

Empowered to Serve

1 Peter 4:7-11

There are some noticeable changes that will result from a belief in Christ's Soon Return.

1A. It Will Inspire us to Eschatologically Oriented Prayer – 4:7

- 1B. An Eschatological Outlook Will Radically Transform our Prayer Life
- 2B. An Eschatological Outlook Will Radically Transform our Attitude in Prayer
 - 1C. *“Be of Sound Judgment”*
 - 2C. *“Be of Sober Spirit”*
 - 3C. *“For the Purpose of Prayers”*

2A. It Will Inspire us to Self-Sacrificial ‘Stretching’ Love – 4:8

- 1B. The Primacy of Love – *“above all”* – cf. 1:22
- 2B. The Persistence of Love – *“continually having love”*
- 3B. The Perseverance of Love – *“having a stretching love”*
- 4B. The Perspective of This Love – *“one another”*
- 5B. The Power of This Love – *“love covers....”* – 70x7

3A. It Will Inspire us to Selfless Loving of Strangers – 4:9

- 1B. The Need to Lovingly Reach Out to Strangers – *“Be hospitable”*
- 2B. The Nature of Lovingly Reaching Out to Strangers – *“love strangers”*
- 3B. The Manner of Lovingly Reaching Out to Strangers – *“without complaint”*

4A. It Will Inspire us to a Divinely Empowered Ministry to Others – 4:10-11

- 1B. We have ALL been Divinely Empowered to serve – *“each has received”*
- 2B. We have ALL been Uniquely Empowered to serve – *“each has received”*
- 3B. We have ALL been Graciously Empowered to serve – *“ manifold grace”*
- 4B. We have ALL been Purposefully Empowered to serve – *“glorify God”*
 - 1C. God has empowered us to Serve Him – *“stewards of His grace”*
 - 2C. God has empowered us to Bring Him Glory – not ourselves
- 5B. We have ALL been Dependently Empowered to serve – *“through His strength”*
 - Let God Be the One Who Ministers Through Your Lips
 - Let God Be the One Who Ministers Through Your Life