



Why We Go Against the Flow 1 Peter 4:1-6

1 Peter 4:1-6 (NIV)

“Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because he who has suffered in his body is done with sin. As a result, he does not live the rest of his earthly life for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God. For you have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do—living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry. They think it strange that you do not plunge with them into the same flood of dissipation, and they heap abuse on you. But they will have to give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. For this is the reason the gospel was preached even to those who are now dead, so that they might be judged according to men in regard to the body, but live according to God in regard to the spirit?”

Because we are:

I. Walking with Jesus into the Will of God

Verse 2 – “...he does not live the rest of his earthly life for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God.

John 5:30 (NKJV)

“I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.”

“Life on earth is just a dress rehearsal before the real production. You will spend far more time on the other side of death—in eternity— than you will here. Earth is the practice workout before the actual game; the warm-up lap before the race. This life is preparation for the next.” – Rick Warren

II. Standing with Jesus against the Sin of the World

Verse 1-3 – “...since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because he who has suffered in his body is done with sin.... you have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do—living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry. They think it strange that you do not plunge with them into the same flood of dissipation, and they heap abuse on you.”

- We must be Armed for the Battle.

“The choicest believers, who are assuredly freed from the condemning power of sin, ought yet to make it their business all their days to mortify the indwelling power of sin...be always at it while you live. Cease not a day from this work. Be killing sin or it will be killing you.” – John Owen

- We must learn to Abstain when tempted.

III. Anticipating with Jesus a Joyful day of Judgment

Verse 5 – “...they will have to give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead.”

Hebrews 9:27 (ESV)

“It is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment.”

Romans 8:1 (NIV)

“There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”

“To many of us our beliefs are of fundamental importance. For me the teachings of Christ and my own personal accountability before God provide a framework in which I try to lead my life.”
– Queen Elizabeth