

COURAGEOUS series

Week 10 outline

1 Peter 5:12-14

Choosing the Way of the Strong, Firm, and Steadfast

I. The Family of Believers

- A. "A faithful brother" ...Silvanus (Silas)
 - 1. a cross-cultural missionary
 - 2. a leader in the early church in Jerusalem
- B. "She who is at Babylon, who is likewise chosen"
 - 1. Babylon: a symbolic reference to Rome
 - 2. She: the church, the extended body
- C. "My son" ...Mark (John Mark)
 - 1. A missionary with Paul
 - 2. Mark was Peter's interpreter, accurately recording Peter's eye-witness account of Jesus' life

THE WAY OF THE STEADFAST
IS THE WAY WITH ONE-ANOTHER

II. Exhorting and Declaring the True Grace of God

- A. Exhortation (encouragement)
 - to the scattered people of God
 - pointing them through the trials and suffering to the sure hope of Christ
- B. Declaring (witnessing, testifying)
 - to what he has seen, heard, and knows
 - Peter's encouragement is grounded in his witness and his "with-ness"
- C. "That this is the true grace of God"
 - The message of the Gospel is a message of God's grace
- D. "Stand firm in it" -i.e.: Stand firm in this message of the true grace of God
 - not by works, through morality
 - not by intellect, through higher thinking
 - but by grace through faith

The Word of God Teaches us How We:

- 1. **Live** with Hope in a Troubled World
 - Jesus brings a living hope for here, now, and forever;
 - its earthly purpose shaped by an eternal perspective.
- 2. **Test** Authenticity in a Counterfeit World
 - The Gospel allows us to view our circumstances through the lenses of what God has done, is doing, and will do in our lives.
- 3. **Lead** with a Sober Mind and Pure Heart
 - God doesn't want us to be conformed, or even just informed...

He wants us to be transformed into the image of his Son Jesus

4. Build Up with Living Stones

A courageous life with a new identity in him: chosen, royal, holy, God's special possession.

5. Love the Church, Fear God, Honor the King

Who we are + whose we are = how we relate to others

6. See the Difference between Evil and Suffering

Rather than tokens we earn through our own good behavior, God's blessing is an overflow of the inheritance we receive as sons and daughters through Christ.

7. Walk with a Clear Mind and Self-Control

Gospel transformation is a profound, blood-bought, spirit-wrought, change from the inside out.

8. Believe through Suffering

Suffering grows our faith, which pleases God, grows our joy, which draws others to God, and grows our obedience, which glorifies God

9. Find Humility and Freedom from Anxiety

His Gospel humbles us. His Grace frees us, His Dominion equips us.

THE WAY OF THE STEADFAST
IS THE WAY IN THE WORD

III. The Gospel is Good News of the True Grace of God (1 Peter 1:3)

Through Jesus We Are:

A. Ransomed (1 Peter 1:17-21)

1. God loves us and created us on purpose, with purpose, for purpose
2. Sin Separates us from God, who is just

B. Redeemed (1 Peter 2:21-24)

1. Jesus paid our sins penalty for us, on the cross
2. That we might turn from sin (repentance), and turn to God (righteousness)
- "die to sin and live to righteousness" -vs 24
3. By his wounds we have been healed

C. Reconciled (1 Peter 3:18)

1. Returning us back into right standing with God, in relationship with him through Christ

D. Restored (1 Peter 5:10)

1. Corrects our perspective:
Imparting his lasting hope, and peace to all who are in Christ
2. Resurrecting our purpose:
Equipping them to live here and now for his kingdom and glory

THE WAY OF THE STEADFAST
IS THE WAY OF THE CROSS