

STANDING IN TRUE GRACE

I PETER 5:12-14

Introduction:

A. Sometimes we do not look as closely as we should at the last few lines of a letter.

1. Tired of trying to decide what to do with the first problems.

B. These three verses have some great truths.

1. Just as true as first three verses.

I. GOD USES FAITHFUL PEOPLE. V12a

A. Peter judges him to be faithful.

1. "whom I know to be a faithful brother."
2. faithful = worthy of confidence, persons of whom we can rely.

B. Paul acknowledged him as faithful.

1. II Cor. 1:18-20.

C. A person who cannot be depended on is a thorn and a source of grief.

1. faithful = is "all the time"
2. Some are faithfully unfaithful.

II. THESE PEOPLE WERE STANDING IN "TRUE GRACE." V12b

A. "I have written you this short letter to encourage you and to bear testimony, that the grace in which you are so firmly established is the true grace of God."

1. Everyone is standing (depending) on something.
2. Drunkard, liar, cheat.

B. The devil is an imitator.

1. He has false prophets.

page 77

2. They preach a false gospel.
3. Those who accept a false gospel, stand in a false grace with a false hope.

III. THERE WERE OTHER TRUE CONGREGATIONS. V13

- A. This is a comforting fact.
 1. Woe is the congregation that believes themselves to be alone in the service to God.
- B. We seek to build churches in other places of the world.
 1. We do not seek to dominate them, only help.

IV. SHOW LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER. V14

- A. greet = to salute, to embrace and part.
 1. An absurdity that brothers in Christ do not speak.
 2. An indication of a persons true character.
 3. Should be a quite and sincere greeting.
- B. peace the absence or end of strife.
 1. By no means the least important of Christian graces