

If not that, then what does Peter mean by “baptism ... saves you”?

6. What do you think a “good conscience” (3:16, 21) is? (You might consult a Bible dictionary or a commentary, or you might use a concordance to find other scriptures about conscience.)

7. “Angels, authorities, and powers” (3:22) are names for various categories of spiritual beings. Look at Ephesians 1:20-21, 2:1-5, and Colossians 2:13-15. How did Christ conquer the spirits who used to control people?

8. How does Christ’s place of authority at God’s right hand (3:22) make you feel about your relationship with Him?

Let's Pray:

For our missionaries:

Katie Allan, Mission Impact

Pray for Katie as she seeks God amidst determining whether she should continue in ministry in Guatemala.

Amidst your prayer time, read Peter’s description of Jesus in 3:18 and 22 as an expression of praise.

Ponder the phrase “when God waited patiently” (3:20). Turn your thoughts into prayerful words of admiration.

Thank God that Jesus has triumphed over every evil power (3:22).

Sermon Notes

“Christ, Noah, and Baptism –
Trusting God When the Water is Rising”

1 Peter 3:18-22

November 15, 2015

Introduction:

1. The _____ of Christ
(3:18, 21d-22).

2. The _____ by Christ
(3:19-20).

3. How does “baptism ... save”? (3:20-21).

Conclusion:

To Whom and When Did Christ Make His Proclamation?

	Descent into Hades view	Pre-existent Christ view	Triumphant over spirit world view
When	Between death and his resurrection	At the time of Noah	Between resurrection and his exaltation
“in which”	Christ in his disembodied human spirit	Christ by the Holy Spirit through Noah’s preaching	Christ by the Holy Spirit spoke directly
“spirits”	Fallen angels or unsaved human spirits associated with Noah’s time	Noah’s unsaved living human contemporaries	Fallen angels associated with Noah’s time
“prison”	Hades	A metaphor for sin, or their present confinement awaiting final judgement	Their present confinement awaiting final judgement
“preached”	Offer of salvation or proclaiming victory	Presenting gospel of salvation	Proclaiming victory as he ascended

Adapted from Scot McKnight, *NIV Application Commentary: 1 Peter*, Zondervan, Grand Rapids, MI, 1996, pp. 215-17.

Growth Group Homework

For the week of 11-15-15

Questions adapted from *1 Peter: Life Change Series*, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 1986, pp. 85-87; Warren W. Wiersbe, *Be Hopeful*, Victor Books, Wheaton, IL, 1982, p. 151; John MacArthur, *1 & 2 Peter: Courage in Times of Trouble*, Thomas Nelson, Nashville, TN, 2007, pp. 29-36; James Galvin, ed., et al., *New Testament Lesson Maker*, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 1992, pp. 314-15.

Getting Started:

1. What recent stories in the news have highlighted the absence of justice? How does this continual lack of

justice in our world today affect your belief that one day ultimate justice will be served – that all will be made right, the guilty will be fairly punished, and innocent victims will be vindicated?

Digging Deeper:

2. READ: 1 Peter 3:18-22. In 3:18, what did Peter say about Christ’s death?
3. In 3:13-17, Peter urges his readers to suffer well, even when suffering unjustly for doing what is right. Peter then turns to Christ in 3:18 as the consummate commendable sufferer. How does Christ’s suffering encourage today’s Christian sufferer?
4. When you are a persecuted minority, how does your “fewness” in numbers psychologically work against you?

So why do you think Peter took the pains to point out the “fewness” of those who were saved with Noah (3:20)? How is this intended to encourage Peter’s audience?

5. 1 Peter 3:21 says that “baptism ... saves you.” How do we know that it isn’t physical, water baptism that Peter is referring to as that which saves?