**Entrusting Your Souls to God, 1Peter 5:6-11**

**(Closing Admonitions of Peter’s First Epistle)**

In this epistle, Peter is writing to those *residing as aliens* (Jews by birth perhaps, but Christians by *rebirth* surely!), 1:1, regarding the *obtaining of salvation by faith,* 1:2-10. But, this salvation would not be bestowed by either God or the Holy Spirit unilaterally, 1:2,23-25. Faith would have to be developed and *proven,* cf. 1:6-7,13-16, and even face the fires of *persecution,* chp.4. And then, in closing, he issues some final (for this epistle anyway) admonitions. It is these that I’d like to focus on for a few moments.

**Chapter 5:6-11, Entrusting our souls to God requires that we be:**

* **Humble, v.6.** We must be willing to be *humiliated,* 4:3-4, 10,12-16,19.
* **Anxiety-Free, v.7.** Don’t *worry/fret*- remember the government under which these *aliens* live, cf. 2:13-17, 18-23; 3:8-18; cp. Phil.4:6-7.
* **Sober/Alert, v.8.** *Aliens* have an *adversary-* the *Ruler of this world* (John 12:31); he is pictured as a *devouring, roaring lion,* but is no match of the *lion-taming Creator of the Universe,* 2:3-10!
* **Resistant, v.9a.** We cannot stop the *lion* from *prowling, stalking,* or *roaring-* and we can’t *change* or *stop* him either; buteven *aliens* can *resist* this *lion,* 4:14,19.
* **Firm, v.9b.**  Be *firm* in your *resolve* to *resist* him- don’t *waiver* or *run,* cf. Jas.3:17; 1Cor.15:58. *Trust* your *faith,* 1:18!
* **Aware that you’re Not Alone, v.9c.** Yes, you can *overcome* (through *firm resistance* in *faith*)- others have, 1Cor.10:12-13; 15:34; even at great cost, cf. Heb.11:32 – 12:3.
* **Expectant/Hopeful, v.10.** *This* life *has never* and *will never* be *fair* or *what it is all about,* 2:12; 4:12-13; 1:3-10.