

STUDY OF I PETER 3:13-4:6
“SALVATION IN THE MIDST OF SUFFERING”

I. INTRODUCTION.

- a. **The Message of I Peter**—“the need for patience in the midst of trials—salvation through or in the midst of suffering”.
- b. **Simplified Outline of I Peter:** “Five Great Things”.
- i. **THE GREAT SALVATION.** (1:10-12)
 - ii. **THE GREAT EXAMPLE.** (2:21-22)
 - iii. **THE GREAT RESPONSIBILITY.** (3:15)
 - iv. **THE GREAT NAME.** (4:16)
 - v. **THE GREAT ENEMY.** (5:8-9)
- c. **I Peter—a Book that is Alive.**
- i. Living Hope—of Salvation. (1:3 and 3:15)
 - ii. Living Word—that Endures Forever. (1:23)
 - iii. Living Stone—Christ our Saviour. (2:4)
 - iv. Living Stones—Christians. (2:5)
- d. **Summary of I Peter 1:1through 3:12.**
- i. 1:23—“born again” of the living word”.
 - ii. 2:1-3—desire spiritual growth.
 - iii. 2:9—a “people of God’s own possession”.
 - iv. 2:10-3:9—as the “people of God”—seek to follow the example set by Jesus and live soberly and righteously in various relationships of life.
 - v. 3:10-12—instructions for living a “good life and seeing good days”.

II. “SALVATION IN THE MIDST OF SUFFERING”. (I PETER 3:13-4:6)

- a. **SUFFERING FOR “RIGHTEOUSNESS SAKE”. (3:13-17)**
- i. Follow “that which is good”. (13)
 - ii. No “fear” but be “happy” when suffer? (14)
 - iii. An appeal. (15-17)
 - 1. “Set apart Jesus as Lord”.
 - 2. Be ready always.
 - 3. Have meek and reverential attitude.
- b. **VICTORY OVER SUFFERING AS SEEN IN CHRIST. (3:18-22)**
- i. “One time suffering” of Christ and victory over “sin and the grave”—(18)
 - ii. Much controversy and discussion on the subject of verses 19-20—
 - 1. One view—
 - 2. A second view—

- iii. Saved by “means of water”. (20-21)
 - 1. Noah’s time—eight souls saved “through water” (since it bore up the ark).
 - 2. “Now”—in time of Peter (and forward)—“the like figure whereunto (literally means the anti-type now saves us, baptism) baptism now saves us”.
 - a. Baptism—not cleansing of the outward flesh but to cleanse us within and give the answer of a “good conscience” toward God.
 - b. Salvation—our eternal home is made possible and guaranteed by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- iv. The culmination of Jesus’ suffering. (22)
 - 1. Has gone into heaven.
 - 2. At right hand of God.
 - 3. An exalted position.

c. CHRIST’S EXAMPLE OF SUFFERING LEADS US TO HOLY LIVING. (4:1-6)

- i. The divine example. (1)
- ii. God’s will in our lives. (2)
 - 1. Live holy.
 - 2. Contrasts “lusts of men” and the “will of God”.
- iii. Reminder of past “sin-seeking” life. (3)
 - 1. “lasciviousness”—sensuality.
 - 2. “lusts”—unbridled fleshly desires.
 - 3. “excess of wine”—drunkenness.
 - 4. “revellings”—carousals.
 - 5. “banquetings—drinking parties.
 - 6. “abominable heresies”—unlawful, ungodly.
- iv. Reminds of our accountability to God. (4-6)

III. CONCLUSION.