

1 Peter 5:1-14 **Closing Instructions**

Elders

¹ The elders who are among you I exhort, I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that will be revealed: ² Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; ³ nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock; ⁴ and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.

Younger People, Submit to Elders – Everyone, Submit to one another – Humble yourselves to God

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."

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.

Resist the Devil in Steadfast Faith

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.

Prayer for Strength

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.

Farewell and Peace

¹² By Silvanus, our faithful brother as I consider him, I have written to you briefly, exhorting and testifying that this is the true grace of God in which you stand.

¹³ She who is in Babylon, elect together with you, greets you; and so does Mark my son. ¹⁴ Greet one another with a kiss of love.

Peace to you all who are in Christ Jesus. Amen.
NKJV

Facts Revealed:

Elders [\[1 Peter 5:1-4\]](#)

✚ This command is directed to the Elders of the Church of which Peter identifies himself as one of them, with the additional authority as one who was an eyewitness of the sufferings of Christ and His resurrection.

✧ This is one of the qualifications of an Apostle according to Peter, when they were searching for a replacement for Judas Iscariot who hanged himself after betraying Jesus.
[\[Acts 1:15-21\]](#)

- ✧ With that testimony Peter is assured of his right to be a partaker of the glory that will be revealed at the return of Jesus to the earth to set up His Kingdom. [Revelation 11:18, 1 Peter 1:7, 4:13, Matthew 25:31-40]
- ✧ The responsibility of the Elder is to **shepherd the flock of God**, the Church. [1 Peter 5:2]
 - ✧ To do so one must serve as a willing overseer.
 - ✧ He must serve eagerly, to build up the body by edification through godly teaching aimed at maturity in Christ. [1 Peter 5:2, Ephesians 4:11-16]
 - ✧ He must not be selfishly seeking for dishonest gain.
 - ✧ He must not have the desire to rule over those entrusted to him. [1 Peter 5:3, Matthew 20:25-28, 23:11, 24:45-47, Mark 9:35, 10:42-45, Luke 22:25-27, Galatians 5:13, 2 Timothy 2:24]
 - ✧ He must serve as an example to the flock. [1 Peter 5:3, 1 Timothy 3:1-7, Titus 1:5-9]
 - ✧ When Jesus, The Chief Shepherd, appears, those who have served well will receive the **crown of glory** that does not fade away. [1 Peter 5:4]

Younger People, Submit to Elders – Everyone, Submit to one another – Humble yourselves to God [1 Peter 5:5-7]

- ✧ Young people are commanded to be submissive toward the Elders. [1 Peter 5:5]
- ✧ Everyone is commanded to be humbly submissive toward one another. [1 Peter 5:5, Ephesians 5:17-21]
 - ✧ The reason for this command is:
 - "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble." [James 4:6, 1 Peter 5:5, Psalm 12:3, 101:5, 138:6, Proverbs 3:34, 16:5, Habakkuk 2:4, Malachi 4:1-2, Luke 1:51-52]
 - ✧ Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you. [1 Peter 5:6-7]
 - ✧ We can rest with confidence in the Love of God shown in Christ for us, knowing He cares for us. [John 3:16, Romans 8:35-39, Ephesians 3:14-19, Jude 1:21]

Resist the Devil in Steadfast Faith [1 Peter 5:8-9]

- ✧ We need to be sober (serious) and vigilant as we watch for the return of the Lord.
 - ✧ We may not play around lightly with our responsibility toward God.
 - ✧ There are many dangers we will face as Christians through our life time, dangers of being deceived with false doctrine brought by Satan to call us to make choices between good and evil.
 - ✧ The devil has only one purpose, and that is to deceive the people of God by enticing us to disobey commandments God has given us for righteousness.
 - ✧ If Satan can entice us by false expectations or through trials that test our commitment, he will destroy our faithfulness toward God and assure our destiny in the Lake of Fire.
 - ✧ We are therefore called to be on guard against the wiles of the devil and resist him.
 - ✧ We resist the devil the same way Jesus resisted him when tempted by Satan. That way is in steadfast faith, saying **no** to temptation by standing on the Word of God.
 - ✧ We know we are not alone, because many brethren have suffered the same temptations, tests, tribulations and persecutions and have been victorious over Satan as they endured the same sufferings for the sake of Christ Jesus our Lord. [Hebrews 11:1-40]

Prayer for Strength [1 Peter 5:10-11]

- ✧ 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.
- ✧ To Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.
 - ✧ Our ability to stand firm in faith comes from God through Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit. [1 Peter 5:10, Philippians 4:13, Colossians 1:9-12]
 - ✧ All praise goes to God.

Farewell and Peace [1 Peter 5:12-14]

- ✚ Silvanus was the scribe who wrote the letter dictated by Peter.
- ✧ Peter referred to Silvanus as a faithful brother.
- ✧ Peter's purpose in the letter was to exhort the Saints in the faith by testifying that this is the true grace of God in which you stand.
- ✧ Greetings are sent from the Saints in Babylon, whom Peter identifies as equal in election with the Saints scattered around the world. [[1 Peter 1:1](#)]
- ✧ Greetings are also sent by Mark whom Peter calls my son.
- ✧ Greet one another with a kiss of love. This is speaking of a godly love, not sensual.
- ✧ Peace to you all who are in Christ Jesus. Amen. [[1 Peter 5:14](#)]
- ✧ The common greeting for a Jew is "Shalom" (God's Peace).