far more importantly as the Christian's substitute.

V25 Christ as our example of suffering is that of a shepherd who seeks his lost sheep

~ Peter again had Isaiah 53:6 in mind, *"Isaiah 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all."*

~ We were going astray but not now we've returned as believers in Christ's substitutionary atonement

~ Christ is the shepherd of the sheep (Jn 10:3)

~ Christ as the shepherd

- Good shepherd (Jn 10:11,14)
- Great shepherd (Heb 13:20)
- Shepherd and bishop (1 Pet 2:25)
- Chief shepherd (1 Pet 5:4)

~ Christ is not only our example of suffering, our substitute but now he's our shepherd

Conclusion

~ "He suffered, but not on account of any evil he had either done or said. In deed and word he was immaculate, and yet he was exposed to suffering; expect the same, and when it comes bear it in the same spirit." (Clarke)

~ It's our desire as God's children to live for him and glorify him in all we do and come up short in the many situations of life.

~ Realizing our own shortcomings should promote great thankfulness for Christ for having come, having suffered perfectly, bore our sins and is now our shepherd

~ Jon Courson, "To be frank, folks, I look at a verse like this and read that when He was being wrongly, cruelly, terribly treated, Jesus didn't answer back. I am to follow His steps. Yet I know I can't do this because I want to fight back; I want to let my opinion be known; I want to make sure I'm heard. Here's the good news: Jesus not only is our example; He is our enabler. He is not only the Lamb He is the Shepherd of our souls."