

I Peter 5:12-14

EMC Wednesday Night Bible Study - 8-29-18

Final Greetings (v. 12)

V. 12a - "through Silvanus (Silas) I have written to you"

- "With the help of" (NIV, NLT), "by" (ESV, KJV)
- Used to describe the _____ of a letter
 - Acts 15:23 - γραφαντες δια χειρος αυτων - lit. "having written through the hands of them"
 - V. 22 - because they were faithful "leaders among the brothers"
- "our faithful brother (for so I regard him)" - Silas is worthy to be _____
 - Closely associated with _____ (greetings of I and II Thess; II Cor. 1:19)
 - A _____ (Acts 15:32)

V. 12b = Beautiful _____ of the whole of the letter and its theology

- Writing to exhort and encourage the scattered people of God
 - Week 1: Instructive, applicational, _____
 - Week 3: Peter is writing a letter of _____
- "testifying" - his encouragement is grounded in his _____
- Because Peter's witness is true, his encouragement is _____
 - Not "cling to impersonal moral code or philosophical abstractions"
 - Cing to the grace of the Triune God!

Salutation and Benediction (vv. 13-14)

V. 13 - "Babylon"

- Symbolically referring to _____
 - Babylon = city of captivity (587 BC)
 - 1:1 - writing to the new "diaspora" - the people of God scattered throughout the world
- Broader use: symbol of the arrogant pomp and power of the world
 - Isaiah (ch. 47) - anticipating the eventual fall of the whole world system which stands in opposition to God
 - Revelation (Rev. 14:8; 16:19; 17:5; 18:2, 10) - embodiment of evil and opposition to God
 - A "_____ " of worldly and idolatrous powers under Satanic control
 - An "_____ " of the heavenly Jerusalem
 - The object of God's judgement and wrath at the coming of Christ

V. 13 - "she...chosen together with you, sends you greetings"

- The _____ - those called by God, elect in Christ, sprinkled with his blood (1:1-2)

V. 13 - also "my son, Mark"

- As Luke was the writer for Paul, so Mark was for Peter
- As Timothy was a "son" to Paul, so Mark was to Peter

V. 14a - "Greet one another with a kiss of love"

- The gathering of the church = the setting for this command
- Not in contrast to Paul's "holy kiss" (I Thess. 5:26-27; Rom. 16:16; I Cor. 16:20; II Cor. 13:12)
- Emphasizes the bond of _____ that unites brothers and sisters in Christ (1:22; 4:8)
 - An outward expression of the tender affection that unites them as family.

V. 14b - "Peace be to you all who are in Christ."

- Ends as he began (1:2)
- Had received from Jesus who authorized him to pronounce it (John 20:19-23, 26)
 - Expands upon *shalom* (greeting, wholeness, things as they should be)
 - Not absence of conflict, suffering, or pain, but presence of God amidst it (Num. 6:26)
 - Pronounced by Jesus in the shadow of the cross (John 14:27), referring to the Spirit
 - Absence of conflict _____
- 1:2 = summarizes the whole message of the letter
 - God's peace is available to them in abundance because of Christ
 - They can face whatever comes with him by their side and in their hearts.
 - Neither the roar of the lion nor the flames of persecution can overthrow the peace of Christ's salvation
- Peter's apostolic blessing reaches across the centuries and around the globe to all who now share suffering in Christ, and will in a short time share in his heavenly glory.

