

1 Peter 4:11 – 5:4

Lexham English Bible (LEB)

1 ¹¹ If anyone speaks, *let it be* as the oracles of God; if
2 anyone serves, *let it be* as by the strength that God
3 provides, so that in all *things* God will be glorified
4 through Jesus Christ, to whom is the glory and the
5 power *forever and ever*. Amen.

6 ¹² Dear friends, do not be surprised at the **fiery ordeal**
7 among you, *when it* takes place to test you, as *if*
8 *something* strange were happening to you. ¹³ But to
9 the degree that you share in the sufferings of Christ,
10 rejoice, so that also at the revelation of his glory you
11 may rejoice *and* be glad. ¹⁴ If you are reviled on
12 account of the name of Christ, *you are* blessed,
13 because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you.

14 ¹⁵ By all means do not let anyone of you suffer as a
15 murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler.

16 ¹⁶ But if *someone* suffers as a Christian, he must not
17 be ashamed, but must glorify God with this name.

18 ¹⁷ For *it is* the time for the judgment to begin out from
19 the household of God. But if *it begins* out from us
20 first, what will be the outcome for those who are
21 disobedient to the gospel of God? ¹⁸ And if the
22 righteous are saved with difficulty, *what will become*
23 *of the ungodly and the sinner*? ¹⁹ So then also those
24 who suffer according to the will of God must entrust
25 their souls to a faithful Creator in doing good.

26 ⁵ Therefore *I*, your fellow elder and a witness of the
27 sufferings of Christ, *and* also a sharer of the glory
28 that is going to be revealed, exhort the elders among
29 you: ² shepherd the flock of God among you,
30 exercising oversight not by compulsion but willingly,
31 in accordance with God, and not greedily but eagerly,
32 ³ and not as lording it over *those under your care*, but
33 being examples for the flock. ⁴ And *when* the chief
34 Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading
35 crown of glory.

Read the passage through completely before looking at these questions.

Observation (What does it say?):

Consider the observation questions on the back of this page. What do you notice in this passage?

- **Circle** topics you have seen before in 1 Peter.
- **Underline** new topics that Peter introduces here.
- What else do you observe in this passage?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

After observing the passage:

- How would you summarize the topics that you have seen before in 1 Peter?
- If Peter introduced new topics in this passage, why do you think he did that here with all the repeated topics?
- How does “So then...” (v. 19) connect what has gone before with “entrust their souls”?
- How does this command to “entrust” relate to the earlier command to “arm yourselves”?
- Why does Peter point to God’s attribute as Creator here? How has he described God before?
- What questions come to mind as you read?

Application (What does it mean for me?):

- Where do you most struggle to entrust your soul (ψυχή, psychē, “life”) to “a faithful Creator”?
- What did “entrusting” look like in David’s life (Psalm 31:1-5 on the back page)? What would “entrusting” look like in your life?

Observation – *What does it say?* **Interpretation** – *What does it mean?* **Application** – *What does it mean for me?*

For additional thought and discussion:

Psalm 31:1-5 (NLT)

For the choir director: A psalm of David.

¹ O Lord, I have come to you for protection;
don't let me be disgraced.

Save me, for you do what is right.

² Turn your ear to listen to me;
rescue me quickly.

Be my rock of protection,
a fortress where I will be safe.

³ You are my rock and my fortress.

For the honor of your name, lead me out of
this danger.

⁴ Pull me from the trap my enemies set for me,
for I find protection in you alone.

⁵ I entrust my spirit into your hand.

Rescue me, Lord, for you are a faithful God.

For more suggested methods of study: <http://www.goodnotsafe.com/methodical-bible-study/>

For examples of inductive studies: <http://www.goodnotsafe.com/inductive-bible-study-examples-2/>

Inductive Bible Study

(A few general ideas)

Observation **(What does it say?)**

What facts do you **observe** about
the passage that help bring out
the writer's thought process?

- Who are the people involved?
- What action takes place?
- What type of literature is it (poetry, history, didactic, etc.)?
- What details are included or left out?
- Are any unusual words used?
- Is there symbolic language?
- What is the grammar of the passage (pronouns, prepositions, verb tenses)?
- Are words or ideas repeated?
- Any comparisons or contrasts?
- Any cause and effect?
- Are there indications of purpose ("in order that...")?
- Are there conclusions ("Therefore...")?
- Are there explanations?
- Does the passage logically break into sections?
- How would you summarize the passage?
- What would be a good "headline" for the passage?

Interpretation **(What does it mean?)**

What questions come to mind
about the facts that would help
you **interpret** the meaning?

- How would the original readers have understood the passage?
- What is the main emphasis?
- Why does the writer use repetition, or contrast, or unusual words?
- What does the grammar or structure of the passage reveal about the writer's thought pattern?
- Is there a logical sequence in the passage?
- How are different ideas in the passage connected?
- Are there any new ideas or concepts presented?
- Are there difficulties in the passage?

Application **(What does it mean for me?)**

What is the impact on your life?
What **application** does the Holy Spirit want to show you?

- Is there a command to obey?
- Is there a promise to be thankful for?
- Is there an attribute of God to worship?
- Is there an example to follow?

**Read nothing into the Scriptures,
but draw everything from them,
and suffer nothing to remain
hidden that is really in them.
J.A. Bengel (1687-1752)**

For a much more detailed description of the methodology, see

Robert A. Traina, *Methodical Bible Study*. Wilmore, Kentucky: Asbury Theological Seminary, 1952.

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