

***Living for Christ
in a Hostile World***

Studies in 1 Peter

Our Life Together

1 Peter 4.7-9

1. The Context in which we live, v7

the end of everything is fast approaching

➤ *The return of Christ is a certainty*

he's coming back again! Acts 1.11; Mat 24.27

➤ *The return of Christ will be sudden*

no one knows the time Mat 24.36-44

that's why we must always be ready for him

1.5-7,13; 2.12; 4.12-13; 5.4

➤ *The return of Christ will be conclusive*

the end of everything as we know it

for the new world order to dawn

2 Peter 3.7-14

➤ *The return of Christ calls for us to be*

clear headed, fully alert v7; Mk 5.15

2. The Conditions for Effective Praying, v7

- ❑ ***Right relationships with others 3.8***
- ❑ ***Right reactions towards others 3.9***
- ❑ ***Right words for others 3.10***
- ❑ ***Right priorities towards others 3.11***
- ***Think straight***
 - a clear understanding of and commitment to***
 - God's will and purposes James 1.5-8***
 - not an artificial frenzy 1 Kings 18.26-29***
 - 1 Cor 14.14-15***
- ***Live straight***
 - self- controlled, not self-indulgent vs 2-4***
 - Mental clarity and personal self-discipline***

3. The Cover up we should all practise, v8

- ***Love is the crowning Christian virtue***
“above all” 1 Cor 13.1-3; Col 3.12-14
- ***True love will always stretch us***
“deeply” = sustained, strenuous effort 1.22
1 Cor 13.5
- ***True love will cover over others’ sins***
no record of wrongs Mat 18.21-22; 1 Cor 13.5
no malice Prov 10.12; Zech 7.10; 1 Cor 13.6
no gossip Prov 11.13; 17.9; 1 Cor 13.7
Gen 9.20-23
no fault-finding Mat 7.1-5
aim: always restoration Gal 6.1; Col 3.16;
James 5.19-20

4. The Company we should Entertain, v9

- ***Hospitality, especially for new Christians v4***
Rom 12.13; 16.23; 1 Tim 5.10; 3 John 8
- ***For whom? Luke 14.12-14***
expand your circle Heb 13.2
not tit-for tat
- ***How? Joyfully, not grudgingly***