

Cornerstone Church

January 29, 2017

Sermon Series: Practicing Our Readiness Drills for Christ's Return - Seeking God's Guidance from 1st and 2nd Peter

Today's Sermon: Keeping Our Conduct Honorable,
Lessons From Jesus on Suffering Graciously

Today's Passage: 1 Peter 2:21-25

For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls. (ESV)

Introduction:

Main Point: Christians often are hurt by injustices done to them and are tempted to be angry, get bitter, plot revenge, and retaliate in kind, but Jesus has shown us by His own example that we can endure patiently and expect God to exact His justice in due time.

Review

1 Peter 2:18-20

Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust. For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. (ESV)

1. Our souls (persons) have been summoned (called) to a life of harsh and unjust treatment by the world. **For to this**

you have been called to endure sorrows while suffering unjustly.

A. When God comes calling, there is no resisting. **Romans 8:30 And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified. (ESV)**

B. That calling is an enormous gift and blessing (see Romans 8:30 above).

2. But, Jesus' death guarantees that we will be able to endure unjust treatment patiently. He does that in the following ways:

- A. He suffered "for us". **because Christ also suffered for you,**
- B. He showed us how to do it. **leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps**

- That example was this: **He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting** (himself is not in the original) **to him who judges justly. Matthew 27:42-44 "He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him. For he said, 'I am the Son of God.'" And the robbers who were crucified with him also reviled him in the same way. (ESV)**
- This was prophesied in Isaiah. **Isaiah 53:7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth. (ESV)**
- It wasn't just his immediate circumstance and his future that Jesus trusted that the Father would take care of, but the whole situation (the word "himself" is not in the original).

3. His death not only empowered us, it motivates us to live graciously in unjust situations. **He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.**

Application

- How do we put sin to death in our lives? By pondering all that was done for us at the cross and realizing in the deepest parts of our hearts that what we have in Christ is so much better than whatever sin promises us.