

# 1 Peter 4:7-11

## I. Introduction

A. 1 Peter 4:1-6 speaks about the need to live according to God's will and shun the lusts of the flesh, regardless of the response received from the world. Following this, the inspired apostle Peter provides various exhortations to Christians concerning the lifestyle God wills for us. **1 Peter 4:7-11**

## II. The End of All Things...

A. These verses begin by noting that "the end of all things is at hand." While the blasphemers noted in verse 4 live as though life is about gratifying the flesh, the apostle Peter shows the wisdom of instead living in view of the coming judgment, which could come at any moment. **1 Peter 4:7a; 2 Peter 3:10; 1 Peter 4:5**

## III. The Need for Preparedness

A. In consideration of the impending Day of Judgment, we must take service to God seriously, living in self-control and sober-mindedness, rather than succumbing to worldliness. **1 Peter 4:7b; 2 Peter 3:11-12**

## IV. Love One Another

A. Peter continues by noting specifics about how preparing for the judgment affects our treatment of fellow Christians. In verse 8, he stresses the need for love. **1 Peter 4:8**

B. The phrase "love covers a multitude of sins" may refer to several things. Scripture makes it clear that many of the sins involving treatment of others are overcome by love. **1 Corinthians 13:4-7**

## V. Hospitality Without Grumbling

A. One application of the love commanded in verse 8 is the need to be hospitable. Obedience to this, as with anything God commands, should be without grumbling. It is a joyful privilege to serve God and others in ways He commands. **1 Peter 4:9**

## VI. Minister As We Have Ability

A. The Holy Spirit through Peter next gives more general instruction concerning our service to one another. No matter what abilities and opportunities God allows each of us to have, we should use these to the best of our ability. We should not be envious of others' abilities, or boastful of our own, but instead focus on ministering to (serving) one another. God has *entrusted* us with the "talents" He's given us to use in His service. **1 Peter 4:10**

## VII. Speak As Oracles of God

A. A specific way in which God and others are served is through the preaching of His Word. Verse 11 focuses on this responsibility, noting that when we speak about God and His will for our lives, we must preach doctrine that comes from *His* Word, rather than that which has originated in the minds of fallible men. **1 Peter 4:11a**

B. The apostle Peter again stresses the responsibility each of us has to minister as God gives us the ability. **1 Peter 11b**

C. When we speak what God has revealed and serve faithfully according to the abilities He gives us, God is glorified. This should be our aim. **1 Peter 4:11c**

## VIII. Conclusion

A. May we live in view of the coming judgment, preparing for that Day, loving as we should, being hospitable, serving one another, and speaking what God's revealed.