

The Good Life

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1 Peter 3:1-12

We all want the “good life!” Yet, where we often seek this life ends in defeat and despair. Consider these examples from the Bible. Solomon pursued vast wealth and luxury as seen in **2 Chronicles 9:1-8, esp. vss. 3-4**. But toward the end of his life, Solomon wrote this, “*So I hated life, for the work which had been done under the sun was grievous to me; because everything is futility and striving after wind.*” So, what is the “good life?” It is a life lived as salt and light (**Matthew 5:13-14**)

I. The Context of the Good Life.

- A. Live Blamelessly
 - 1. **Philippians 2:14–15**, *Do all things without grumbling or disputing, 15 that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world.*
 - 2. **1 Peter 1:14–15**, *As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, 15 but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct,*
- B. Live blameless in the civil obedience (**1 Peter 2:13–17**)
- C. Live blameless at work (**1 Peter 2:18**)
- D. Live blameless at home (**1 Peter 3:1-7**)
- E. Live blameless at church (**1 Peter 3:8-9**)

II. The Home of the Good Life (1 Peter 3:1-7)

- A. The wife (**1 Peter 3:1-6**) {Important: 1st century context of the wife coming to Christ and not being seen as defiant towards the husband. But, instead living out an evangelistic sermon in life & action}
 - 1. A believing wife is instructed to stay with her unbelieving husband (**1 Cor 7:13**)
 - 2. A believing wife is instructed to be salt and light
 - a) Through submission (**Eph 5:22-30; 5:21; 1 Peter 5:5; Phil 2:3-4; Rom 12:10; Gal 5:13**)
 - (1) This submission is the same submission needed in the world (**2:13**) & workplace (**2:18**).
 - (2) Submission does not imply any moral, intellectual, or spiritual inferiority in the family, workplace, or church. It is God’s design for His glory.
 - (3) Submission of a wife is to “*her own husband*” not to men in every context.
 - b) Through faithfulness
 - (1) The conduct of their life (1b-2)
 - c) Through modesty (3:3-6)
 - (1) Peter is speaking to what “gets noticed”
 - (a) Not your hair, jewelry, and clothing. (This is not a prohibition; **Song of Solomon 1:10; 4:11; 7:1**)
 - (b) Instead, it is “*the hidden person of the heart*” (4)
 - (2) Peter speaks of examples
 - (a) Sara (**Ruth 3:11; Proverbs 31:10-31**)
 - (b) Fear (**Psalms 27:1; Prov 1:33; 29:25**)
- B. The husband (**1 Peter 3:7**)
 - 1. Consideration (**7a**)
 - 2. Chivalry (**7b**)
 - 3. Companionship (**7c**)

III. The Summation of the Good Life (3:8-12)

- A. The Right Attitude (**1 Peter 3:8**, *Finally, all of you, have unity of mind [harmony], sympathy [share the same feelings], brotherly love [affections for one another], a tender heart [impacted deeply by others pain], and a humble mind [humility, most essential virtue in life].*)
- B. The Right Response (**3:9**) – Do not retaliate (**Matthew 5:38-45**)
- C. The Right Standard (3:10-11) – The Scripture has said (**Psalms 34:12-15**)
- D. The Right Motivation (3:12) – living lives pleasing to God should be the believer’s supreme motivation as God sees all, knows all, is over all, and judges all.