

(2) Cast all your CARES on Him (v.7)

> Philippians 4:6-7 (Ps 55:22)

> Unlike the Philippians verse, Peter does not say “Do NOT be anxious ...”

(We often wonder if anxiety is a sin)

-- instead he says to cast your anxiety on Jesus – there is a difference!

(It’s impossible and inhuman not to be anxious!)

> However, the point here is the same as in Philippians

* In Phil., anxiety is contrasted with PRAYER

* Here, prayer is implied: giving anxiety to God!

> text note on Phil. 4:6 – “Anxiety and prayer are two great opposing forces in Christian experience.”

(3) Be SELF-CONTROLLED and ALERT (v.8)

> Be on the DEFENSIVE our enemy is actively looking for a chance to make us fall!

-- ill: tennis warm-ups – I don’t want to expose my weakness or else ...

> RECOGNIZE the devil’s attacks.

-- I often warn people when they’ve had a spiritual breakthrough – the devil won’t like this ...
he’s going to try and make you “blow it!”

> Q: Can you think of a time when you knew a satanic attack was coming and simply expecting it helped you withstand it?

(4) RESIST the devil (v.9) How?

(1) STAND FIRM in the faith – Don’t give AN INCH! (Be strict on yourself ... self-discipline)

(2) Know YOU’RE NOT ALONE!

-- 1 Corinthians 10: 12-13 – Three Steps to Standing Firm in the Face of Temptation

1. You’re Not Alone

2. Temptation will not be too much for you to bear

3. Jesus will always have a way out!

(5) Be PATIENT (v.10)

> “after you have suffered a little while ...”

- the big question: what is “a little while?”

A: Most commentators – “a little while” refers to OUR EARTHLY LIVES
(compared with eternity are almost nothing!)

A: I suggest that Christ’s restorative work also happens IN THIS LIFE.

-- strength, firmness, steadfastness aren’t qualities needed in heaven!

The last line of this book seals the entire message. It may be difficult to strive for holiness, endure suffering, adopt humility, and kill my pride. But even though the message of 1 Peter may be hard to swallow, it closes with this:

“PEACE TO ALL OF YOU WHO ARE IN CHRIST.”