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Jerry Cisar — September 26, 2021

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ii. What is this insight or perspective that Christ had?

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## II. Understand the Heart of the Conflict (4:2-4)

A. A conflict between the desires of the flesh of humanity and the desire of God for humanity.

i. When we arm ourselves with the same insight Christ had, we gain a strategic advantage in the war itself.

ii. Enough of that!

iii. Unexpected shift from malice-based behavior to lust-based.

B. Our good behavior may cause people to be won over, but it also paints a target on our foreheads (4)!

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## III. Hope in the Justice of God (4:5-6)

A. But they will give an account.

i. They will give an account to the One who is ready.

a) We are always be ready to explain our hope (3:15).

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- ii. Death is not the final word, which is why the Gospel was preached to them, for the Gospel readied your brothers and sisters who died for the day of Judgment.

iii. “Ready to judge the living ones and the dead ones”

B. God’s Justice is Our Sure Hope!

### LIVE THE STORY

*The following questions are designed for use in our Community Groups as an aid to growth in the Gospel and Community.*

#### Love the Gospel

- What are different ways one could relate to a parachute or to a ship? How might these help us understand our union with Christ?
- In what sense is “the one who has suffered has ceased from sin” hyperlinked to verses 2:22-24 and 3:10?
- Does that phrase (4:1c), apply to all suffering, or does it mean that person will never sin again? Explain.

#### Live the Gospel

- What is Peter calling us to arm (weaponize) ourselves with? What must we disarm ourselves of in order to then arm ourselves?
- How might Paul’s similar military language inform our understanding of Peter’s point in 4:1?

#### Advance the Gospel

- What should we expect in response from the world to the way God calls us to live?
- How might understanding *the heart of the conflict* inform how we interact with the world?
- Do these verses make a greater claim on the world’s behavior or that of the believer? How should this inform our witness?

## Arming Yourself for a War Against Sin

Jerry Cisar — September 26, 2021

Text: 1 Peter 4:1-6

### Introduction

*In our battle with evil, we can sin, or we can suffer with Christ, but we can’t do both.*

### I. Be Armed with the Insight of Jesus (4:1)

#### A. Previous scenes

i. 1 Peter 2:21-23

ii. 1 Peter 3:9-11

#### B. Arming ourselves requires that we first disarm ourselves.

i. We are to use weapons, but if not the weapons of hatred or violence, what kind of weapons are they?

a) Romans 6:13

b) Romans 13:10, 12

c) 2 Corinthians 6:4-7

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ii. What is this insight or perspective that Christ had?

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