

The St. Peter Option: To Everyone an Answer
Living as Exiles in a Foreign Land
1 Peter, 2 Peter, Christian Vocation, and the Table of Duties

18 Domestic Life: The True Monasticism
1 Peter 3:1-7

Today's study will be a Bible study on vocation based upon the material from 1 Peter 3:1-7, and the Pertinent Sections of the Table of Duties, under the theme, "Domestic Life: The True Monasticism" –

Introduction:

What are the hardest things I've been called to do in my life?
Husband, Father, and Pastor

What have been among the greatest sorrows and joys?

The Domestic Life of Marriage and Family is God's gift:
The Offices of husband and wife/father and mother
are the greatest offices in the created order.

What was Luther's problem with the monastic life?

1. Works righteousness associated with monasticism. Earning God's favor.
2. Considered holier than the "ordinary" life of a Christian in marriage, family, and society.

What was good about the monastic life?

1. Devotion to meditation upon God's Word and Prayer (spiritual disciplines)
2. Education

The Domestic Life of the Christian family brings the best of monastic life into marriage and family:
God's holy offices of marriage and family,
the Word of God and Prayer,
education, and
faith in Christ that is active in love for the benefit of the neighbor.

The Office of Wife in 1 Peter 3:1-6

- What is submission? (What are its demands? What are its limits?)
- Where does Peter anchor this submission?
 - In Christ's submission to Pilate, He was submitting to His Father (1 Peter 2:21-25)
- True beauty of the Christian wife
- What does such submission and obedience to serve? The cause of faith in Christ.
 - The Example of Sarah who obeyed Abraham and called him her master.
 - The context speaks of Sarah as an Old Testament disciple of faith in the Son of Promise

The Office of Husband in 1 Peter 3:7

- What is “the understanding” with which the husband is to dwell with his wife?
- How does the husband honor his wife? (The way Christ honors us)
- What does the concept of “weaker vessel” mean?
 - She is the delicate and precious vessel through whom life is brought into the world.
- Husband and wife are equal recipients of the inheritance of salvation.
- The husband is called to live by the grace of Christ in his understanding of and relationship to his wife.
- Prayer, as the voice of faith, can only be heard if it rests upon the grace of God in Christ alone.

Table of Duties: To Husbands, Wives, Parents, and Children

- A brief look at the Table of Duties

Prayers for the Domestic Life:

Husbands

Wives

Parents

Children

Looking Ahead

The Call of the Gospel: To Suffer with Christ (3:8-22)

The Mind of Christ and the End of All Things (4:1-11)

The Blessedness of Christian Suffering (4:12-19)

Encouragement for Pastors During the Exile (5:1-14)