1 Peter – 1:10-1:16 June 10, 2025

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Lutheran Study Bible

# 1 Peter 1:14-16 – How you are going to live

* + How are you to keep your eyes on Jesus?
* As obedient children…
	+ Ephesians 5:6
	+ He who hears the Gospel and God’s Word, and believes in it, is an obedient child of God. Therefore tread underfoot and care nothing about what is not God’s Word.[[1]](#footnote-1)
* … don’t go back to what you once were!
	+ Titus 3:3-5
	+ Acts 17:30
		- An erroneous belief of the ascension:
			* “Jesus is gone, and we are on our own to save ourselves!”
			* Instead, the Holy Spirit is calling you, by the Gospel, to live a life in faith and works.
	+ As obedient children, how are you to live?
* A holy life!
	+ Holy = set apart.
	+ Leviticus 11:44
		- The little word “holy” designates that which is God’s own and is due to Him alone.[[2]](#footnote-2)
	+ Therefore see to it that you do not let yourselves be led again into the worldly lusts. But let God alone reign, live, and work in you. Then you are holy, just as He is holy[[3]](#footnote-3)
		- Matthew 5:48
		- 1 Thessalonians 4:7
		- Hebrews 12:14
	+ The dangers of a lazy Christian.
		- Now when this is preached, reason comes along and says: “Ah, if this is true, then I need not do a single good work!” Thus stupid minds seize upon this and change Christian life into carnal liberty. They think they should do what they please[[4]](#footnote-4)
		- St. Peter confronts these people here, anticipates them, and teaches them that Christian liberty must be exercised solely over against God. For here nothing else is necessary than faith, that I give God His due honor and regard Him as my God, who is just, truthful, and merciful. Such faith liberates us from sin and all evil. Now when I have given God this honor, then whatever life I live, I live for my neighbor, to serve and help him. The greatest work that comes from faith is this, that I confess Christ with my mouth and, if it has to be, bear testimony with my blood and risk my life. Yet God does not need the work; but I should do it to prove and confess my faith, in order that others, too, may be brought to faith. Then other works will follow. They must all tend to serve my neighbor. All this God must bring about in us.[[5]](#footnote-5)

# 1 Peter 1:17-21 – A Godly fear

* A free ticket?
	+ Jesus did indeed gift us with heaven and faith…
		- …though He is your Father, He is so just that He gives to everyone according to his deeds and does not respect the person. Therefore even though you have the great distinction to be called a Christian and a child of God, you dare not think that God will spare you on this account if you live without fear and imagine that it is now sufficient for you to boast of such a distinction. [[6]](#footnote-6)
	+ Malachi 1:6
	+ Matthew 6:9
* How shall we approach our Father?
	+ With fear
		- Proverbs 28:14
		- Philippians 2:12
		- Hebrews 4:1
	+ The apostle wants us to expect such judgment of God and to be in fear, lest we boast of being called Christians and depend on it, as if God would be more indulgent with us on this account than He would be with others[[7]](#footnote-7)
* So are we saved by faith or works? What is it?
	+ Answer: What we have taught, that faith alone justifies before God, is undoubtedly true, since it is so clear from Scripture that it cannot be denied. Now what the apostle says here, that God judges according to the works, is also true. But one should maintain with certainty that where there is no faith, there can be no good works either, and, on the other hand, that there is no faith where there are no good works. Therefore link faith and good works together in such a way that both make up the sum total of the Christian life. As you live, so you will fare. God will judge you according to this. Therefore even though God judges us according to our works, it nevertheless remains true that the works are only the fruits of faith. They are the evidence of our belief or unbelief. Therefore God will judge and convict you on the basis of your works. They show whether you have believed or have not believed, just as one cannot condemn and judge a liar better than from his words. Yet it is evident that the words have not made him a liar, but that he has become a liar before he tells a lie; for the lie must come into the mouth from the heart. Therefore the only way to understand this is the simplest way, namely, that the works are fruits and signs of faith and that God judges people according to these fruits, which certainly have to follow, in order that one may see publicly where belief or unbelief is in the heart. God will not judge according to whether you are called a Christian or have been baptized. No, He will ask you: “If you are a Christian, then tell Me: Where are the fruits with which you can show your faith?”[[8]](#footnote-8)
		- Live as a guest.
		- External versus internal works.
* You have been ransomed at a price.
	+ Psalm 49:8
	+ Psalm 130:8
	+ Titus 2:14
	+ The blood of Christ.
		- Matthew 26:28
		- Revelation 1:5
		- Revelation 5:9
		- This treasure is so costly and noble that the mind and reason of no man can comprehend it. Just one drop of this innocent blood would have been more than enough for the sin of the whole world.[[9]](#footnote-9)
			* Therefore He does not want us to make light of and think little of such great grace; but He wants us to be moved to conduct ourselves with fear, lest this treasure be taken away from us.[[10]](#footnote-10)
		- Do not dishonor the blood.
	+ The perfect Lamb.
		- Exodus 12:5
		- Isaiah 53:7
		- John 1:29
		- 1 Corinthians 5:7-8
		- Revelation 5:6
	+ How easy is it for us to belittle the Blood?
		- The lack of the woodshed…
			* Or the cutting block behind it.
* Did you ask for this to be done for you?
	+ We’ve got nothing to boast of because Christ’s sacrifice had been destined before foundation of the world.
		- Genesis 3:15
		- Michah 5:2
		- Ephesians 1:4
		- Revelation 13:8
* A long last time.
	+ Peter and the apostles were entering into a new era to which we now belong.
		- Hebrews 1:2
			* But now no more glorious and no clearer proclamation has come into the world than the Gospel. Therefore this is the last one. All the times have come and gone, but now the Gospel has been revealed to us for the last time.[[11]](#footnote-11)
			* 2 Peter 3:8
				+ Time is short. Hell is hot.
				+ God permits the world to continue to stand in order that His name may be honored and praised more widely, even though in His own eyes it has already been revealed most perfectly[[12]](#footnote-12)
* Your salvation is completely “in God.”
	+ Note how Peter bookends v.21.
	+ For if God does not help, you have no help at all. Therefore even if you had the friendship of all men, this is not enough.[[13]](#footnote-13)
	+ The importance of the Resurrection and Ascension.
		- John 12:44
		- Hebrews 2:9

# 1 Peter 1:22-25 – Born to love

* “purified by obedience” sounds like works!
	+ Romans 12:9
	+ The battle continues.
		- after Baptism the lust of the flesh abides in us until death. Therefore it is not enough for one to abstain from the deed, to remain chaste outwardly, and to let evil lust stay in the heart. No, one must strive to purify the soul, so that evil lust and desire depart from our heart and the soul is hostile to them and constantly fights against them until it is rid of them[[14]](#footnote-14)
	+ Internal concerns.
		- Thus St. Bernard also hurt and ruined his body until it stank, as I have said above. These men were sorely tried, and they undertook to subdue this by external means. But since this is external, the poultice has been applied only on the outside, not on the inside. Therefore it does not suffice to quell lust.[[15]](#footnote-15)
		- Therefore it is useless to attempt to curb lust with external means. To be sure, one can weaken and mortify the body with fasting and work; but one does not expel evil lust in this way. Faith, however, can subdue and restrain it, so that it gives room to the Spirit.[[16]](#footnote-16)
			* Galatians 5:22-23
				+ Take to heart what the Spirit gives…

And use it!

* What does this usage look like: LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER!
	+ Note the two words for “love” used here:
		- filadelfi,an = brotherly love
			* More for the Christian community.[[17]](#footnote-17)
		- avgaph,sate = John 3:16 love for someone or something.
	+ To what end should we now lead a chaste life? To be saved by doing so? No, but for the purpose of serving our neighbor. [[18]](#footnote-18)
		- Who needs your works? The Lord or your neighbor?
			* 1 Timothy 1:5
			* John 13:34
			* James 2:15-16
		- …in Baptism we Christians have all obtained one brotherhood. From this no saint has more than I and you. For I have been bought with just as high a price as he has been bought.[[19]](#footnote-19)
		- Love, however, is greater than brotherhood; for it extends also to enemies, and particularly to those who are not worthy of love.[[20]](#footnote-20)
	+ The problem with lodges.
* You love because you have been born anew.
	+ John 3:3
	+ James 1:18
		- Did you make yourself to be created and born?
			* Since you are now new creatures, you must also conduct yourselves differently now and lead a new life.[[21]](#footnote-21)
* What’s with the seed?
	+ How were you born anew?
		- The connection to Genesis 3:15 and your Baptism!
			* Baptized into Christ… THE Seed!
		- But what is the seed? Not flesh and blood. What then? It is not perishable, but it is an eternal Word.[[22]](#footnote-22)
			* Malachi 2:3
			* 1 Corinthians 15:53
		- But this is a seed that cannot be changed; it remains eternally. But it changes me in such a way that I am changed into it and what evil there is in me because of my nature disappears completely. Therefore this is an extraordinary birth—a birth from an unusual seed.[[23]](#footnote-23)
* A quote from Isaiah 40:6-8
	+ James 1:10-11
		- Everything has to perish through the Word of God. But this seed cannot pass away.[[24]](#footnote-24)
* What is this “one little Word that can fell him”?
	+ Deuteronomy 30:11-14
	+ Matthew 24:35
	+ Isaiah 40:9
	+ Romans 1:16
	+ To be sure, it is quickly spoken and heard; but when it enters the heart, it cannot die or pass away. Nor does it let you die. It holds you as long as you cling to it. Thus when I hear that Jesus Christ died, took away my sin, gained heaven for me, and gave me all that He has, I am hearing the Gospel. [[25]](#footnote-25)
	+ The Word is a divine and eternal power; for although the voice or speech soon fades away, yet the core remains, that is, the meaning, the truth expressed with the voice. [[26]](#footnote-26)
		- The importance of the 3rd Commandment!
1. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.16&off=12098&ctx=ience+of+the+devil.+~He+who+hears+the+Gos), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 31. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.16&off=15102&ctx=l+says+(Gal.+3%3a27).%0a~The+little+word+%E2%80%9Chol), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 32. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.16&off=15287&ctx=+to+God+as+His+own.+~Therefore+see+to+it+), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 32. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.16&off=15810&ctx=+of+any+help+to+us.+~Now+when+this+is+pre), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 32. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.16&off=16053&ctx=o+what+they+please.+~St.+Peter+confronts+), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 32–33. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.21&off=505&ctx=ntly+as+Father%3b+but+~though+He+is+your+Fa), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 33. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.21&off=1259&ctx=of+a+common+miller.%0a~The+apostle+wants+us), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 34. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.21&off=2246&ctx=rding+to+the+works%3f+~Answer%3a+What+we+have), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 34–35. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.21&off=6542&ctx=st%2c+the+Son+of+God.+~This+treasure+is+so+), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 36. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.21&off=6903&ctx=he+entire+treasure.+~Therefore+He+does+no), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 36. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.21&off=11613&ctx=s+and+the+prophets.+~But+now+no+more+glor), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 38. [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.21&off=12376&ctx=+and+completed%3b+but+~God+permits+the+worl), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 38. [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.21&off=13248&ctx=+be+a+faith+in+God.+~For+if+God+does+not+), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 39. [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.25&off=1041&ctx=re+of+the+fact+that+~after+Baptism+the+lu), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 40. [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.25&off=2072&ctx=arlots+in+Rome.%EF%BB%BF27%EF%BB%BF+~Thus+St.+Bernard+als), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 40. [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
16. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.25&off=2819&ctx=+or+in+the+garment.+~Therefore+it+is+usel), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 41. [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
17. Achtemeier, 136. [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
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19. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.25&off=6822&ctx=Thus+~in+Baptism+we+Christians+have+all+o), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 42–43. [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
20. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.25&off=7188&ctx=+faith+than+I+have.%0a~Love%2c+however%2c+is+gr), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 43. [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
21. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.25&off=8335&ctx=ostle+wants+to+say%3a+~Since+you+are+now+ne), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 43. [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
22. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.25&off=8873&ctx=lso+be+from+a+seed.+~But+what+is+the+seed), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 43. [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
23. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.25&off=9706&ctx=t+is+no+longer+seed.~+But+this+is+a+seed+), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 44. [↑](#footnote-ref-23)
24. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.25&off=10961&ctx=+becomes+poor%2c+etc.+~Everything+has+to+pe), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 44. [↑](#footnote-ref-24)
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26. Martin Luther, [*Luther’s Works, Vol. 30: The Catholic Epistles*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lw30?ref=Bible.1Pe1.25&off=12599&ctx=one+who+has+faith.%E2%80%9D+~The+Word+is+a+divine), ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 30 (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1999), 45. [↑](#footnote-ref-26)