





- 1 Peter 4:12-19
- BELOVED!
 - Elect exiles, sojourners
 - Christians
- Peter really cares about them.
 - Important to express our love, and to comfort those who are facing trials.
- Cares what they are going through.
- He knows how bad it gets.
 - James killed and then he's arrested



- 1 Peter 4:12 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.
- 1 Peter 4:16 Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name.
- 1 Peter 4:19 Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.



- These chosen saints faced great difficulties
 - 14: insulted
 - Previously:
 - 1:5: “by God’s power are being guarded through faith for salvation”
 - guarded from what?
 - 1:6: “grieved by various trials”
 - 1:7: “tested genuine of your faith”
 - 1:7: tested by fire (faith)
 - 2:20: if you do good and suffer for it (endure)



- 3:9: do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling
- 3:13: harm you
- 3:14: suffer for righteousness sake
- 3:16: slandered
- 3:16: revile your good behavior
- 3:17: better to suffer for doing good
- 4:1: suffered in the flesh



- The Fiery Trial

- Ephesians 6:11-12 (ESV) 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.
- Ephesians 6:16 In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one;



- Don't be surprised ... As though something strange
 - Why are surprised by suffering? Why do we think it's strange?
 - Sometimes it's because of how we think of God and our salvation.
 - If God loves me, blesses me, saves me, shows me grace the
 - my life, even on earth, will be amazing, he'll always protect me and take care of me.
 - I'm a good person, striving to be righteous.
 - God won't let anything bad happen to me.
 - Or God takes care of the bad people. There shouldn't be any suffering?
 - Naivety.
 - Also next point



- Test You
 - Why does God need to test our faith?
 - Abraham, Job, Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, Paul (thorn in flesh? et. al.)



- Hebrews 3:7-12 (ESV) 7 Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says, “Today, if you hear his voice, 8 do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, on the day of testing in the wilderness, 9 where your fathers put me to the test and saw my works for forty years. 10 Therefore I was provoked with that generation, and said, ‘They always go astray in their heart; they have not known my ways.’ 11 As I swore in my wrath, ‘They shall not enter my rest.’” 12 Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God.



- James 1:2-4 (ESV) 2 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, 3 for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. 4 And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.
- According to God's Will
 - 1 Peter 3:17 For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.



- Not be ashamed
 - Why might we be ashamed?
 - The world might mock us for not behaving like they do
 - Sometimes even claiming that what we believe is wrong.
 - We are being treated as criminals, sometimes shamefully
 - When we are doing good and being righteous, suffering for



- Murderer
 - 1 John 3:12 We should not be like Cain, who was of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own deeds were evil and his brother's righteous.
 - 1 John 3:15 (ESV) 15 Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.



- Thief

- Judas Iscariot

- Matthew 26:14-16 (ESV) 14 Then one of the twelve, whose name was Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests 15 and said, “What will you give me if I deliver him over to you?” And they paid him thirty pieces of silver. 16 And from that moment he sought an opportunity to betray him.



- Luke 22:3-6 (ESV) 3 Then Satan entered into Judas called Iscariot, who was of the number of the twelve. 4 He went away and conferred with the chief priests and officers how he might betray him to them. 5 And they were glad, and agreed to give him money. 6 So he consented and sought an opportunity to betray him to them in the absence of a crowd.
- John 12:4-7 (ESV) 4 But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was about to betray him), said, 5 “Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?” 6 He said this, not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief, and having charge of the moneybag he used to help himself to what was put into it.



- Evildoer
 - Lenski: any other kind of crime
 - 2:1: malice, deceit, hypocrisy, envy, slander
 - 2:13: Subject to every human institution
 - Contrast with his emphasis on doing good?
 - good deeds: 2:12
 - do good: 2:14; 3:6, 11
 - doing good: 2:15
 - zealous for what is good: 3:13
 - good behavior: 3:16
 - doing good: 4:19



- Meddler: meaning is debated (only use in the NT)
 - Traditional translation is meddler — taking supervision of another persons business
 - Some argue that it could mean a political agitator, spy, embezzler, or revolutionary
 - Which would fit better for the warning to the saints to be subject to the government (2:13)
 - And fits as a criminal act like the other three in the list.



- Meddler
 - 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12 and to aspire to live quietly, and to mind your own affairs, and to work with your hands, as we instructed you, so that you may walk properly before outsiders and be dependent on no one.
 - 2 Thessalonians 3:11-12 For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busybodies. Now such persons we command and encourage in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living.
 - 1 Timothy 5:13 Besides that, they learn to be idlers, going about from house to house, and not only idlers, but also gossips and busybodies, saying what they should not.
- Strange that we often don't consider how serious this is, how much damage it can do.
 - But listed with murder, theft, and evildoers
 - Why this makes sense to me



- Strange that we often don't consider how serious this is, how much damage it can do.
 - But listed with murder, theft, and evildoers
 - Why this makes sense to me either way
 - Being sojourners and exiles means that the way that we live is different than those around us.
 - Sometimes we might be tempted try to tell those who don't believe why they are wrong, or even try to impose our way of living on them.
 - Sometimes we might try to be over involved in the lives of others, even brethren, trying to force them to hold the same opinions that we do.
 - Essentially, we decide that what we hold is THE TRUTH, and there are no other options.
 - Like the Pharisees: burdens hard to bear and we don't lift a finger to help.



- What is my fiery trial?
- Are we even facing fiery trials?
 - Our situation is very different from those Peter wrote to.
 - Certainly we don't face the same physically harmful persecution.
 - There is still scorning, reviling, insulting, and mocking.
 - There's still pressure from the government in various ways to conform to their man made systems.

We implore you
on behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.

2 Corinthians 5:20

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True Grace

#09

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The Fiery Trial

1 Peter 4:12-19

Synopsis: Peter prepares us for the sufferings we will face during the fiery trial, suffering he is familiar with as he considers the life of Jesus and his own life. He reminds us that it's not strange or surprising. That it is a test and it is God's will and we should not be ashamed. There is shame if we suffer for murder, theft, evil doing and meddling.

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“Let all that you do be done with love.”