



A Settled Heart in Unsettling Times

1 Peter 5:10



The Setting of 1 Peter

- Believers were experiencing great **Persecution**
Opposition
Trouble & Suffering
- Leaders & fellow believers were being killed & imprisoned.
- **How would you feel if some of our best members & myself were tortured, imprisoned and/or killed b/c of Christ?**



In the message, “Cast Your Cares upon Jesus”, we made a connection between these ideas...

Humility

Casting your cares

Being sober

Being vigilant

Resist

1 Peter 5:5-9

5 Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

1 Peter 5:5-9

**6 Therefore humble yourselves
under the mighty hand of God,
that He may exalt you in due time,
7 casting all your care upon Him,
for He cares for you.**

1 Peter 5:5-9

8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

9 Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

1 Peter 5:10-11

10 But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you.

11 To Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.



The God of All Grace

- *Peter reminds us of God.*
- Grace = graciousness, favor, empowerment, speaks of blessings of all kinds
- **Turn your eyes to Jesus!**
 - The God who is able to give you what you need, when you need it!
- Humble yourself before Him!



Peter reminds us of
Eternal Glory

- All this stuff here, esp the chaotic, is **temporary**.
- The Best is yet to come!

2 Corinthians 4:17-18*

Romans 8:18*



“after you have suffered a while”

- There will be seasons of suffering.
- There will be pain and loss in this life. Don't be blind-sided by it.
- How you handle your disappointments, sufferings and losses will determine how you move forward in your relationship with God.
 - **Some checkout, Some backslide**
 - **Some grow closer to Jesus.**

You Choose!



Keep in Mind

- Peter refers to the spiritual nature of the conflict (vs 8-9).
- Spiritual battles must be won by spiritual means.
 - We wrestle not against flesh & blood (Eph 6)...
 - The Armor of God



God's Commitment to You

- 1) Perfect
- 2) Establish
- 3) Strengthen
- 4) Settle

God is going to do some work on us while we are going through some stuff.



1) *Perfect*

- Perfect = to fit together, equip, shape, mature (implies a a restoring back to right order)
 - Begins at Salvation & continues for life.

Word Used in Other Places

Matt 4:21 – used to describe mending of nets

Gal 6:1 – speaks of restoring a wayward believer

Heb 11:3 – how God framed, created the universe

1 Cor 1:10 – how the Body of Christ is fit together



1) *Perfect*

- ✓ First & foremost, we need to be fit together with Christ.
- ✓ Second, we need to fit together with the Body of Christ, the Church (Godly relationships).
- ✓ Third, God equips us for our destiny & purpose.



2) *Establish*

= to make steadfast, make unshakable

- Begins with a proper foundation: Christ
Matthew 7:24-27
- Building our foundation, patience & perseverance.
- Shaking all the bad out until that which is “unshakable” remains.



3) *Strengthen*

= to impart power to resist & overcome

- God is determined to make us stronger in our inner man.
- Stronger than our surroundings & adversary.
- Going to make us overcomers.

2 Corinthians 12:7-10



4) *Settle*

= make you grounded, make you secure

- Your enemy wants to keep you unsettled & unstable.
- Unstable & unsettled trees cannot bear fruit.
 - Be rooted & grounded in Christ!
 - When peace, faith & hope combine.
- In Christ, you can be settled, even in unsettling times.



Jesus' Promise

Jesus, John 14:27

"Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.



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