



STANDING FIRM AND GROWING STRONG

I & II Peter

Three essential lessons I must learn and embrace as I seek to stand firm and grow strong in a hostile world:

I. The stabilizing and motivating impact of the believer's hope

- Hope is born through the resurrection — I Peter 1:3-5
- Hope looks forward to future glory — I Peter 1:6-9, 13
- Hope displays itself in holiness and fear — I Peter 1:14-21
- Hope is to be confessed before a hostile world — I Peter 3:15
- Hope should be expressed in expectant joy and faithful service — I Peter 4:7-11; 5:4, 10
- Hope is grounded in God's promises — II Peter 1:3-4
- Hope is strengthened by the Prophetic Word — II Peter 1:16-19
- Hope will be tested by false teachers — II Peter 2:1-22
- Hope must be fixed on the Lord's return — II Peter 3:3-1
- Hope grows through grace and knowledge — II Peter 3:18

II. The constant necessity of the Word of God

- The Word gives life and growth — I Peter 1:23-2:3
- The Word anchors us against deception — II Peter 1:16-21; 2:1-3
- The Word guides us until Christ returns — II Peter 1:19
- The Word demands obedience and transformation — I Peter 1:14-16, 22

III. The call to continually pursue growing in godliness

The commands of I & II Peter:

- I Peter 1
 - 1:13 – *Prepare your minds for action* (lit. “gird up the loins of your mind”).



- 1:13 – *Keep sober in spirit.*
- 1:13 – *Fix your hope completely* on the grace to be brought at Christ's revelation.
- 1:14 – *Do not be conformed* to the former lusts.
- 1:15 – *Be holy* in all your behavior.
- 1:17 – *Conduct yourselves in fear* during your time of stay on earth.
- 1:22 – *Fervently love one another* from the heart.
- 1 Peter 2
 - 2:1 – *Put aside* all malice, deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander.
 - 2:2 – *Long for the pure milk of the word.*
 - 2:11 – *Abstain from fleshly lusts* which wage war against the soul.
 - 2:12 – *Keep your behavior excellent* among the Gentiles.
 - 2:13 – *Submit yourselves* for the Lord's sake to every human institution.
 - 2:17 – *Honor all people.*
 - 2:17 – *Love the brotherhood.*
 - 2:17 – *Fear God.*
 - 2:17 – *Honor the king.*
 - 2:18 – *Be submissive to your masters* with all respect.
 - 2:21 – *Follow in His steps* (Christ's example in suffering).
- 1 Peter 3
 - 3:1 – *Wives, be submissive to your husbands.*
 - 3:7 – *Husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way.*
 - 3:8 – *Be harmonious, sympathetic, brotherly, kindhearted, and humble in spirit.*
 - 3:9 – *Do not return evil for evil or insult for insult, but give a blessing instead.*
 - 3:10–11 (quotation of Ps. 34) – *Keep your tongue from evil, seek peace and pursue it.*
 - 3:14 – *Do not fear their intimidation, and do not be troubled.*
 - 3:15 – *Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts.*
 - 3:15 – *Always be ready to make a defense* for the hope within you.
 - 3:16 – *Keep a good conscience.*
- 1 Peter 4
 - 4:1 – *Arm yourselves* with the same purpose (as Christ in suffering).
 - 4:2 – *Live the rest of the time* for the will of God, not for the lusts of men.
 - 4:7 – *Be of sound judgment and sober spirit* for the purpose of prayer.
 - 4:8 – *Keep fervent in your love for one another.*
 - 4:9 – *Be hospitable to one another without complaint.*



- 4:10 – *Employ your gift in serving one another as good stewards of God's grace.*
- 4:11 – *Whoever speaks, speak as the oracles of God; whoever serves, do so by the strength God supplies.*
- I Peter 5
 - 5:1 – *Shepherd the flock of God among you.*
 - 5:2 – *Exercise oversight willingly and eagerly.*
 - 5:5 – *You younger men, be subject to your elders.*
 - 5:5 – *Clothe yourselves with humility toward one another.*
 - 5:6 – *Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God.*
 - 5:7 – *Cast all your anxiety on Him.*
 - 5:8 – *Be of sober spirit, be on the alert.*
 - 5:9 – *Resist [the devil], firm in your faith.*
 - 5:12 – *Stand firm in the true grace of God.*
- II Peter 1
 - 1:5 – *Apply all diligence in your faith.*
 - 1:5–7 – *Supply moral excellence, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, love.*
 - 1:10 – *Be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you.*
 - 1:19 – *Pay attention to the prophetic word as a lamp shining in a dark place.*
- II Peter 2
 - *(No direct imperatives — mostly warnings and descriptions of false teachers.)*
- II Peter 3
 - 3:1–2 – *Remember the words spoken by the prophets and apostles.*
 - 3:8 – *Do not let this one fact escape your notice (about the Lord's patience).*
 - 3:11 – *Be holy and godly in conduct, looking for the coming Day of God.*
 - 3:14 – *Be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless.*
 - 3:17 – *Be on your guard so that you are not carried away by error.*
 - 3:18 – *Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*