

Tuesday

## Humble, Through Suffering

**Today's Scripture** 1 Peter 5:1-11

As if suffering were not enough, now Peter says I must be humble. Not only as a worker but also as an overseer. Even if, maybe, especially, I have a position of authority, I must be humble.

There are bad motives for leadership (Vs. 3). These must be avoided. Especially arrogance, which will disqualify me. When I seek the crown, I lose. But when I serve Him humbly, the Chief Shepherd (Jesus) crowns me in glory (Vs. 4).

This rule of humble service also applies to those who are a little lower in the church organization. I demonstrate humility by my subjection (Vs. 5). Peter tells me to be covered up in humility. This is not only a good idea, it is God's will. The proud are opposed by God. The humble receive grace (Vs. 5). When I humble myself, I submit to God's timetable. I trust Him to do the exalting at the right time.

My submission to God is also demonstrated by how I handle my worries. When I give Him my anxieties, I am giving Him my trust (Vs. 7). And I trust Him because He cares for me.

Peter warns me that the times are dangerous (Vs. 8). The devil is near. He is like a lion waiting to eat me. I know what satan can do. I know what I must do. I need to remember what God will do. In verse 10, Peter promises that my humble suffering will be rewarded with glory.

In the meantime, God will restore me. When an old table is restored, it is brought back to its original like-new condition. God can and will do that for me. This is His seal or mark that makes me His.

God will strengthen me. Paul said, "*I can do all things through Him who strengthens me*" (Philippians 4:13). God will establish me. I am standing on firm ground. My roots are deep. My backing is from God. I know all this because He is in control (Vs. 11). He even says Amen or "so it is."

**Today I will...**submit with humility to God and lean on Him and not myself. To God be the glory.