

## Bees In The Hive of 1st Peter

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The word "be" is a very interesting word. It speaks of more than our existence; it reminds us of our function in life. Our being has much to do with what kind of relationship and fellowship we have with God. Let's glance at several "be's" in Peter's first book.

**I. Be Sober-** (I Pet. 1:13). The word for "**sober-minded**" here has the idea of being calm and collected in spirit or to be dispassionate. It is so easy to fume and fret about something, when you really need to gird up the loins of your mind. We are to prepare our minds for action because we are without a doubt in a real spiritual warfare (Eph.6).

**II. Be Holy-** (I Pet. 1:15,16). We are to **be holy because the God who saved us is holy**. Through His divine power working in us, we can be holy in a sinful world, even though we possess a new nature. *Holiness is not an air of superiority, rather it is a result of walking closely with God.*

**III. Be Submissive-** This **submission** is revealed in three areas in I Peter. First, it should be true in the realm of **employee to employer** (I Pet. 2:18). Also, it should be true of **the wife to the husband** (I Pet. 3:1). In addition, it should be **saint to saint** (I Pet.5:5). If Christians would practice a mutual submission to one another, it would be such a blessing to a church body. It would quench the fires of division.

**IV. Be United-** I Peter 3:8 says we are to **be of one mind**. It points us to a spirit of unity and togetherness. The church that is not together in spirit and purpose is a church that is foundering and stumbling in its ministry. God's people do not always have to agree on everything but there is to be a co-operative spirit in doing what God would have the church to do. The Bible is clear about the will of God for His church in this world.

**V. Be Loving-** This is evident in two areas. First, in regard to be "pitiful" or full of pity (I Pet. 3:8a). That simply means we are to be tenderhearted and having much tender mercy with one another. Consider this also "be courteous", we are to be "courteous" to one another (I Pet. 3:8b). That word means we are to be "friendly" toward one another. (Prov. 18:24).

**VI. Be Fearless-** Read I Pet. 3:14-15. Our full confidence and faith in God will quench our fears. Be fearless in the face of troubles. I Peter 3:14 reveals we are to be fearless in the time of troubles. We all have troubles but they should not terrify us.

**VII. Be Ready -** To answer in the face of questions (3:15). People will ask questions, so make sure you know how to answer them from the Bible.

**VIII. Be Happy-** See I Peter 4:14. This verse speaks of happiness even though you are being reproached for Christ. First, be happy because of the power that will rest upon you (4:14a) and because of the glory it brings to God when reproach does not dull joy (4:14b).