



1 Peter 3:18-22 | The Biggest Mistake Satan Ever Made

1. Take Heart \_\_\_\_\_ (18a)

2. Take Heart \_\_\_\_\_ (18b-20)

3. Take Heart \_\_\_\_\_ (21-22)

## Scripture Memory

*“but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect,”*

–1 Peter 3:15

## Application Questions

*Community Groups meet throughout the week and play a crucial role in our response to the preaching of the word. These groups gather to discuss the following questions as we seek to apply the sermon in community with one another. Please visit [compassntx.org](http://compassntx.org) to join a small group near you.*

1. Read **1 Peter 3:18** and **2 Corinthians 5:21**. What does Jesus’ sinlessness accomplish that a sinful substitute could never accomplish for us? Why is Jesus’ death described as “once for sins”? What does that imply about the sufficiency and finality of the cross for your standing before God?

2. Read **1 Peter 3:19–20** and **Colossians 2:13–15**. Without settling every detail of 1 Peter 3:19–20, what clear encouragement does Colossians give about Christ’s triumph over “rulers and authorities”? How does that help you think about spiritual warfare today? Christians can commit two errors here: (1) obsession/fear of demons, (2) functional denial of spiritual warfare. Which temptation do you drift toward, and why?

3. Read **Ephesians 6:10–18** and **James 1:13–14**. In day-to-day discipleship, what does an appropriate vigilance look like—taking spiritual warfare seriously (Eph. 6) while also owning the role of our own desires (Jas. 1) without defaulting to a “the devil made me do it” mindset?

4. Read **1 Peter 3:21**. How would you respond to someone who pointed to this verse to argue that water baptism is necessary for salvation? What does Peter mean—and not mean—when he says it is “not the removal of dirt from the body but an appeal to God for a good conscience...through the resurrection of Jesus Christ”? How does that qualifier help us?

5. Read **1 Peter 3:21–22**, **Hebrews 7:23–25**, and **Romans 8:31–34**. According to Romans 8:34, what four realities are stacked together, and which one do you most forget in trials? Share one current or past season of opposition or suffering. How does (or did) Christ’s present reign and intercession move you from fear to faithful steadiness?

6. Which aspect of Christ’s work has most encouraged you in this discussion—his sinless sacrifice, his triumph over spiritual powers, his saving union pictured in baptism, or his ongoing intercession—and what is one concrete way you want to respond in faith and obedience this week?

## Recommended Reading

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- *Suffering Christ Our Penal Substitute* - R.L. Dabney
- *Spiritual Warfare: A Biblical and Balanced Perspective* - Brian Borgman and Rob Ventura
- *The Whole Christ* - Sinclair Ferguson