

BLESSED HOPE



BIBLE CHURCH

**Learning of Christ, Loving in Christ, Leaning on Christ, Living for Christ, Leading to Christ
Based on the Word of God**

1 PETER

LIVING FOR THE
LORD IN BAD TIMES



LIVING FOR THE WILL OF GOD vs. THE LUST OF MEN 1PETER 4:1-6



- **THE CONTEXT:** The basic theme of 1 Peter is the proper response of a believer in Christ in times of suffering and difficulties.
- **THE PRINCIPLE:** The believer in Christ has the anticipation of an eternal inheritance that gives strength, encouragement and hope even in the most difficult times. In light of this, God wants the believer **to be holy** in all his conduct no matter what difficulties are being faced.
- **Perspective:** Our sinful world will attempt to pressure us or intimidate us into compromising the way we live for the Lord so that we will live just like them.

- **Lesson:** The example of Christ (e.g., our identification with Him) and the anticipation of heaven encourages the believer to live for the will of God.
- The apostle Peter in 1Peter 4:1-6 gives two admonitions to encourage the believer to live for the will of God rather than for the lust of men.

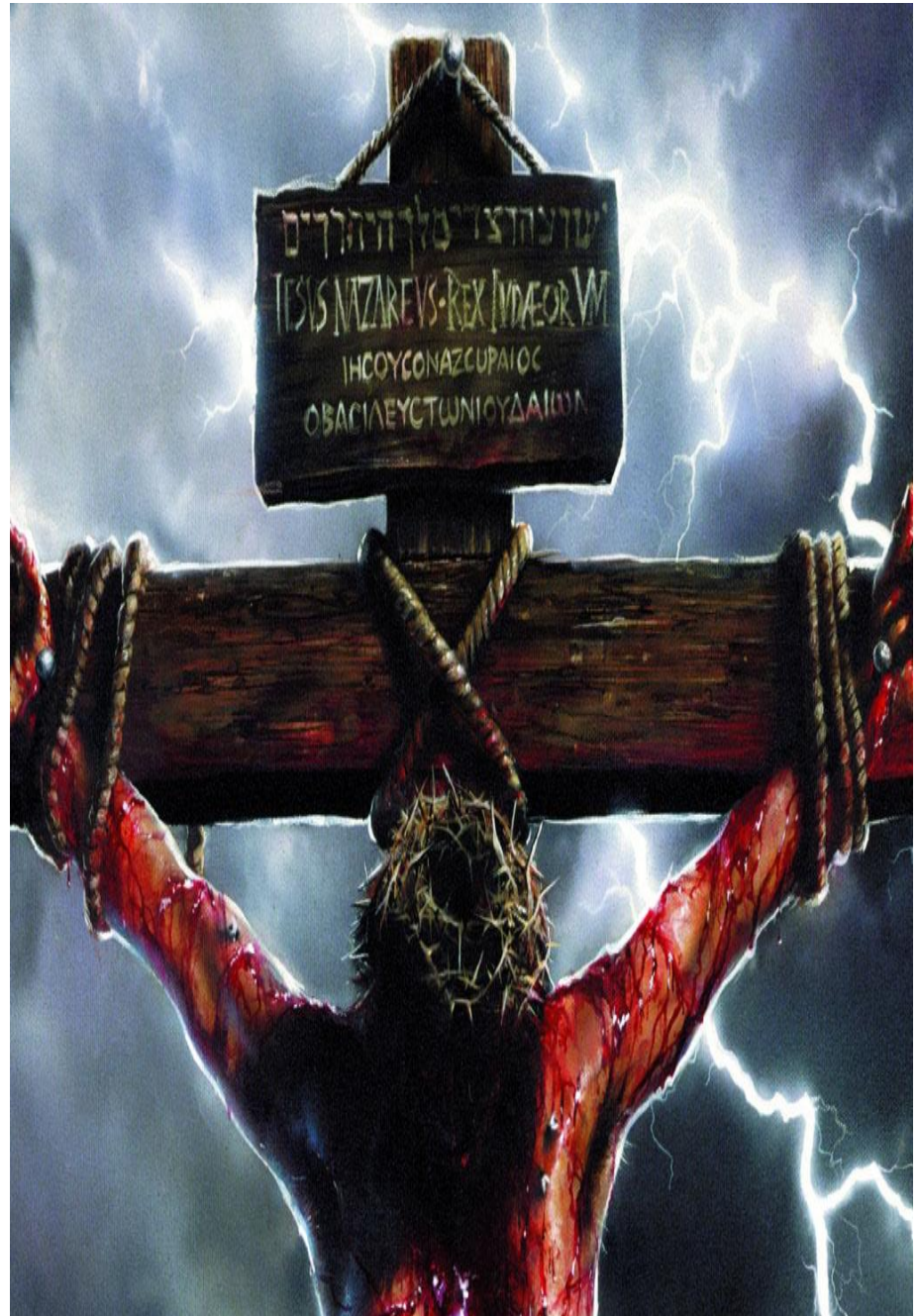


ADMONITION #1: DO NOT GET ACCUSTOMED TO SIN

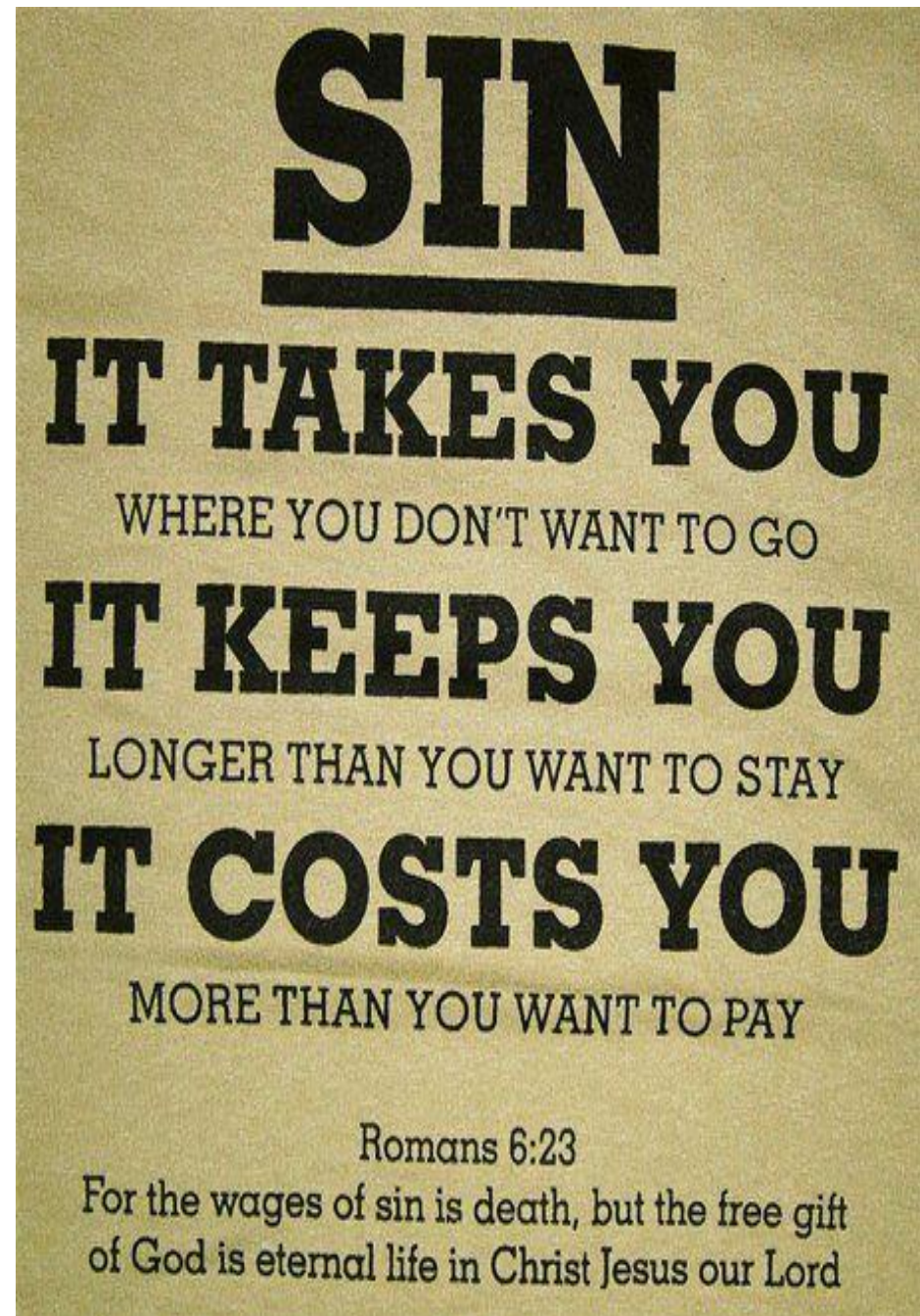
1Peter 4:1-3



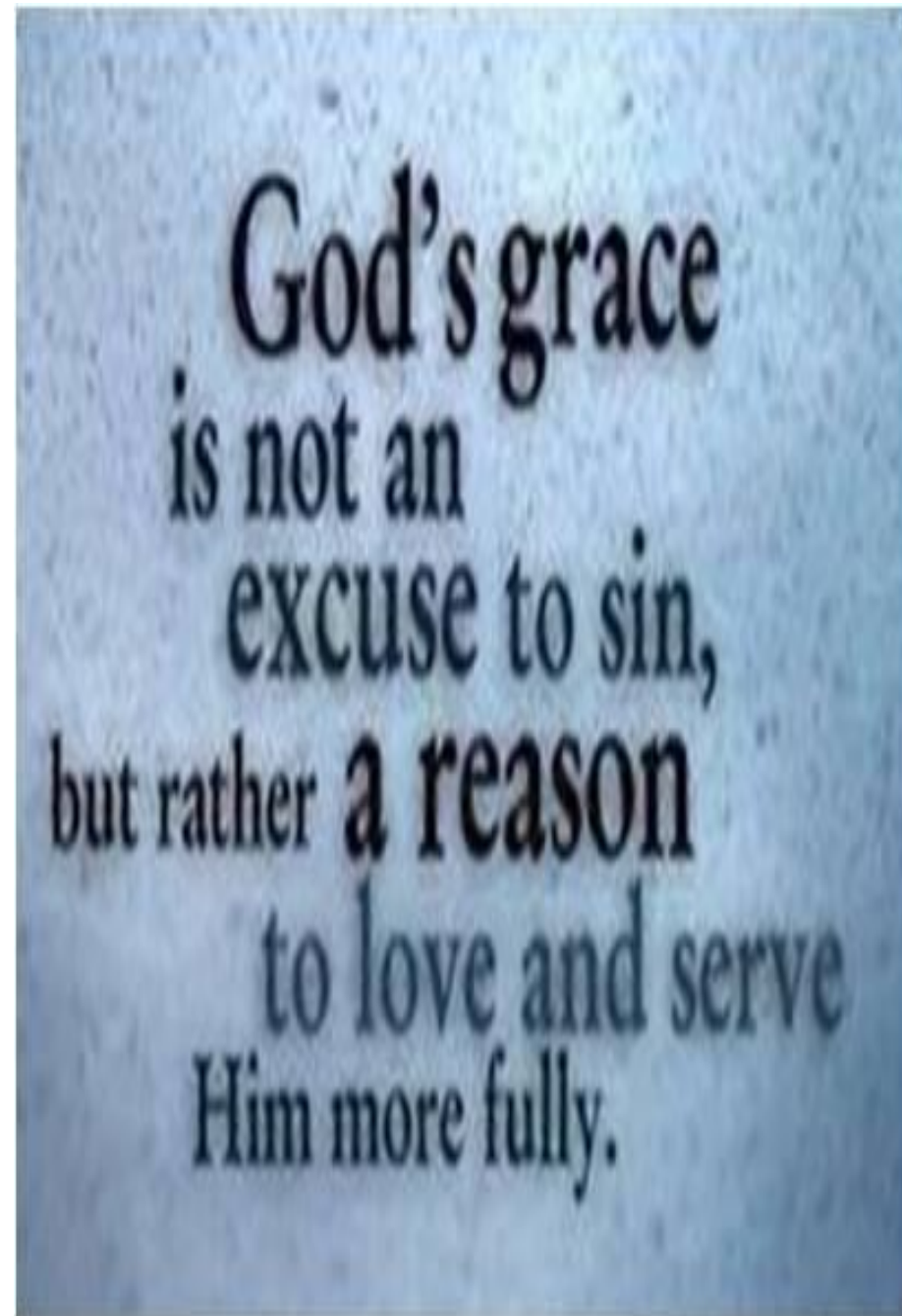
- Think about what Christ did for our sin
 - **Affirmation:** Christ suffered for us in the flesh (i.e., in a real human body)
 - **Application:** Arm yourselves with the same mind (i.e., His suffering for us is an example to us for standing for the will of God in spite of misunderstanding and abuse.



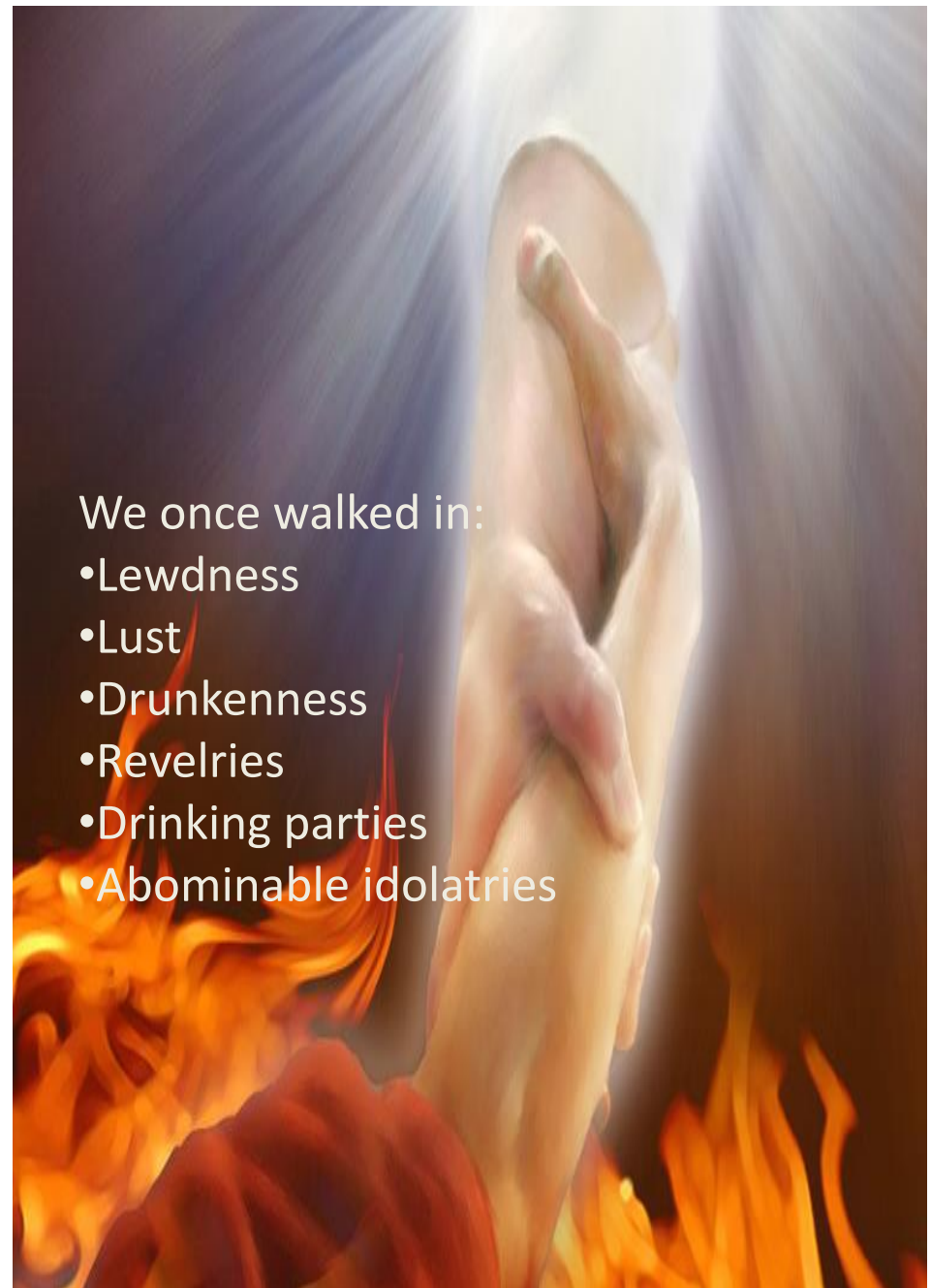
- Think about our freedom from sin in Christ.
 - **Affirmation:** He (the believer) who has suffered in the flesh has “ceased from sin” (i.e., when one suffers for righteousness sake, one has a different attitude about sin.
 - **Application:** In Christ, a believer is no longer living in sin, but is taking a stand against it (e.g., a believer may fall into a sin, but he will not love sin nor live in sin; he lives for God in Christ.



- Think about our duty to live for the will of God.
 - **Affirmation:** The one who has “ceased from sin” no longer lives the rest of his “time” in the flesh for the lusts of men but for the will of God.
 - **Application:** No one can live a life for the will of God unless they first become a child of God, indwelt by the Spirit of God.



- Think about what we were like before we met Christ.
 - **Affirmation:** Before the believer got saved, he already spent enough of his past “time” doing the will of the Gentiles (i.e., living like unsaved men).
 - **Application:** Remembering what you use to be like helps you to appreciate what you are now and leads you to act accordingly!



We once walked in:

- Lewdness
- Lust
- Drunkenness
- Revelries
- Drinking parties
- Abominable idolatries

**ADMONITION #2: DO NOT GET INTIMIDATED BY THE
ATTITUDE OF THE UNGODLY.**

1Peter 4:4-6



- The ungodly think of the life of the believer as strange.
 - **Affirmation:** The ungodly do not understand why the believer does not join them in their sinful lifestyles, thus they speak evil of the believer.
 - **Application:** When you live your life for the will of God, you will be ridiculed, talked about, and persecuted—however, do not let that intimidate you.



- The ungodly are blind to the truth of future judgment before God.
 - **Affirmation:** The ungodly will give an account to God for the way they treated the believer.
 - **Application:** When you live your life for the will of God, you will not regret it in eternity



- The ungodly misjudge and mistreat the believer.
 - **Affirmation:** The gospel was preached to believers who were even killed in the flesh by the ungodly through their misjudgment, but they live according to God in the spirit.
 - **Application:** The ungodly may speak evil of the believer, oppose him, falsely accuse him, misjudge him, and even kill him, but the final Judge is God, and He will honor and reward the believer.



A CHALLENGE FOR YOU

- Are you living in the flesh for the will of men, or in the Spirit for the will of God?



RECEIVE THE LORD JESUS CHRIST AS YOUR
SAVIOUR TODAY!!



1. **Acknowledge** that the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, died on the cross for your sin, and that He arose again from the dead on the third day.
2. **Admit** that you are a sinner, **guilty** of sin and **responsible** and **accountable** to a holy God for your sin, and that you are under His just condemnation and eternal punishment for your sin.
3. **Accept** the Lord Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour by **receiving** His provision of salvation through your faith in Him alone.