



First Peter

To God's Chosen Ones



*God's Patience;
Our Response*

1 Peter 3:18-21

1 Peter 3:17-18

For Christ also suffered for sins once for all,
the just for the unjust,
in order that He might bring us to God,
having been put to death in the flesh,
but made alive in the spirit.

1 Peter 3:19-20

In which also He went and made proclamation to the spirits now in prison, who once were disobedient, when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through the water.

1 Peter 3:21

And corresponding to that, baptism now saves you—
not the removal of dirt from the flesh,
but an appeal to God for a good conscience—
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

A Bit of Biblical Irony

2 Peter 3:15-16

...just as also our beloved brother Paul...wrote to you,
as also in all his letters...in which are some things
hard to understand...

Big Idea:

We are in days like Noah's in which God is exercising great patience; but His patience is running out, and only those who are repenting and believing will be saved.

God's Patience: Our Response

What was Peter's meaning?

Understanding Peter

A summary.

1 Peter 3:18-20

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but made alive in the spirit,
in which also He went and made proclamation
to the spirits now in prison, who once were disobedient,
when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah,
during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is,
eight persons, were brought safely through the water.

A Summary:

Because of humanity's rebellion, Christ, through the ministry of Noah, announced judgment upon the earth and called the people of that time, whose spirits are now awaiting final judgment, to repentance.

A Summary:

But the people continued to disobey as God exercised great patience during the construction of the ark. Only Noah and his family were rescued from the waters of judgment in the ark.

Understanding Peter

A summary

Key questions

Key Questions:

Who did the preaching?

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Key Questions:

Who did the preaching?

To whom did He preach?

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to the spirits now in prison, who once were disobedient,
when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah,
during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is,
eight persons, were brought safely through the water.

Two Options:

He preached to the demons who transgressed their boundaries and cohabitated with human women.

Genesis 6:1-3

Now it came about, when men began to multiply on the face of the land, and daughters were born to them, that the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves, whomever they chose.

Then the LORD said, “My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, because he also is flesh; nevertheless his days shall be one hundred and twenty years.”

God's judgment of flood waters was upon humanity not upon demons.

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but made alive in the spirit,
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to the spirits now in prison, **who** once **were disobedient,**

when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah,
during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is,
eight persons, were brought safely through the water.

Peter's use of this word *disobedient*
clearly indicates unbelief.

1 Peter 3:18-20

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but made alive in the spirit,
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to the spirits now in prison, who once were disobedient,

when the patience of God kept waiting

in the days of Noah,
during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is,
eight persons, were brought safely through the water.

God does not exercise patience
toward demons for whom there
is no hope of repentance.

Two Options:

He preached to the demons who transgressed their boundaries and cohabitated with human women.

He preached to the **people**
of Noah's time.

1 Peter 3:18-20

Christ suffered...having been put to death in the flesh
but made alive in the spirit,
in which also He went and made proclamation

to **the spirits** *now* in prison, who once were disobedient,
when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah,
during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is,
eight persons, were brought safely through the water.

Does the Bible refer
to people as “spirits”?

It does when they have died.

Hebrews 12:23

But you have come...to the general assembly
and church of the first-born who are enrolled in heaven,
and to God, the Judge of all,
and to the spirits of righteous men made perfect...

It does when they have died.

Hebrews 12:23

But you have come...to the general assembly
and church of the first-born who are enrolled in heaven,
and to God, the Judge of all,

and **to the spirits of righteous men** made perfect...

These are the righteous dead whose
spirits are now in the presence of God.

1 Peter 3:18-20

Christ suffered...having been put to death in the flesh
but made alive in the spirit,
in which also He went and made proclamation

to the spirits now **in prison**, who once were disobedient,
when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah,
during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is,
eight persons, were brought safely through the water.

Key Questions:

Who did the preaching?

To whom did He preach?

When did He preach to them?

Options:

He preached either during the three days after His death or at some point after His resurrection.

1 Peter 1:19

NIV

After being made alive,
he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits

NLT

So he went and preached to the spirits in prison

There are **no** second chances:

Hebrews 9:27

And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once
and after this judgment.

Options:

He preached either during the three days after His death or at some point after His resurrection.

He preached at the time
of Noah **through Noah.**

1 Peter 1:19

NASB

...in which also He went and made proclamation
to the spirits **now** in prison

He went and made proclamation **then** to
the spirits who are **now** in prison.

Through Noah

2 Peter 2:4-5

For if God...did not spare the ancient world,
but preserved Noah, a preacher of righteousness,
with seven others, when He brought a flood
upon the world of the ungodly.

Key Questions:

Who did the preaching?

To whom did He preach?

When did He preach to them?

What was His message?

1 Peter 3:18-20

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in which also **He** went and **made proclamation**

to the spirits now in prison, who once were disobedient,
when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah,
during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is,
eight persons, were brought safely through the water.

The proclamation was a message of...
Judgment

Hebrews 11:7

By faith Noah, being warned by God about things not yet seen, in reverence prepared an ark for the salvation of his household, by which he condemned the world, and became an heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

The proclamation was a message of...

Judgment

Repentance

1 Peter 3:21

And corresponding to that, baptism now saves you—
not the removal of dirt from the flesh,
but an appeal to God for a good conscience—
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Mark 1:14-15

Jesus came into Galilee,
preaching the gospel of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled,
and the kingdom of God is at hand; **repent...**”

The proclamation was a message of...

Judgment

Repentance

Faith

Hebrews 11:7

By faith Noah, being warned by God about things not yet seen, in reverence prepared an ark for the salvation of his household, by which he condemned the world, and became an heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

Mark 1:14-15

Jesus came into Galilee,
preaching the gospel of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled,
and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and **believe...**”

God's Patience: Our Response

What was Peter's meaning?

How does it apply to you?

So what?

God's judgment is pending now.

Romans 2:5

But because of your stubbornness and unrepentant heart you are storing up wrath for yourself in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God...

So what?

God's judgment is pending now.

God is exercising great patience now.

2 Peter 3:9

The Lord is not slow about His promise,
as some count slowness, **but is patient** toward you,
not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.

So what?

God's judgment is pending now.

God is exercising great patience now.

His patience is running out.

Luke 17:26-27

And **just as** it happened in the days of Noah,
so it shall be also in the days of the Son of Man:
they were eating, they were drinking,
they were marrying, they were being given in marriage,
until the day that Noah entered the ark,
and the flood came and destroyed them all.

These are our days!

Concluding Questions:

How are you responding to the
patience of God?

Are you repenting?

Are you believing?