

7 - CONDUCT AND THE NEW BIRTH (1 PETER 3:8-12)

I. The Command (1 Peter 3:8a)

A. The Direction of the Command

- Peter directs this command to every believer.

B. Peter's Command

- Peter commands all believers to live in harmony with each other.

II. The Command Expanded (1 Peter 3:8b-12)

Scripture Psalm 34:12-16 (ESV)

¹² What man is there who desires life and loves many days, that he may see good? ¹³ Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit. ¹⁴ Turn away from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it. ¹⁵ The eyes of the Lord are toward the righteous and his ears toward their cry. ¹⁶ The face of the Lord is against those who do evil, to cut off the memory of them from the earth.

A. Compassionate (1 Peter 3:8b)

- We are to live in harmony by having sympathetic compassion toward each other.
- It means a willingness and responsiveness to share in one another's burdens.

B. Loving (1 Peter 3:8c)

- We are to express love toward each other as brothers.

C. Tenderhearted (1 Peter 3:8d)

- We are to be conscious of each other's needs.
- It also means having a drive to meet those needs.

D. Courteous/Humility (1 Peter 3:8e)

- It means having an honest estimate of self before God and each other.

E. Non-Retaliatory (1 Peter 3:9-12)

1. The Exhortation (1 Peter 3:9)

a. The Unnatural Response (1 Peter 3:9a)

- We are called to lay aside the natural urge to retaliate.

Facing The Coming Storm: 1 & 2 Peter, Jude

- Instead, we are called to bless those who hurt us.

b. The Reason (1 Peter 3:9b)

- We have been called to this and recognize our future blessing.

2. The Explanation (1 Peter 3:10-12)

a. The General Focus (1 Peter 3:10a)

- This is directed to God's people as they enjoy this earthly life.

b. The Proper Conduct (1 Peter 3:10b-12)

(1) Concerning Our Tongue (1 Peter 3:10b)

- We are to control our speech and stop lying.

(2) Concerning Our Actions (1 Peter 3:11)

- We are to pursue good and peace rather than evil.

(3) The Guiding Principle (1 Peter 3:12)

- The Lord is aware of everything that happens in believers' lives.
- The Lord is against those who do evil.