

I PETER 4:7-11

Verse 6 is a difficult verse to interpret, and there are a variety of interpretations. The one that seems practical and in keeping with the rest of Scripture is by Samuel Wakefield: *"For this indeed was the effect of the preaching of the Gospel to the dead, (the unconverted Gentiles,) that some will be punished as carnal men; but others, (those converted to Christianity,) lead a spiritual life unto God."*

- I. A look to the _____ for the believer Vs 7
 - A. The future for the believer should carry an _____ perspective Vs 7a
 - 1. **The end of all things is at hand**
 - a. *End-termination*
 - b. *All things-everything as we know of life and civilization*
 - 2. An obvious reference to the end of time
 - B. Much is said in the NT about the end of time
 - 1. *Mat 24:14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.*
 - 2. *Rom 13:12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.*
 - 3. *1Cor 15:24 Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power.*
 - 4. *Phil 4:5 Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.*
 - 5. *Jam 5:8-9 Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh. Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door.*
 - 6. *2 Pet 3:10-11 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. 11 Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,*
- II. The _____ attitude and behavior for the believer, since **the end of all things is at hand** Vs 7b-10
 - A. **Be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer** Vs 7b
 - 1. **Sober**
 - a. To be of _____ mind; not intoxicated with oneself; think of oneself scripturally; to curb one's uncontrolled, and usually ungodly passions
 - b. *1 Pet 1:13 Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.*
 - c. *1 Pet 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:*
 - d. *1 Thess 5:6-8 Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober. 7 For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night. 8 But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.*
 - e. *Tit 2:12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;*
 - 2. **Watch unto prayer**
 - a. **Watch**-carries the idea of _____ to what is going on around us
 - b. **Unto prayer**-What we see going on around us should provoke us to much prayer for God's _____, intervention and ultimately our deliverance from defeat by the _____.
 - B. **Above all things have fervent charity among yourselves** Vs 8a (_____ Godly love)
 - 1. **Above all things**-_____ everything else

2. **Have fervent charity**-exercise _____ godlike love (agape)
3. **Among yourselves**-toward each _____ as brothers and sisters in the Lord
- C. **For charity shall cover the multitude of sins Vs 8b** (Love _____ a lot of blemishes and faults)
 1. **For**-the reason being....
 2. **Charity shall cover the multitude of sins**
 - a. **Charity**-love (same as used in previous part of Vs 8)
 - b. **Shall cover**-shall place a _____ or covering over
 - c. **The multitude of sins**-a great number of imperfections and _____, especially when others "fall short of the expectations we have set for other people"
 3. Having a _____ understanding of who we are will help us behave in a Christ-like manner, and will help us in overlooking the _____ in other believers

all)

- D. **Use hospitality one to another without grudging Vs 9** (Love produces _____ to
 1. **Use hospitality**-practice _____ toward other people, especially toward those we do not _____ personally
 2. **One to another**-a practice that is a _____ behavior between believers
 3. **Without grudging**-_____ from an attitude of dissatisfaction and disgruntledness with having to be hospitable toward other people, especially other _____
- E. **As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. Vs 10**
 1. **As every man hath received the gift**-as each believer is a recipient of hospitality, so they should return the " _____ " of hospitality to another believer
 2. **As good stewards of the manifold grace of God**-_____ the Grace of toward others like we have received from God himself

God

III.

The proper _____ of the believer, since **the end of all things is at hand Vs 11**

oracles

11a

- A. The _____ of achieving the goal- **If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth Vs 11a**
 1. By our _____ - **If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God**
 - a. Are you called to be a speaker? Then speak as though God himself were speaking _____ you.
 - b. Biblical understanding so as to have biblical _____ and delivery
 2. By our _____ - **if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth**
 - a. Are you called to _____ others? Do it with all the strength and energy that God supplies.
 - b. Biblical understanding so as to _____ in a biblical fashion and under the control of the Holy Spirit
- B. _____-part goal- **that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom**

God

be

praise and dominion for ever and ever Vs 11b

1. The Father glorified in everything through Jesus Christ
 - a. **Glorified**-Placed in the place of _____ honor and recognition; exalted _____ everything and everyone else
 - b. I Cor 10:31
 - c. **Through Jesus Christ**-the One through whom this is all made _____

2. Jesus Christ being praised for what he has accomplished
- a. **Praise**-exaltation and _____
 - b. **Dominion**-power and _____
 - c. **For ever and ever**-_____ exaltation, worship, power and strength
 - d. **Amen**-let it _____ this way