

# 1 Peter 5:4 - 14

New American Standard Bible (NASB1995)

1 <sup>4</sup> And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive  
2 the unfading crown of glory. <sup>5</sup> You younger men, likewise,  
3 be subject to *your* elders; and all of you, clothe yourselves  
4 with humility toward one another, for God is opposed to the  
5 proud, but gives grace to the humble.

6 <sup>6</sup> Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of  
7 God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, <sup>7</sup> casting all  
8 your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you. <sup>8</sup> Be of  
9 sober *spirit*, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil,  
10 prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to  
11 devour. <sup>9</sup> But resist him, firm in *your* faith, knowing that the  
12 same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by  
13 your brethren who are in the world. <sup>10</sup> After you have  
14 suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called  
15 you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect,  
16 confirm, strengthen *and* establish you. <sup>11</sup> To Him *be*  
17 dominion forever and ever. Amen.

18 <sup>12</sup> Through Silvanus, our faithful brother (for so I regard  
19 *him*), I have written to you briefly, exhorting and testifying  
20 that this is the true grace of God. Stand firm in it! <sup>13</sup> She  
21 who is in Babylon, chosen together with you, sends you  
22 greetings, and *so does* my son, Mark. <sup>14</sup> Greet one another  
23 with a kiss of love.

24 Peace be to you all who are in Christ.

**Read the passage through completely before looking at these questions.**

## **Observation (What does it say?):**

Consider the observation questions on the back of this page. What do you notice in this passage?

- Circle commands Peter gives.
- Underline any reasons he gives.
- What else do you observe in this passage?

## **Interpretation (What does it mean?):**

After observing the passage:

- How do Peter's reasons help understand his commands?
- How would you summarize the general commands he gives as he reaches the end of his letter?
- What would it look like for God to "exalt" you? What might be the "proper time"?
- How does "exalt" in v. 6 relate to "perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you" in v. 10? What do each of those mean?
- Does Peter's closing (vv. 12-14) help you understand his letter?
- What questions come to mind as you read?

## **Application (What does it mean for me?):**

- What anxiety do you have right now? How do you "cast" that on God?
- How would resisting the devil be part of casting anxiety?
- Verse 10 sounds like an incentive. How do we make that incentive a practical reality to help us persevere through difficulties?
- How might this passage affect your understanding of who God is and what He is doing?

For more suggested methods of study: <http://www.goodnotsafe.com/methodical-bible-study/>

For examples of inductive studies: <http://www.goodnotsafe.com/inductive-bible-study-examples-2/>

## Inductive Bible Study

(A few general ideas)

### **Observation** (What does it say?)

What facts do you **observe** about the passage that help bring out the writer's thought process?

- Who are the people involved?
- What action takes place?
- What type of literature is it (poetry, history, didactic, etc.)?
- What details are included or left out?
- Are any unusual words used?
- Is there symbolic language?
- What is the grammar of the passage (pronouns, prepositions, verb tenses)?
- Are words or ideas repeated?
- Any comparisons or contrasts?
- Any cause and effect?
- Are there indications of purpose ("in order that...")?
- Are there conclusions ("Therefore...")?
- Are there explanations?
- Does the passage logically break into sections?
- How would you summarize the passage?
- What would be a good "headline" for the passage?

### **Interpretation** (What does it mean?)

What questions come to mind about the facts that would help you **interpret** the meaning?

- How would the original readers have understood the passage?
- What is the main emphasis?
- Why does the writer use repetition, or contrast, or unusual words?
- What does the grammar or structure of the passage reveal about the writer's thought pattern?
- Is there a logical sequence in the passage?
- How are different ideas in the passage connected?
- Are there any new ideas or concepts presented?
- Are there difficulties in the passage?

### **Application** (What does it mean for me?)

What is the impact on your life? What **application** does the Holy Spirit want to show you?

- Is there a command to obey?
- Is there a promise to be thankful for?
- Is there an attribute of God to worship?
- Is there an example to follow?

**Read nothing into the Scriptures, but draw everything from them, and suffer nothing to remain hidden that is really in them.**  
**J.A. Bengel (1687-1752)**

For a much more detailed description of the methodology, see

Robert A. Traina, *Methodical Bible Study*. Wilmore, Kentucky: Asbury Theological Seminary, 1952.

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