Sermon Title: "Jesus the Sufferer, Proclaimer, Savior, and Conqueror"

Scripture: 1 Peter 3:18-22

Pastor for Preaching & Worship, Chris Fritz / Sunday, July 3, 2022

INTRODUCTION

Note: This passage describes and highlights the VICTORIOUS EXALTATION of Jesus and the ENDURING COMFORT of every believer, and it does so within the framework of <u>suffering</u>.

"...this is the true grace of God. STAND FIRM IN IT." (1 Peter 5:12b)

I. JESUS: SUFFERER, PROCLAIMER, SAVIOR, CONQUEROR

"For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit..." (1 Peter 3:18)

THE RIGHTEOUS SUFFERER: Jesus' death was singular, substitutionary, satisfactory, and successful in <u>reconciling</u> sinful people to a good, holy, and gracious God!

Hebrews 7:27; 9:26b; 10:14; Luke 5:31b-32; Matthew 27:46b; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 2:9 -

"...in which He went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water." (1 Peter 3:19-20)

THE VICTORIOUS PROCLAIMER: Jesus' victory over sin, Satan, and death HAS BEEN and WILL FOREVER BE <u>proclaimed!</u> It is a certain, undeniable, and glorious reality!

2 Peter 2:5 -

Note: Peter indicates that Jesus wanted all the hosts of darkness (every demonic spirit - even those currently confined in prison) to know of His decisive and comprehensive victory at the cross.

2 Peter 2:4; Jude 6; Luke 8:31; Colossians 2:15 -

Note: The victory of Jesus is NOT a secret! Jesus Himself proclaimed it and so should we!

"Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ..." (1 Peter 3:21)

THE RISEN SAVIOR: Baptism pictures our immersion into Christ (into His death and resurrection) and, because of our immersion into Christ, we now stand clean, forgiven, and beloved (the fruit of which is a clean conscience). ALL OF THIS is made possible <u>through</u> the resurrection of Jesus!

Note: JUST AS God was faithful and gracious to Noah and his family, he will be so to you!

"...who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to Him." (1 Peter 3:22)

THE OVERWHELMING CONQUEROR: Jesus IS the reigning King.

Romans 8:18 -

Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application...

- 1. What are some of the "tricky" or "unclear" parts of 1st Peter 3:18-22?
- 2. What is clear, direct, and obvious from these verses?
- 3. In what ways do these verses exalt Christ and remind us of His victory?
- 4. In what ways do these verses give us comfort and strength to persevere in following Jesus?