

## First Peter 3:20-22

### 3:20

2 Peter 2:4-6 – angels sinned, Tartarus

1. Enoch 22:2 says Tartarus was the place for fallen angels
2. Homer says Hades was for dead men and Tartarus was the abyss beneath Hades for fallen immortals.

Jude 6,7 “In a similar way” is literally “Like as, in the same manner”

1. Sexual sins were the common corruption in both Noah’s day and Sodom
2. Jude 7 says literally “committing fornication and going away after flesh different”
  - a) “flesh” is “sarke”, σαρκη
  - b) “different” is ‘ετερος or ‘ετερας

The problem is they did something different than God intended.

**Heteros** means other kind, or different.

Leviticus 18, 19 describe holiness as doing things the way God intended.

To do things contrary to God’s purpose is not holy.

Sex is important aspect of society because societies are based on families and families are based on marriage.

Sex is for marriage.

If Sex is done outside of marriage it corrupts the marriage which corrupts the family.

When families deteriorate so does society.

Proper sexual boundaries are important because it is foundational in marriage and family.

### 3:21 - “water symbolizes baptism”

Baptism is said to be an Antitype or the counterpart of reality.

The water drew the dividing line in Noah’s day between those who were destroyed and those who were saved. Likewise, these believers’ baptism experience draws the line between those who are saved and those who are not.

Same word is used in:

- **Romans 5:14**, “Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.”
- **1 Corinthians 10:6, 11** – “Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did....Now these things happened to them as example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come.
- **Hebrews 8:5** – “They serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly things. For when Moses was about to erect the tent, he was instructed by God, saying, ‘See that you make everything according to the pattern that was shown you on the mountain.’”
- **Hebrews 9:24** – “For Christ has entered, not into holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true things, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf.”
- **Acts 7:44** – “Our fathers had the tent of witness in the wilderness, just as he who spoke to Moses directed him to make it, according to the pattern that he had seen.”

Baptism:

1 Corinthians 12:13, “For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

Ephesians 4:5 – “here is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call - one Lord, one faith, one baptism.

Peter writes “baptism that now saves you” but then follows it with 3 disclaimers showing that salvation is not attained through baptism:

1. Not physical – it is not the removal of dirt from the physical body or of guilt from the human soul.
2. Baptism is a pledge
  - a. Pledge means “to question,” “a demand,” “an inquiry,” “a declaration of commitment,” and could also mean “a craving, an intense desire”
  - b. The ancient Papyri used this Greek word as a technical term used in making a contract.
  - c. Pledge means here to answer a formal question.
  - d. This would be the positive response to the question of the Lordship of Christ indicating that the person being baptized was declaring a commitment to the contract of salvation.
  - e. It appears that at the point of salvation the believer made an inward pledge and at the baptism the believer was asked a question was asked. (See Acts 8:37 and 1 Timothy 6:12; and Jews made a pledge when they were initiated.)
3. Resurrection saves you. The resurrection of Jesus was already referred to as our means of salvation in 3:18-19.

### **3:22**

Peter returns to the subject of Christ that he digressed from in 3:18-19.

Christ's victory is the means of our Great Salvation that Peter had discussed through chapter one.

The victory of Christ:

- 2 Corinthians 2:14
- Colossians 2:15

### **4:1**

The point: Christ achieved this great salvation by suffering in the body, so get ready to do the same.

Arm yourself with the same attitude that your victory will be secured through suffering.

“Arm” is a word that matches Paul’s use of the armor illustration in Ephesians 6:10-18

“Done with sin” could mean:

- a. At baptism (conversion) you are done with sin (Rom. 6:1-12; 1 John 5:18-19)
- b. Suffering in the flesh drives us from the flesh and to God**
- c. The choice to follow Christ and to accept suffering means you are walking towards the Lord and away from the world**
- d. This phrase is not talking about the Christian suffering and finishing sin, but about Christ suffering and finishing sin
- e. Upon death (“suffering”) we are separated from the flesh and finished with sin.

Above, “b” and “c” may be the best choice. The idea being that once we do this the result will be the same for us as it was for Christ. Victory. This battle with suffering and sin has an ending point.

### **4:2**

Once we accept this we can focus on a greater goal than the world.

### **4:3**

Describes the past life of the believer

### **4:4**

Explains why we who follow Christ and are not trying to please our flesh will run contrary to those who are unsaved or have rejected the growth towards Christ.

### **4:5**

The time of the final judgment is the time of the Christian’s vindication

### **4:6**

“The dead” are those who are physically dead.

They were spiritually dead while they lived.

They heard the Truth during their earthly lives and rejected it before they were physically dead.

Notice this is NOT the preaching of 3:19 because here it says “the gospel was preached.”

