

ANALYSIS:

1. What problem have some Christian wives faced in their marriages which was best helped by the wife's spirit of subjection to her husband?

2. What marriage responsibilities are laid upon the husband in this chapter? _____

3. What conditions need to be met to enjoy life and see good days?

4. To whom are we to be ready to give an answer?

5. What should the person being baptized want his/her baptism to express? _____

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

This book contains much comfort for suffering and persecuted saints.

Verse 12 assures the righteous that the Lord see their situation.

"Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon them that hope in his mercy; to deliver their soul from death, and keep them alive in famine" (Ps 33:18-19). The verse also says He hears prayers. "The LORD hear thee in the day of trouble; the name of the God of Jacob defend thee -- Now know I that the LORD saveth his anointed; he will hear him from his holy heaven with the saving strength of his right hand" (Ps 20:1, 6).

Knowing the Lord sees our circumstances and hears our prayers is a very great comfort. However, the second part of verse 12 is a sober reminder that sin in our life robs us of such blessings. "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me" (Ps 66:18). "Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: but your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear" (Isa 59:1-2). Therefore, let us allow no sin, but immediately confess and forsake it.

HELP:

1. She is married to a husband who does not obey the word of the Lord, and he may be won by the good conversation [behavior] of his wife (v 1).

2. He is to dwell with his wife according to knowledge, give honor to the wife as the weaker vessel and as being heirs together of the grace of life (v 7).

3. Refrain your tongue from evil and from guile, eschew [avoid] evil, do good, seek peace and ensue it (vs 10-11).

4. Anyone who asks us a reason for the hope we have [especially if we suffer cheerfully for righteousness' sake] (v 15).

5. The answer of a good conscience toward God (v 21).