

Ostensible Failures are either Delayed Successes or a Drawing of Enemy Fire from a Brother *Jesus' Trip to the Pit for His Victory Lap*

1 Peter 3:14-15 Do not fear their intimidation, and do not **get upset**, but **set apart Christ as God in your will**, always ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for **the certainty** that is in you, **calmly and respectfully**;

{*J. Tatum amplification*: Set apart a place in your mind to always remember that **Jesus is God**}

1 Peter 2:12 ~~Keep your behavior excellent~~ **Let your outlook on life be attractive** among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of visitation

1 Peter 3: 16 and keep a good ~~conscience~~ **consciousness of God** so that in the thing in which you are slandered, those who revile your good ~~behavior~~ **outlook on life** in Christ will be put to shame.

17 ~~For it is better~~ For it is **more advantageous**, if **the will of God** should will it so, that you suffer for doing what is ~~right~~ **beneficial** rather than for doing what is ~~wrong~~ **not beneficial**.

18 For Christ also died for sins once for all, ~~the just for the unjust~~ **righteous for unrighteous**, so that He ~~might bring us to~~ **would have the power to** bring us to {*i.e. escort us into the presence of*} God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit;

19-20 in which also He went and made proclamation to the spirits {*i.e. fallen angels / demons*} now in prison, who once were disobedient, when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is, ~~eight persons~~ **eight human beings**, were brought safely through the water.

Ephesians 4:8-9 Therefore it says, "When he ascended on high, he led captive a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men." (Now this expression, "He ascended," what does it mean except that He also had descended into the lower parts of the earth?)

Genesis 6:1-2 Now it came about, when men began to multiply on the face of the land, and daughters were born to them, that the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves, whomever they chose.

4 The Nephilim were on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men, and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown.

2 Peter 2:4 For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into ~~hell~~ **the pit** {literally, "Tartarus"} and committed them to pits of darkness, reserved for judgment;

Jude 1:6 And angels who did not keep their own domain, but abandoned their proper abode, He has kept in eternal bonds under darkness for the judgment of the great day,

Revelation 9:13-15 Then the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, one saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates." And the four angels, who had been prepared for the hour and day and month and year, were released, so that they would kill a third of mankind.

Genesis 3:15 I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, and you shall bruise him on the heel."

21 Corresponding to that, baptism {i.e. **identification**} now saves you -- not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God for a good ~~conscience~~ **consciousness of God** -- through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

1 Corinthians 1:17 For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel

22 who is at the right hand of God, having gone into heaven, after angels and authorities and powers had been subjected to Him.

Acts 5:33-39 But when they heard this, they were cut to the quick and intended to kill them. But a Pharisee named Gamaliel, a teacher of the Law, respected by all the people, stood up in the Council and gave orders to put the men outside for a short time. And he said to them, "Men of Israel, take care what you propose to do with these men. "So in the present case, I say to you, stay away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or action is of men, it will be overthrown; but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them; or else you may even be found fighting against God."

Ephesians 6:12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

Colossians 1:24 Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I do my share on behalf of His body, which is the church, in filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions.

{Note: "The sufferings" to which Peter and Paul refer are the stresses and tribulations involved in interacting with the fallen, hostile world.}