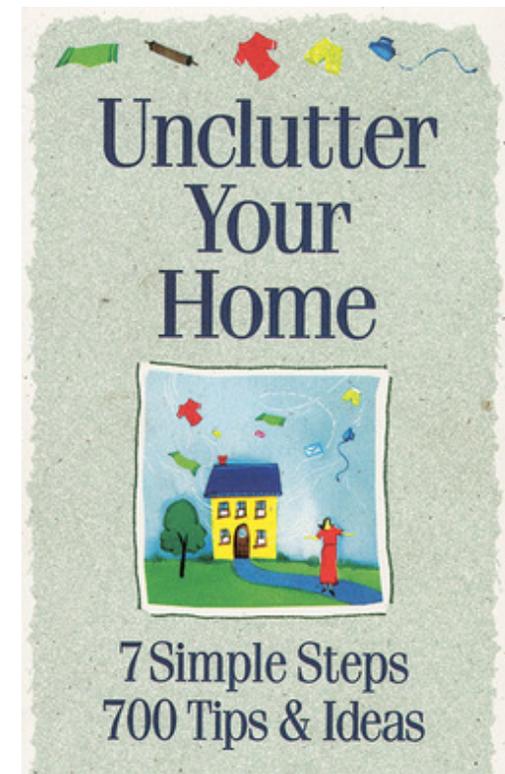


**1 Peter 1:1-7**  
Hope in the storm

**Holy Women, Holy Men!**



Christianity is not a self-help organization, neither does the church exist to help people improve their lives! The church is here to help you know your Creator/God! The church has lost its focus – taken our eyes off God and focused upon ourselves! On the one hand you have people interested in using God and His church to better their lives. On the other hand you have Christ-followers primarily interested in the pursuit of God and His will. It is a profound difference!



# **(Everything I Do) I Do it for You**

- Look into my eyes, you will see  
What you mean to me  
Search my heart, search my soul  
And when you find me there  
You'll search no more
- Don't tell me it's not worth tryin' for  
You can't tell me it's not worth dyin' for  
You know it's true  
Everything I do, I do it for you
- Look into your heart, you will find  
There's nothin' there to hide  
Take me as I am, take my life  
I would give it all, I would sacrifice
- Don't tell me it's not worth fightin' for  
I can't help it, there's nothin' I want  
more

You know it's true, everything I do  
I do it for you

- There's no love like your love.  
And no other could give more  
love. There's nowhere unless  
you're there, all the time, all  
the way, yeah

Oh, you can't tell me it's not worth tryin'  
for. I can't help it, there's nothin' I want  
more.

Yeah, I would fight for you, I'd die for  
you, walk the wire for you, yeah, I'd die  
for you!

- You know it's true, everything I do  
Oh, I do it for you



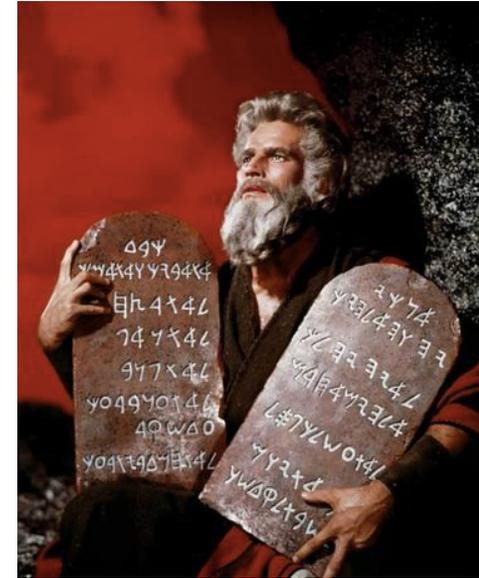
Peter's main interest is to see holiness in the people of God. This is the purpose of God in giving us the *Holy* Spirit after we receive Christ as our Savior and Leader. The Spirit makes holiness possible! the Spirit of God, holiness is *NOT* possible! We need our power source (the Spirit) or we are becoming nothing that God wants us to be! We cannot enter into the transformation process if He is not there and/or if we do not remain reliant upon Him.

**[Rom. 8:10-11; 2 Cor. 3:17,18]**



The pursuit of holiness, in itself, fixes lives, or the parts of lives that are messed up.

The apostle led by the Spirit of God is NOT concerned with the injustice of a societal institution of a patriarchal system, but IS concerned with a wife's interaction with her husband within that system and in his interaction with her! God has had a track record from the beginning of the fall of man in Eden, of letting humans find their own way in the way they organize themselves. But God does weigh in on bad and good behavior within bad system, not bad or good social systems in themselves.



Peter explains what holiness in a women who strives for holiness looks like in a patriarchal marriage. He is not saying here that all marriages should be patriarchal marriages of the kind where the man *owns* his wife. That would be a mistake to assume, because it would be wrong! About beauty - looking your best as a woman is not a bad thing, (for a man either), but an obsession with ones looks dehumanizes, and debases the one who is obsessed.



“**Debase**” - rooted in metallurgy. It means to replaces the important ingredients in with inferior ingredients – making metal of inferior quality. The apostle is advocating for an obsession with beautiful hearts that are only beautified by the increasing years!

The Christ-following man is also given a strong word here from the apostle. The Spirit here is telling Christ-following husbands to not misuse their strength on their woman *under any circumstances!*

Women are certainly not weak and Peter is not saying that here. Women just have a different kind of strength. With their muscle composition, women have a capacity for endurance that often eclipses that of a man. \*The old milking contests - big farmers lined up for the contest, men with powerful hands. Yet it was the diminutive farm women that almost always usually won the day with smaller more slender hands. Women are deceptively strong!



So men, husbands - the word is to respect the feminine qualities that your woman brings to the table and give her her due. Include her in everything. She is your partner not your property!

A final word of warning!

God's people must be in the process of being made holy! If we are not, Peter mentions our prayers will be "hindered". Pursue the holiness of God. In everything you do, do it for Him, and everyone else around you will benefit from what God is doing in and through you!

**[Eph. 4:30-32]**

