

# *“Finding Harmony”*

1 Peter 3:8

September 24, 2023

**INTRO:** What/who are you looking for?

*I pray that your answer will envelope a walk that harmonizes God’s Word, will, ways, and worship!*

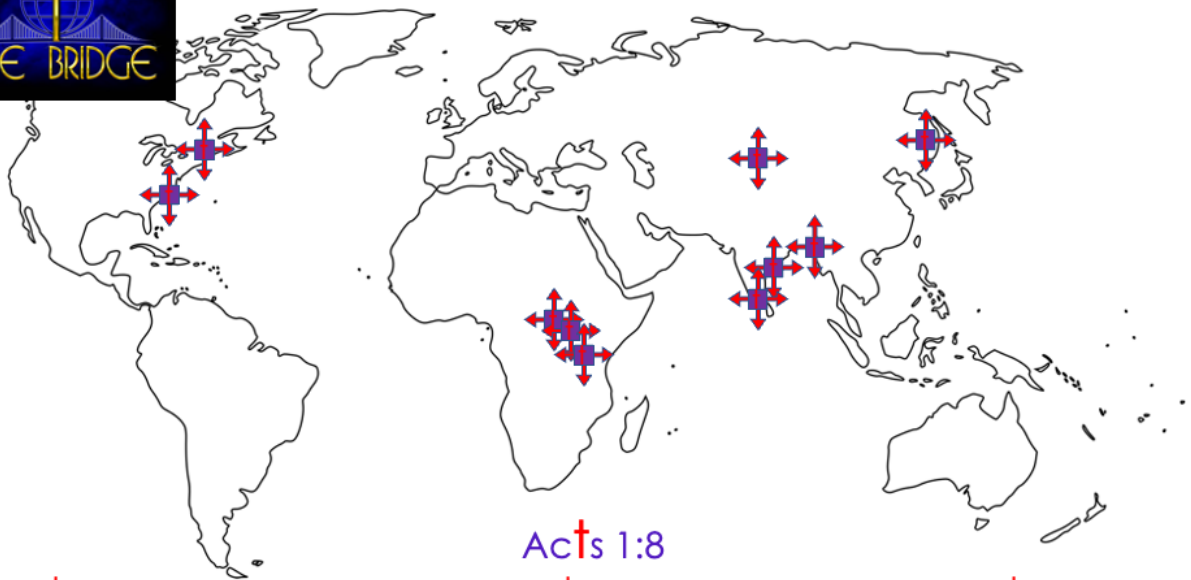
I pray that WE long to BE  
God’s harmony family!

**If that’s what you’re looking for, praise God,  
you’re in the right place today.**

## **PRAYER**

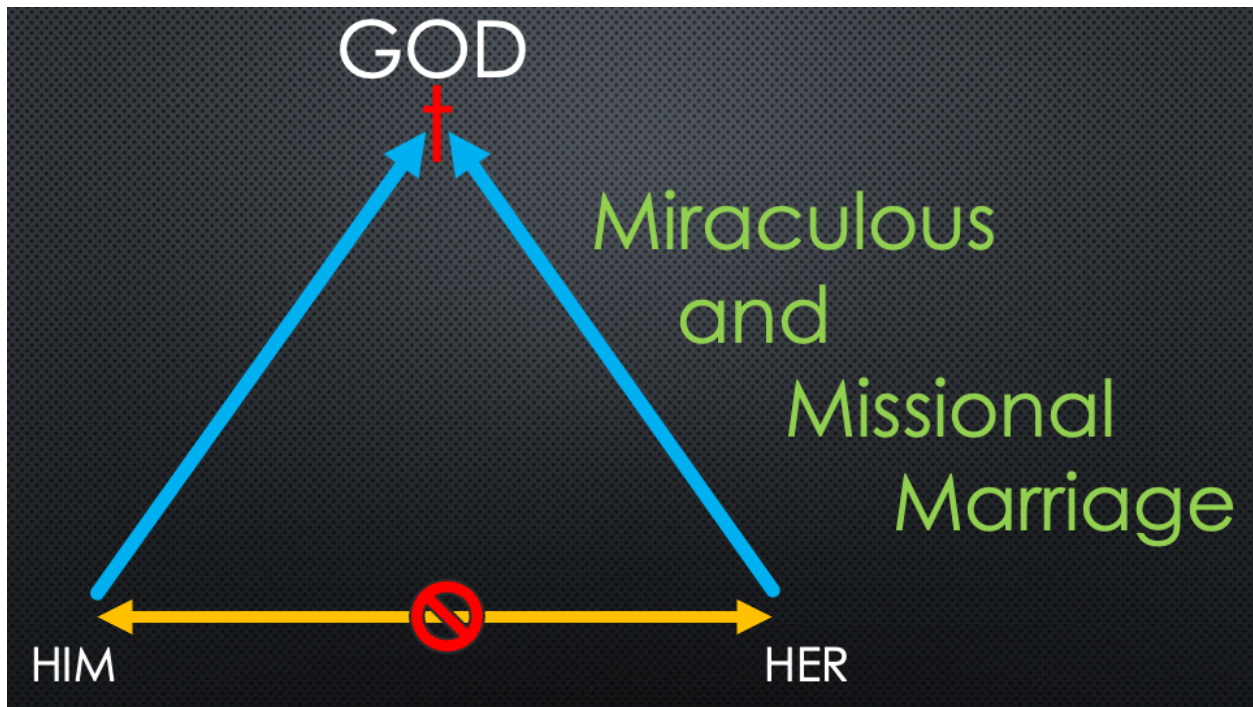
### **CONTEXT:**

- ~ **The Word of God... for the will and ways of God**
- ~ The Book of 1<sup>st</sup> Peter... “No Matter What!”
- ~ 2 parts of 1<sup>st</sup> Peter... 1:1-2:10 & 2:11 onward.
  - A. *Blessed Beloved*
  - B. *Biblical Behavior*
- ~ **Finally, Family, and Finding Harmony**



Acts 1:8

"But you will receive power when My Holy Spirit comes on you and you will BE My witnesses... locally, regionally, and globally." – Jesus the Christ



**Remember:** *Holy harmony is the true purpose of marriage!*

- Genesis 1-2 - marriage created...
  - *Genesis 3ff* - marriage **broken**...
    - *DISFUNCTIONAL family begins...*
    - ***SIN = the “funk” of dysfunctional***
    - ***“I” is always centered in sin.*** - JDP
    - *See the 3 “I’s” in dysfunctional family*
    - *Divorce is division...*
    - ***The Devil is in the division!*** - JDP
    - *Idolatry = adultery*
    - *Adultery = idolatry*
    - *Selfish kills “us.”* - JDP
  
- Ephesians 5 (see husbands & wives)
  
- Galatians 5 (see the fruit of the Spirit)



## **BIG IDEA:**

When HE and “we” overtake “me,”  
there will BE Harmony!

## **PREVIEW:**

1. Start at the/God’s finish line.
2. Submit all of you!
3. Think like Christ.
4. Sympathize like Christ.
5. Love like Christ!
6. Care like Christ.
7. Submit/witness like Christ.

## **TEXT:**

1 Peter 3:8

**Finally, ALL of you,**  
be harmonious/have unity of  
mind, sympathy, brotherly  
love, a tender heart, and  
a humble mind.

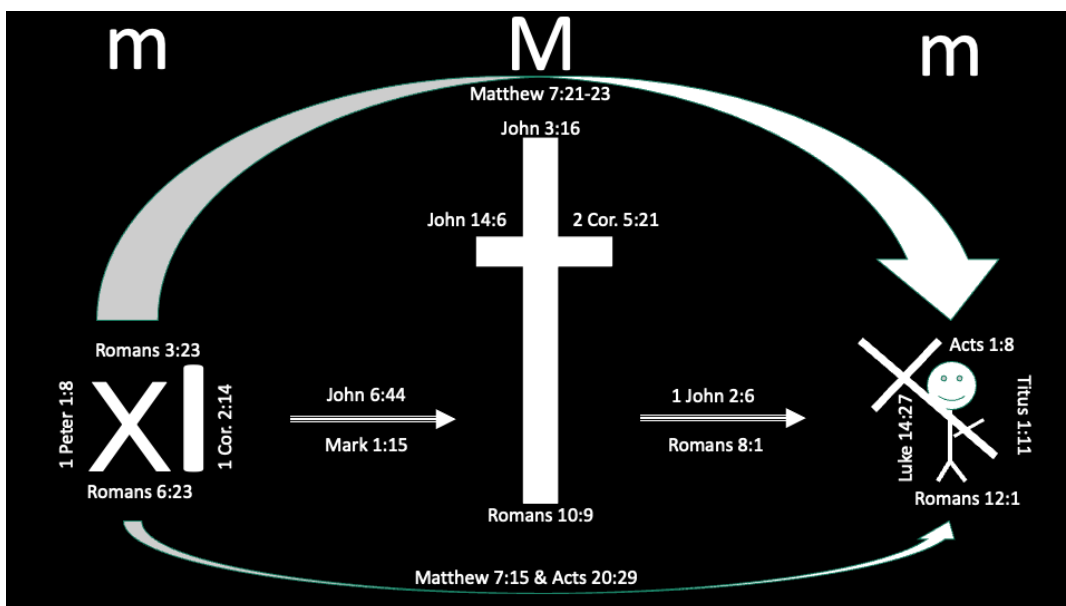
## 1 Peter 3:8

**Finally:**

...the last and lasting summary...  
...an inclusive contextualization...  
...a stressing tone of urgency...

*Whenever we read “finally” in the Bible, at some level, the context includes The Gospel... as well as either Heaven OR Hell*

**VIDEO:** “Khata – SIN”



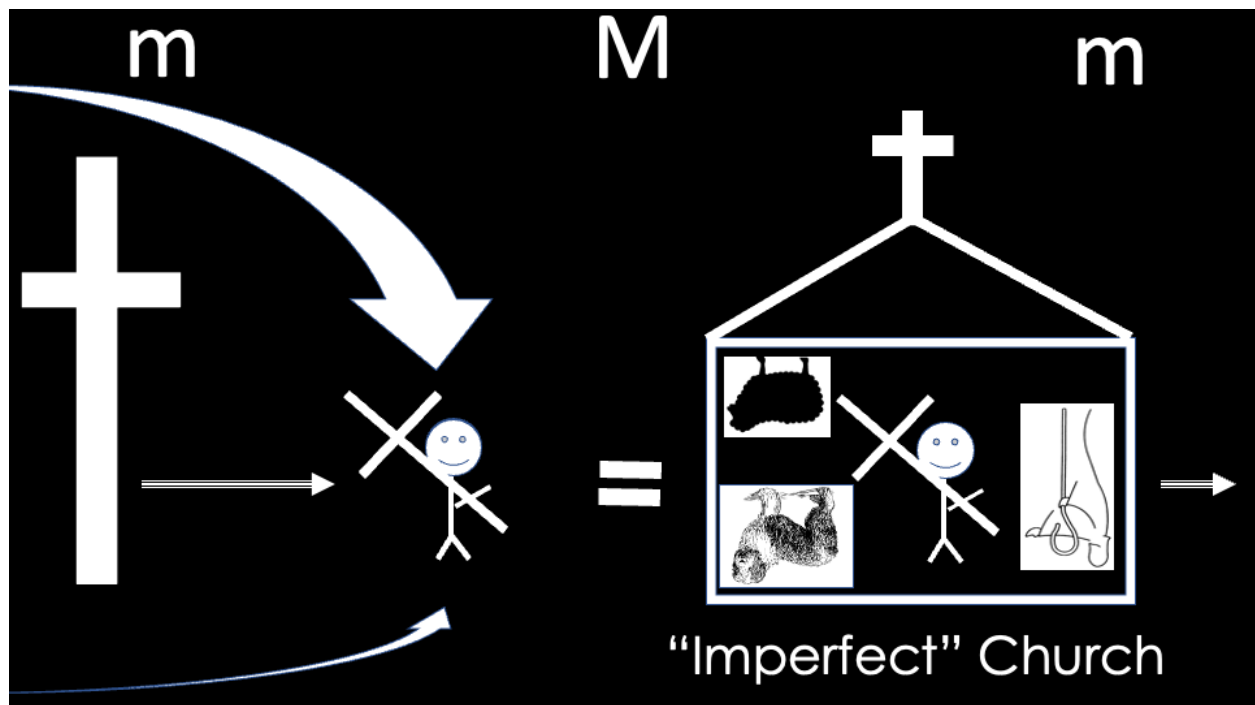
1 Peter 3:8

**Finally,  
ALL of you,**

...explicitly, 100%, ALL inclusive...  
...referring to true Christians...  
...without exception...

**VIDEO:** *"Who Is The Church?"*

## BAPTISM of Josh



## 1 Peter 3:8

Finally,  
ALL of you,

1. Have harmony/unity of mind

## Philippians 2:1-5

<sup>1</sup>So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,

## Colossians 3:2

Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

## Psalms 133:1

Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

## Romans 12:16

Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.

## Romans 15:5

May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus,

## 1 Corinthians 1:10

Now I urge you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree in what you say, that there be no divisions among you, and that you be united with the same understanding and the same conviction.

## 2 Corinthians 13:11

Finally, brothers, rejoice, be made complete, be comforted, be like-minded, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.

**VIDEO:** *“PESHA/Transgression”*

## Ephesians 4:1-7

1 therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, 2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, 3 eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4 There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. 7 But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ’s gift.

Barnes:

*It means, of the same mind; like-minded;  
and the object is to secure harmony*

## Ephesians 3:10a

...so that **through the church** the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known



## 1 Peter 3:8

**Finally,  
ALL of you,**

1. Have harmony/unity of mind
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
5. Have a humble mind

## Philippians 2:3-8

<sup>3</sup>Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, <sup>7</sup>but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. <sup>8</sup>And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

## Acts 20:19

I served the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews;

## 2 Corinthians 10:1

Now I, Paul, myself urge you by the humility/meekness and gentleness of Christ— I who am meek when face to face with you, but bold toward you when absent!

## Colossians 3:12

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

## James 4:6

...He gives grace generously. As the Scriptures say, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

## 1 Peter 5:5-6

Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." Therefore, humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time,

others are considered more important  
than oneself and that pride  
does not fill one's life

## 1 Peter 3:8

**Finally,**  
**ALL of you,**

- 1.
2. Have sympathy
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

## Romans 12:15

Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.

## 1 Corinthians 12:24b-26

God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, <sup>25</sup>that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup>If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

John 11:35

*Jesus wept.*

### 1 Peter 3:8

**Finally,  
ALL of you,**

- 1.
2. Have sympathy
- 3.
4. Have a tender heart
- 5.

## Ephesians 4:32

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

## 2 Corinthians 6:12

We are not withholding our affection from you, but you are withholding yours from us.

## Philemon 7

For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you...

## 1 John 3:17-18

But whoever has the world's goods, and sees his brother in need and closes his heart against him, how does the love of God abide in him? ...let us not love with word and tongue but in action and in truth!

## 1 Thessalonians 2:8

Having so fond an affection for you, we were well-pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God but also our own lives, because you had become very dear to us.

## 1 Peter 3:8

**Finally,  
ALL of you,**

1. Have harmony/unity of mind
2. Have sympathy
- 3.
4. Have a tender heart
5. Have a humble mind

**VIDEO:** *“Avon – INIQUITY”*

## 1 Peter 3:8

**Finally,  
ALL of you,**

1.

2.

3. Have brotherly love

4.

5.

1<sup>st</sup> Peter references: (in addition to here – 3:8)

### 1:22

Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart,

### 2:17

Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.

### 4:8

Above all, keep loving one another earnestly/ferently, since love covers a multitude of sins.

### 1 Thessalonians 4:9

Now concerning brotherly love you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another,

### Hebrews 13:1

Let brotherly love continue.

*it should be  
the hallmark of  
Christian fellowship.*

- D.A. Carson

John 13:34-35

I am giving you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, so you too are to love one another. <sup>35</sup>By this everyone will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

John 14:15

If you love Me you WILL obey My commandments.

1 Peter 3:8

**Finally,  
ALL of you,**

1. Have harmony/unity of mind
2. Have sympathy
3. Have brotherly love
4. Have a tender heart
5. Have a humble mind

1 Peter 3:8

Finally,  
ALL of you,

1. HARMONY mind

2. SYMPATHY

3. BROTHERLY LOVE

4. TENDER HEARTED

5. HUMBLE mind

1 Peter 3:8

Finally,  
ALL of you,

A. Harmonize Christ-like HEADS

B. Harmonize Christ-like HEARTS

C. Harmonize Christ-like HANDS

1 Peter 3:8

Finally,  
ALL of you,

BE

Christ's harmonizing  
truth in love  
ambassadors!

1 Peter 3:8

Finally,  
ALL of you,

BE

Christ's  
Church!



## REVIEW:

1. Start at the/God's finish line.
2. Submit all of you!
3. Think like Christ.
4. Sympathize like Christ.
5. Love like Christ!
6. Care like Christ.
7. Submit/witness like Christ.

## CLOSE:

If you have ANY doubt whatsoever of the importance of this exhortation today... Read Revelation ch.2-3 again... and listen to the opening words of Peter, writing his follow up letter (unlike 1<sup>st</sup> Peter which concentrated on the persecution coming from outside the family of God, 2 Peter is now going to focus on the enemies and perversions INSIDE the church).

### 2 Peter 2:1-11

1Simeon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ,

To those who have obtained a faith of equal standing with ours by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ:

2May grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

## ***Confirm Your Calling and Election***

**3**His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to<sup>c</sup> his own glory and excellence, **4**by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire. **5**For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue and virtue with knowledge, **6**and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, **7**and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. **8**For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. **9**For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins. **10**Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. **11**For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

**12**Therefore I intend always to remind you of these qualities, though you know them and are established in the truth that you have. **13**I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to stir you up by way of reminder,

**PRAYER**

**WORSHIP:** *God Turn This Thing Around; Run To The Father; Hold Us Together*

***New American Standard Commentary: (Schreiner)***

**Conclusion: *Live a Godly Life (3:8–12)***

The conclusion to all of 2:11–3:7 is now drawn in these verses.

**Verse 8 in a chiasm summarizes appropriate relationships in the community, emphasizing particularly the need for brotherly love.**

The conclusion to all of 2:11–3:7 is introduced with the word “finally” (*telos*).

Now **the whole community is addressed as**  
**“all of you” (*pantes*).**

It seems that Peter addressed relationships within the church in v. 8 and relationships with unbelievers in v. 9, though certainty on this matter is impossible.

In the Greek of v. 8 there are five adjectives  
without any verb.

The NIV supplies the verb “live,” which captures well the implied imperative.<sup>193</sup> Probably the implied imperative comes from the “to be” (*eimi*) verb, and the text would read, “You must be harmonious,” etc.

When we look at all five words together, we

see that obeying these  
exhortations would lead to  
smooth relationships within  
the church (and with  
outsiders in most cases).

A. The call to **“harmony”** (*homophrones*) is common in the New Testament, even though **this term only appears here** (cf. **Rom 15:5; 1 Cor 1:10; 2 Cor 13:11; Phil 2:1–2; 4:2**). Presumably

this admonition and others would be unnecessary if churches were not prone to suffer from division and dissension.

B. Believers are also to be **“sympathetic”** (*sympatheis*), caring deeply about the needs, joys, and sorrows of others (cf. Rom 12:15; 1 Cor 12:26).

C. The admonition to brotherly love (*philadelphoi*)— **“love as brothers”** in the NIV—is an indication that Peter addressed relationships among believers. The family love of believers for one another was important for Peter (cf. 1:22; 2:17; 5:9 and 2:11; 4:12). Their common relationship with Christ inducts

them into the same family, and one evidence of genuine Christian faith is a warm love for others as brothers and sisters (cf. also [Rom 12:10](#); [1 Thess 4:9](#); [Heb 13:1](#); [2 Pet 1:7](#)).

B2. Believers are also to be full of *compassion* (*eusplanchnoi*) to those who are experiencing pain. In [Eph 4:32](#) such compassion is rooted in the mercy experienced in the forgiveness of sins. Again, one of the marks of the Christian life is compassion ([cf. 2 Cor 6:12](#); [7:15](#); [Phil 1:8](#); [2:1](#); [Col 3:12](#); [Phlm 7, 12, 20](#); [1 John 3:17](#)).

A2. Finally, believers are also summoned to be “humble”

*(tapeinophrones)*. Humility means, of course, that others are considered more important than oneself (Phil 2:3–4) and that pride does not fill one's life (cf. Acts 20:19; Rom 12:16; 2 Cor 10:1; Eph 4:2; Col 3:12; Jas 1:9; 4:6; 1 Pet 5:5).

*Humility was scorned in the Greco-Roman world, and hence the distinctiveness of Christian vision for the moral life emerges.*

It seems that there is an A B C B' A' pattern in this verse, so that the verse functions as a chiasm.<sup>196</sup>

A Harmony

B Sympathy

C Brotherly Love

B' Compassion

A' Humility

**Harmony and humility belong together, for the primary means by which harmony is disrupted is pride and self-assertion. Sympathy and compassion are closely related and even hard to distinguish from each other. Brotherly love is the middle term, showing that it is the most important of all the virtues and that**



*the other virtues are embraced in the call to love one another as a family.*

## New Bible Commentary (D.A. Carson)

Notes. 8 *Live in harmony* is lit. 'be of the same mind'.

This comes about when we  
**share the mind of Christ**

(see Phil. 2:5; Col. 3:2).

We can then enter into the feelings of others (*sympathetic* comes from a Greek word meaning 'feeling with') and share God's love for them.

This quality of **loving as brothers or sisters** has been mentioned before in **1:22** and will be emphasized again in **4:8**:

*it should be  
the hallmark of  
Christian fellowship.*

*Compassionate* brings a new Christian meaning to an old Greek word for 'courageous'.

*Humble* (see also 5:5–6) shows that *the secret of the character described here lies in a realistic estimate of oneself and a high concern for others.*

## *The Bible Knowledge Commentary*

A COMPASSIONATE CONDUCT (3:8–12)

First Peter 3:8–9 is Peter's exposition of Psalm 34:12–16, which he then quoted (1 Peter 3:10–12). Peter constructed his thoughts around the three exhortations in the psalm.

## *Clarke's N.T. Commentary*

### 1 Peter 3:8

*Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous:*

Be ye all of one mind - **Unity, both in the family and in the Church, being essentially necessary to peace and salvation.** See on [Romans 12:16](#) (note); [Romans 15:5](#) (note).

Having compassion - Συμπαθεις· Being sympathetic; feeling for each other; **bearing each other's burdens.**

Love as brethren - Φιλαδελφοι· Be lovers of the brethren.

Pitiful - Ευσπλαγχνοι· ***Tender-hearted; let your bowels yearn over the distressed and afflicted.***

Courteous - Φιλοφρονες· Be friendly-minded; acquire and cultivate a friendly disposition. But instead of this word, ταπεινοφρονες, be humble-minded, is the reading of ABC, more than twenty others, with the Syriac, Arabic of Erpen, Coptic, Armenian, Slavonic, and some of the fathers. This is probably the true reading, and Griesbach has admitted it into the text.

## Barnes Notes on the New Testament:

### [1 Peter 3:8](#)

***Finally*** - As the last direction, or as general counsel in reference to your conduct in all the relations of life.

The apostle had specified most of the important relations which Christians sustain, [1 Peter 2:13-25](#); [1 Peter 3:1-7](#); and he now gives a general direction in regard to their conduct in all those relations.

Be ye all of one mind - **See the notes at [Romans 12:16](#)**. The word used here (ὁμόφρων homophrōn) does not elsewhere occur in the New Testament.

*It means, of the same mind; like-minded; and the object is to secure harmony in their views and feelings.*

**Having compassion one of another - "Sympathizing,"** (συμπαθεῖς sumpatheis;) entering into one another's feelings, and evincing a regard for each other's welfare. See the notes at [Romans 12:15](#). **Compare [1 Corinthians 12:26](#); [John 11:35](#)**.

The Greek word used here does occur not elsewhere in the New Testament. It describes that state of mind which exists when we enter into the feelings of others as if they were our own, as the different parts of the body are affected by that which affects one. See the notes at [1 Corinthians 12:26](#).

**Love as brethren** - Margin, "loving to the;" that is, the brethren. The Greek word ([φιλάδελφος philadelphos](#)) does not elsewhere occur in the New Testament. It means loving one's brethren; that is, loving each other as Christian brethren - Robinson, Lexicon. Thus, it enforces the duty so often enjoined in the New Testament, that of love to Christians as brethren of the same family. See the notes at [Romans 12:10](#). **Compare Hebrews 13:1; John 13:34**.

**Be pitiful** - The word used here (εὐσπλαγχνος eusplangchnos) occurs nowhere else in the New Testament, except [in Ephesians 4:32](#), where it is rendered "tender-hearted." See the notes at that verse.

**Be courteous** - This word also φιλόφρων (philophrōn) occurs nowhere else in the New Testament. **It means "friendly-minded, kind, courteous."** Later editions of the New Testament, instead of this, read (ταπεινόφρονες tapeinophrones) of a lowly or humble mind. See Hahn. The sense is not materially varied. In the one word, the idea of "friendliness" is the one that prevails; in the other, that of **"humility."** Christianity requires both of these virtues, and either word enforces an important injunction. The authority is in favor of the latter reading; and though Christianity requires that we should be courteous and gentlemanly in our treatment of others, this text can hardly be relied on as a proof-text of that point.