

Strengthen Thy Brethern

Lesson 4 – Be Strong Until His Appearing

Key Verses

1 Peter 1:3-7 ³ Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,

⁵ Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

⁶ **Wherein** ye **greatly rejoice**, though **now for a season**, **if need be**, ye are **in heaviness through manifold (divers) temptations**: ⁷ That the **trial of your faith**, being much **more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire**, might be **found unto praise and honour and glory** at the **appearing of Jesus Christ**:

The phrase “appearing of Jesus Christ” is talking about his second coming. Remember, this was prophesied by the 2 angles at the ascension of Jesus.

Acts 1:1-11 ¹ The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, ² **Until the day in which he was taken up**, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen: ³ To whom also **he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs**, being **seen of them forty days**, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God: ⁴ And, being assembled together with *them*, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but **wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me**. ⁵ **For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence**. ⁶ When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? ⁷ And he said unto them, **It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power**. ⁸ **But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth**. ⁹ And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and **a cloud received him out of their sight**.

¹⁰ And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, **two men stood by them in white apparel**; ¹¹ **Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven**.

The second of Jesus is going to have 2 phases. The first is the rapture of the church. The second is his coming in judgment as stated in Rev 19, on his white horse in the battle of Armageddon. Then will reign on the earth 1,000 in the millennial reign of Christ.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 ¹³ But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. ¹⁴ For **if we believe that Jesus died and rose again,** even so them also which **sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.** ¹⁵ For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that **we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.** ¹⁶ For the **Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout,** with **the voice of the archangel,** and **with the trump of God:** and the **dead in Christ shall rise first:** ¹⁷ Then **we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.** ¹⁸ Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

John 14:1-6 ¹ Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. ² In my Father's house are many mansions: if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. ³ And **if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.** ⁴ And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. ⁵ Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? ⁶ Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

1 Corinthians 15:51-58 ⁵¹ Behold, I shew you a mystery; **We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,** ⁵² **In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump:** for the **trumpet shall sound,** and **the dead shall be raised incorruptible,** and **we shall be changed.** ⁵³ For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality. ⁵⁴ So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. ⁵⁵ O death, where *is* thy sting? O grave, where *is* thy victory? ⁵⁶ The sting of death *is* sin; and the strength of sin *is* the law. ⁵⁷ But thanks *be* to God, which **giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.** ⁵⁸ Therefore, my beloved brethren, **be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord,** forasmuch as ye know that **your labour is not in vain in the Lord.**

Assurance of Our Salvation

We need to remember that Jesus death is universally offered to all, however, it is only applied to those that accept Him as their Savior through repentance and faith.

Acts 20:17-21 ¹⁷ And from Miletus he (Paul) sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the church. ¹⁸ And when they were come to him, he said unto them, **Ye know, from the first day that I came into Asia, after what manner I have been with you at all seasons,** ¹⁹ **Serving the Lord** with all humility of mind, and **with many tears, and temptations,** which **befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews:** ²⁰ And how **I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you,** but have shewed you, and have taught you publickly, and from house to house, ²¹ **Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.**

Ephesians 2:8-9 ⁸ For by **grace are ye saved through faith;** and that **not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:** ⁹ **Not of works,** lest any man should boast.

John 3:5-7 ⁵ Jesus answered, **Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.** ⁶ That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

1 Peter 1:5 **Who are kept by the power of God through faith** unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time

Although we are saved for all eternity, the assuredly of our salvation, does not give us a license to sin. For if we sin, we will still endure the consequences of that sin. Although we are still saved, we will not reap the rewards but suffer loss at the Bema seat judgment.

Romans 6:1-2 ¹ What shall we say then? **Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?** ² God forbid. **How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?**

Ephesians 4:1-3 ¹ I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, **beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation** wherewith ye are called, ² With all lowliness and **meekness,** with **longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;** ³ **Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit** in the bond of peace.

If the child of God falls into sin, it grieves the Holy Spirit which lives inside him.

Ephesians 4:30-32 ³⁰ And **grieve not the holy Spirit of God**, whereby **ye are sealed unto the day of redemption**. ³¹ Let **all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking**, be **put away from you**, with **all malice**: ³² And **be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you**.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 ¹⁹ What? **know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own**? ²⁰ For **ye are bought with a price**: therefore **glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's**.

We can have full confidence in our salvation since we are “In Christ” who was pictured in the Ark.

Genesis 6:13-14 ¹³ And God said unto Noah, The **end of all flesh is come before me**; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth. ¹⁴ **Make thee an ark of gopher wood**; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch.

Genesis 7:1 ¹ And the LORD said unto Noah, **Come thou and all thy house into the ark**; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation.

Genesis 7:15-16 ¹⁵ And they **went in unto Noah into the ark**, two and two of all flesh, wherein is the breath of life. ¹⁶ And they that went in, went in male and female of all flesh, as God had commanded him: and the **LORD shut him in**.

Genesis 7:22-23 ²² **All in whose nostrils was the breath of life, of all that was in the dry land, died**. ²³ And every living substance was destroyed which was upon the face of the ground, both man, and cattle, and the creeping things, and the fowl of the heaven; and they were destroyed from the earth: and **Noah only remained alive, and they that were with him in the ark**.

Matthew 7:13-14 ¹³ Enter ye **in at the strait gate**: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:

¹⁴ Because **strait is the gate**, and **narrow is the way**, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

Hebrews 11:7 ⁷ By **faith Noah**, being warned of God **of things not seen as yet**, moved with fear, **prepared an ark to the saving of his house**; by the which he condemned the world, and **became heir of the righteousness which is by faith**.

Our salvation journey – 1) I have been saved from the penalty of sin, 2) I am being saved from the power of sin, and 3) I shall be saved from the very presence of sin. In our salvation I am justified, sanctified and glorified with our Lord

Romans 8:29-30 ²⁹ For whom **he did foreknow**, he also did **predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son**, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. ³⁰ Moreover whom **he did predestinate**, them he also **called**: and whom he called, them he also **justified**: and whom he justified, them he also **glorified**.

1 Corinthians 6:9-11 ⁹ **Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God?** Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, ¹⁰ Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. ¹¹ And such were some of you: **but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.**

John 10:27-33 ²⁷ **My sheep** hear my voice, and I know them, and **they follow me**: ²⁸ And **I give unto them eternal life**; and **they shall never perish**, neither **shall any man pluck them out of my hand**. ²⁹ My Father, which gave *them* me, is greater than all; and **no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand**. ³⁰ **I and my Father are one**. ³¹ Then the Jews took up stones again to stone him. ³² Jesus answered them, Many good works have I shewed you from my Father; for which of those works do ye stone me? ³³ The Jews answered him, saying, **For a good work we stone thee not; but for blasphemy; and because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God.**

The Trial of our Faith

1 Peter 1:6-7 ⁶ Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: ⁷ That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

If you are a Christian, your faith is going to be tried. Our trials are 1)for a season, 2) if need be, 3) manifold temptations.

Romans 8:28 ²⁸ And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose.

1 Corinthians 3:10-15 ¹⁰ According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, **I have laid the foundation**, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. ¹¹ For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. ¹² Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; ¹³ Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day (Bema Seat Judgment) shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. ¹⁴ If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. ¹⁵ If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

1 Corinthians 10:1-13 ¹ Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; ² And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; ³ And did all eat the same spiritual meat; ⁴ And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ. ⁵ But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness. ⁶ Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted. ⁷ Neither be ye idolaters, as *were* some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play. ⁸ Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand. ⁹ Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents. ¹⁰ Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer. ¹¹ Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come. ¹² Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall. ¹³ There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

The Appearing of Our Savior

Jude 1:24-25 ²⁴ Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, ²⁵ To the only wise God our Saviour, *be* glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

Revelation 22:12-14 ¹² And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. ¹³ I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. ¹⁴ Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

Matthew 25:14-30 ¹⁴ For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, *who* called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods. ¹⁵ And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey.

¹⁶ Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents. ¹⁷ And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two. ¹⁸ But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money. ¹⁹ After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them. ²⁰ And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more. ²¹ His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord. ²² He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them. ²³ His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord. ²⁴ Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed: ²⁵ And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, *there* thou hast *that is* thine. ²⁶ His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed: ²⁷ Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and *then* at my coming I should have received mine own with usury. ²⁸ Take therefore the talent from him, and give *it* unto him which hath ten talents. ²⁹ For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath. ³⁰ And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

2 Timothy 4:1-8 ¹ I charge *thee* therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; ² **Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.** ³ For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; ⁴ And they shall turn away *their* ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. ⁵ **But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.** ⁶ For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. ⁷ I have fought a good fight, I have finished *my* course, I have kept the faith: ⁸ **Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.**

2 Peter 3:1-10 ¹ This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in *both* which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance: ² That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour: ³ Knowing this first, **that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,** ⁴ And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as *they were* from the beginning of the creation. ⁵ For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: ⁶ Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: ⁷ But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. ⁸ But, **beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.** ⁹ **The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.** ¹⁰ But **the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night;** in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.