

## **1 Peter 2:21-25 (part 1) Living as God's People: Motivation: Christ's Suffering**

- Last week we covered vs. 18-24 Peter's charge to Christians who were suffering
- Many suffered with unjust slave owners, Peter set before them some motivations
- Now we come to the heart of Peter's motivation to Christians to endure suffering

### **I. His Saving Example: In His Steps (2:21-23)**

- All Christians are called to suffer with Christ before they are glorified with Him
- Peter doesn't ask us to view suffering as inevitable in the world under the curse
- It is our 'calling' because we are God's people. It is our calling because it was Christ's calling. He calls His disciples to follow after Him.
- Our example in suffering is One who was totally innocent & free from sin (22)
- He suffered for the sake of God's purpose, & the salvation of others
- Following Him, we suffer for His sake, & winning others to His saving Gospel
- The atoning sacrifice of Christ lies at the heart of all that Peter has to say
- What kind of an example is Christ? The example of Christ is a saving example
- Christ's suffering: our model because it's our salvation, root of all our motivation
- 'living in righteousness' follows in Christ's steps: we died to sin in His atonement
- Being redeemed by precious blood of Christ, we take up our cross to follow Him.
- Peter adds to 'follow Christ's example, follow in His 'foot steps'' (21)
- Peter calls Christians to follow Christ: meek obedience to His Father's calling.
- Meekness of Christ: shown in His confidence in His Father's righteous judgment
- He did not revile/threaten: He entrusted Himself to Him who judges justly
- The example of Christ's meekness is drawn from the mystery of His sacrifice

### **II. His Atoning Sacrifice (2:24)**

- Jesus is far more than our example He is our sin bearer
- Picture of the sinner transferring his sins onto an animal that was then sacrificed.
- Sprinkling of sacrificed blood marked atonement: penalty of sin had been paid.
- Only Jesus could bear our sins on the tree, God's lamb without spot.
- It is the death of Christ shedding His blood that accomplishes our redemption
- "by His wounds you have been healed" he had endured the lashes for our sin
- Christ's wounds heal suffering at its root: the curse of sin
- Not only do they plead sinners' case in judgment; transform his present suffering